

# Joshua M. Plencner, Ph.D.

*Visiting Assistant Professor  
Department of Political Science  
Union College*

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## Academic Appointments

<b>Union College</b> Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science	2017 - Present
<b>Drexel University</b> Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of Politics	2015 - 2017
<b>University of Oregon</b> Instructor, Department of Political Science	2013 - 2015

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## Education

<b>Ph.D.</b>	<b>University of Oregon</b> , Political Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dissertation: "Four-Color Political Visions: Origins, Affect, and Assemblage in American Superhero Comics"</li><li>Committee: Joseph Lowndes (Chair), Daniel Martinez HoSang, Priscilla Yamin, Ben Saunders</li><li>Fields: American Politics, Visual Politics, Public Policy</li></ul>	2014
<b>M.S.</b>	<b>University of Oregon</b> , Political Science	2011
<b>B.A.</b>	<b>University of North Dakota</b> , Political Science and English <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Magna cum laude</i></li></ul>	2007

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## Honors and Fellowships

TENT: Comics Workshop Fellowship, Columbia University Encounters with Jewish Culture Program, Yiddish Book Center	2014
Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant, University of Oregon Department of Political Science	2012 - 2014
University of Oregon Public Impact Fellowship (nominated) Department of Political Science	2013
University of Oregon Graduate Teaching Fellowship	2007-2014
Member, <i>Pi Sigma Alpha</i>	2007 - Present

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## **Publications**

**Plencner, Joshua.** 2017. "Gentrifying Luke Cage, or: The Racial Failure of Nostalgia." *Black Perspectives*. African American Intellectual History Society, Special Series on Comics, Race, and Society, eds. Julian Chambliss and Walter Greason. Web.

**Plencner, Joshua.** 2017. "'Guns in the Valley' – a Review of *Logan*." *The Middle Spaces*. Web.

**Plencner, Joshua.** 2017. "Stacey Robinson." In *Encyclopedia of Black Comics*, ed. Sheena C. Howard. Golden, CO: Fulcrum Publishing.

**Plencner, Joshua.** 2017 (forthcoming). "*Fallen Son* and Making the Ordinary Sacred." In *Sacred Texts and Comics: Reimagining Religion and Graphic Narratives*, eds. Kenneth Koltun-Fromm and Assaf Gamzou. Jackson, MS: University Press of Mississippi.

**Plencner, Joshua.** 2015. "Caught in the 'Lover's War': James Baldwin and the Legacy of Queer Art-making in the Anti-Police Brutality Movement." In *Artists against Police Brutality: A Comic Book Anthology*, eds. Bill Campbell, John Jennings, and Jason Rodriguez. Greenbelt, MD: Rosarium Publishing.

**Plencner, Joshua.** 2010. "Iron Man," "Robert Kirkman," "Greg Rucka," and "Thor." In *Encyclopedia of Comic Books and Graphic Novels*, ed. M. Keith Booker. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood.

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## **Works in Progress**

### **Book manuscript:**

- "Four-Color Whiteness: The Politics of Race and Origin Stories in American Superhero Comics" (manuscript in preparation)

### **Article manuscripts under review or in preparation for submission:**

- "Supergirl and the Corporate Articulation of Neoliberal Feminism"
    - Under review.
  - "Race, Affect, and Critical Order in Moore and Gibbons' *Watchmen*"
    - Under review.
  - "Resisting Whiteness through Polychromatic Violence in Walker, Villalobos, and Bonvillain's *Nighthawk*"
    - In preparation for an edited volume.
  - "'With Great Power': Selfies and Selfhood in Sixties Spider-Man"
  - "On Comics and Interpretive Horizons: *Charlie Hebdo* in North America"
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## **Research Interests**

American politics, culture, and identity; race and racism; American Political Development; visual culture and interpretive methods; American political thought; contemporary political theory; affective politics; political economy of popular culture; comics studies; film and media studies.

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## **Teaching Interests**

American politics, culture, and identity; critical race and ethnic politics; American Political Development; gender and sexuality; modern and contemporary political theory; cultural theory; film and politics; social movements; law and society; national institutions; prison studies; cultural policy.

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## **Teaching Experience**

<b>Union College:</b>	2017 – Present
Introduction to U.S. Politics	
Comics, Culture, & Politics	
Race and U.S. Politics	
Public Policy	
<b>Drexel University:</b>	2015 – 2017
Introduction to Political Science	
American Government I	
Research Design for Political Science	
The Public Policy Process	
American Government II	
American Foreign Policy	
Comics, Culture, & Politics	
<b>University of Oregon (as Instructor of Record):</b>	2013 - 2015
Intro to American Politics	
Art and the State	
Film and Politics	
<b>University of Oregon (as Teaching Assistant):</b>	2007 - 2012
Intro to American Politics	
State and Local Government	
Public Policy and Democracy	
Film and Politics	
American Political Thought	
Race, Law, and Public Policy	
Politics of Marriage	
Intergenerational Justice	

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## **Conference Presentations and Invited Lectures**

“Queer Monstrosity, Colonial Fantasy: Fantomah at the Dawn of the Superhero.” Monstrous Women in Comics—an Interdisciplinary Conference on Women in Comics and Graphic Novels, May 25-27, 2017: University of North Texas, Denton, TX.

“Supergirl and the Corporate Articulation of Neoliberal Feminism.” With Kathryn L. Miller. Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 1-4, 2016: Philadelphia, PA.

“Affect, Comics, and Making the Ordinary Sacred.” Sacred Texts and Comics Symposium, May 5-6 2016: Haverford College, PA.

“Flags of our Bastards: *Southern Bastards* and the Race Politics of the Weird South.” 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Comic Arts Forum, April 13-16, 2016: Columbia, SC.

“Flags of our Bastards: *Southern Bastards* and the Race Politics of the Weird South.” Conference within a Conference: Abolitionist/Decolonial Politics, at the Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, March 24-26, 2016: San Diego, CA.

“Superhero Film Scores and the Sonic Representation of Difference.” Invited lecture for English 480, “The Modern American Superhero.” May 23, 2014: University of Oregon.

“Scopophilia and the Politics of Sixties Marvel Comics: Lensing the Self as Losing the Self.” Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, April 17-19, 2014: Seattle, WA.

“Scopophilia and Sixties Marvel: Lensing the Self as Losing the Self.” 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Comic Arts Forum, May 23-25, 2013: Portland, OR.

“Memory, Alienation, and Death: Captain America and the Twilight of Empire.” Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, March 27-30, 2013: Hollywood, CA.

“‘Apparently on the Side of Law and Order’: Reconsidering the Racial Politics of Visuality in Early Superhero Narratives.” Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, March 22-24, 2012: Portland, OR.

“Race-ing Superheroes: Four-Color Whiteness in the American Political Imaginary.” Understanding Superheroes, special conference organized in conjunction with Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art’s exhibition “Faster than a Speeding Bullet: The Art of the Superhero.” October 23-24, 2009: Eugene, OR.

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## **Research Experience**

### **Manuscript Editorial Assistant**

2013

Berk, Gerald, Dennis C. Galvan, and Victoria Hattam, eds. 2013. *Political Creativity: Reconfiguring Institutional Order and Change*. Philadelphia: Penn UP.

### **Research Assistant, Priscilla Yamin**

2008 – 2009

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## **Additional Training**

### **UO Teaching Effectiveness Program Workshops**

“Teaching for the First Time as the Sole Instructor”

September 2012

“Basic Teaching Skills (Leading a Discussion)”

September 2007

### **Supervised College Teaching**

2007-2008

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## **Service (Professional and Community)**

Department Steward

2011-2012

Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation, AFT Local 3544

Delegate, American Federation of Teachers – Oregon

2011-2012

Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation, AFT Local 3544

Graduate Assistant

2009-2012

Department of Political Science Commencement, University of Oregon

Executive Board Member

2009-2015

Shelter Animal Resource Alliance, Eugene, OR

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## **Professional Memberships**

American Political Science Association

Western Political Science Association

Association for Political Theory

Comics Studies Society

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## **References**

Available upon request.