Course description: This course looks at the variety of comics and graphic novels being produced in Asia, as well as those produced in North America about travelling to Asia or being of Asian heritage in North America. We start with a brief Introduction to theories of graphic narratives and visual storytelling, then proceed to a multi-week survey of Japanese manga. We also look at Korean manhwa, Chinese manhua, Southeast Asian comics from Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines, and graphic narratives from North America about travels to Asia and about Asian Canadians and Americans coping with issues of living in the Asian global diaspora. We put special emphasis on the historical development of the comics form, and of particular styles and themes within their local and global contexts.

Proposed assignments (subject to change):
Attendance and Participation, 10%; Reading Log Comments on several readings, 15%; Mid-Term, 25%; Presentations, 15%; Final Quiz, 10%; Final paper or project, 25%

Proposed reading list:
Scott McCloud Understanding Comics
Hiromu Arakawa Fullmetal Alchemist 3-in-1 Vol.
Akiko Higashimura Princess Jellyfish 1
Sui Ishida Tokyo Ghoul Vol. 1
Keum Suk Gendry-Kim Grass
Lat Kampung Boy
Guy DeLisle Pyongyang
Mine Okubo Citizen 13660