

# COLT 365

## Literature and Pop Culture

Professor Michael du Plessis

Mondays and Wednesdays

12:00 PM to 1:50 PM

Mass-reproduced words and images co-exist in their most dynamic form in the various traditions of comic books—such as manga, the cartoon strip, and the graphic novel. This class will read samples of these forms in detail and place them in their social and historical contexts. At the same time, we will consider theoretical and critical models for reading words and images together; we will examine ideas of mass-reproducibility and models of narrative. We will also think about the larger questions of genre, sub-genre, power, mass culture, gender, sexuality, the everyday and the monstrous, super-heroism and self-writing. Some of the texts we will read include Art Spiegelman's *Maus*, Alan Moore's *V for Vendetta*, Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home*, Satoshi Kon's *Opus*, and Ta-Nehsi Coates's *Black Panther*.

