Accessing Scout

- Go to the University Library’s home page: lib.ua.edu
- Click on one of the provided links to Scout (top-left hand side of the screen or under Resources)

Searching for Comics & Graphic Novels on Scout

Scout contains original comic books & graphic novels (some of which are available in print at Gorgas Library), as well as articles and books about the genre.

One thing to keep in mind when searching Scout is the importance of using good keywords and search terms. Some examples of effective keywords when searching for comics & graphic novels include:

- “Comic books”
- “Graphic novels”
- “comic books, strips, etc.” (this is the official subject heading for the genre, so it will produce the most specific search)

*One more thing to keep in mind is that it’s usually best to place quotations around the search terms so that Scout looks for that exact phrase*

A Basic search for “comic books, strips, etc.” will produce links to actual comic books as well as secondary materials about the genre:
With any scout search you also have the option of narrowing your search to look for specific types of resources. For example, if you only wanted to find scholarly articles about comic books & graphic novels you could refine your results by clicking on the Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals box on the left-hand side of the screen:

Now your search only retrieves articles from scholarly journals:
One final thing to keep in mind is that Gorgas Library has its own print collection of comic books, graphic novels, and secondary materials about the genre. You can find these by searching on Scout, but if you’re interested in browsing the collection they’re primarily located under the call number PN6700, which is on the third floor.