

The Comic Book Superheroes

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The focus of this volume is on the superhero as a cultural production. Authors may find the following questions to be useful points of entry. Editors invite contributions from a range of disciplinary approaches, including, but not limited to, sociology, cultural studies, media and communication studies, literature, and gender studies. Authors may find in the following questions useful departure points of inquiry.

he medium and/or other genres, the broader comic book industry, other media, methods of production, authorship, creator's rights, the changing status of comic book writers and/or artists, changing markets and channels of distribution, readership and fandom.

1. How is the superhero emblematic of a certain historical narrative or perspective?
2. To what extent does (popular) culture shape the character of a particular superhero?
3. How are concepts of masculinity or femininity represented by the superhero historically or in contemporary culture?
4. How are concepts of race or ethnicity represented by the superhero historically or in contemporary culture?
5. How is the problem of social, political or economic inequality or oppression treated by the superhero historically or in contemporary culture?
6. To what extent is the superhero a symbol of cultural (re)production, power or identity?

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