

[Latin American Graphic Novels as World Literature \(edited collection, Bloomsbury\)](#)

Announcement published by Jim Hodapp on Monday, November 11, 2019

Type:

Call for Papers

Date:

November 25, 2019

Location:

Qatar

Subject Fields:

Literature, Mexican History / Studies, World History / Studies, Chicana/o History / Studies, Latin American and Caribbean History / Studies

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This is a call for abstracts for papers focusing on graphic novels from Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. The original call for papers is below, but because I did not receive abstracts on Latin American Graphic Novels I am soliciting them specifically here to ensure that this collection is as global as it can be. As it stands, I have accepted abstracts for articles on Middle Eastern, African, East Asian, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Indigenous graphic narratives so the collection is fairly global with the glaring exception of Latin America. To keep the collection's publishing schedule on track, the deadline for this is **November 25** though feel free to contact me (jhodapp@northwestern.edu) with any questions.

Call for Chapters

Graphic novels are one of the world's great narrative art forms, but for much of the history of literary studies comic forms have been dismissed as trivial and largely irrelevant to serious scholarship on literature. Thankfully, this is quickly changing and this art form is beginning to be taken seriously in academia. However, as is often the case with emerging art, graphic novels from Europe and the United States dominate scholarly conversations (with the notable exception of Japanese comics), despite the presence of quality graphic work from the Global South. Although a few non-western graphic narratives, such as Satrapi's *Persepolis*, have gained popular and academic audiences, the fact remains that scholarship on graphic novels is decidedly Euro-American centric. This proposed collection (invited by Bloomsbury Publishing) seeks to expand upon the extant scholarship on non-western graphic novels to move beyond such a narrow approach to this quickly expanding field. By bracketing western writers to focus on graphic narratives from the Middle East,

Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia, the collection encourages contributors to think beyond the usual suspects in considering graphic novels outside the west.

As the title suggests, the collection is also interested in how these graphic texts engage with, fit in with, or complicate notions of World Literature. Therefore, the larger theoretical framework of World Literature is welcome (though not necessarily required) in proposed articles, but so are postcolonial, decolonial, Global South, and similar approaches that argue explicitly or implicitly for the viability of non-western graphic narratives on their own terms. This collection, then, seeks to consider the ways that graphic novels from the Global South intersect with issues such as translation, commodification, circulation, Orientalism, and many others. In short, what do the unique formal elements of graphic narratives bring to conversations about literature and the globe, whether through World Literature strictly defined via its well-known interlocutors (Damrosch, Moretti, Apter, Mufti, Cheah, etc.) or through any number of other legitimate critics, theories, and methods?

Abstracts (300-500 words) for proposed articles should be submitted to the editor of the proposed collection, James Hodapp, at jhodapp@northwestern.edu. Potential contributors will be contacted regarding the status of their abstract. The proposal for this collection was invited by Bloomsbury Publishing's "Literatures as World Literature" series editors for inclusion in the series (<https://goo.gl/ECdoFl>) after completion of the editor's forthcoming collection from Bloomsbury entitled *Afropolitan Literature as World Literature* (<https://bit.ly/33RbJHn>). Ultimately, articles should be between 6000 and 8000 words including notes and are due March 1, 2020. All articles will be peer-reviewed. Please feel free to contact the editor early to ask any questions about the collection.

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