

Manga Drawing

Section 1

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【Course Outline / Description】

This is a beginner-level studio course in which students will be learning and participating in the production of self-publishing manga. In this course, students will study the various aspects of manga production and all of its stages: character design, set design, illustration, script writing, inking, and editing for publication. Students will be given guided practices during the first 13 classes to acquire basic practical production skills as well as the artistic philosophy behind the studio practice. Students then will be asked to demonstrate their understanding of the previous lesson by partaking in the production process of a publication during the remaining course. With the guidance of the instructor, students will each contribute 8 pages of manga as well as advertisement materials such as posters and postcards for their publication.

Section 2

【Course Objectives/Goals/Learning Outcomes】

At the end of this course, students will acquire the basic technical skills for constructing visual narratives in the form of manga. By participating in studio practice, students will gain a deeper understanding of this form of art from a consumer standpoint to that of a creator: in the process acquire a realistic, firsthand knowledge of this unique Japanese visual communication tradition.

Section 3

【Class Schedule/Class Environment, Literature and Materials】

	Subject	Content
Lecture 1 8/29	Course Introduction / Introduction to Manga Production: Tools	Introduction to the course contents and various materials used in manga production
Lecture 2 9/2	Experience of Manga: Genres and Readership	Group discussion on various genres of manga and their readership in preparation for the production
Lecture 3 9/5	Manga Workshop: Character Design & Constructing an Identity A	Introduction and workshop on character design and note-taking
Lecture 4 9/9	Manga Workshop: Character Design & Constructing an Identity B	Workshop: constructing a conversational narrative
Lecture 5 9/12	Manga Workshop: Character Expression	Workshop: constructing emotional expression
Lecture 6 9/16	Manga Workshop: Set Design A: Perspective	Workshop: basic perspective drawing

2023 Spring Semester

Lecture 7 9/19	Manga Workshop: Set Design B: Dollhouse	Introduction and workshop on creating a visual environment
Lecture 8 9/23	Manga Workshop: Visual Language of Manga A	Introduction and workshop on manga panel (Koma,) lettering and terminology
Lecture 9 9/26	Manga Workshop: Visual Language of Manga B	Workshop: tools and techniques for manga.
Lecture 10 9/30	Manga Workshop: Illustration Project	Workshop: Students will be asked to demonstrate their understanding by presenting one illustration at the end of this lesson.
Lecture 11 10/3	Manga Workshop: Visual Narrative: Comic Strip (4 Koma Manga)	Introduction on storyboarding for manga and workshop on creating comic strips. Students will be asked to demonstrate their understanding by presenting four comic strips by the next lesson.
Lecture 12 10/7	Manga Workshop: Visual Narrative: Short Story	Introduction on storyboarding (name) for short stories and workshop for brainstorming multiple ideas for manga. Students will be asked to demonstrate their understanding by presenting at least 2 proposals in week 13.
Lecture 13 10/10	Manga Workshop: Visual Narrative: Short Story	Workshop: storyboarding
Lecture 14 10/14	Visual Narrative of Manga: Critique	Critique: story proposal for the publication project.
Lecture 15 10/17	Manga Production: Name/storyboard	Workshop: storyboarding
Lecture 16 10/21	Manga Production: Name/storyboard	Workshop and critique on storyboarding
Lecture 17 10/24	Manga Production: Name/storyboard	Workshop: storyboarding
Lecture 18 11/4	Manga Production: Sitagaki/ Sketch	Workshop: transferring storyboard to sketch.
Lecture 19 11/7	Manga Production: Sitagaki/ Sketch	Workshop: transferring storyboard to sketch

2023 Spring Semester

Lecture 20 11/11	Manga Production: Sitagaki/ Sketch	Workshop: transferring storyboard to sketch
Lecture 21 11/14	Manga Production: Final drawing	Workshop: transferring the sketch to the final drawing.
Lecture 22 11/18	Manga Production: Final drawing	Workshop: transferring the sketch to the final drawing.
Lecture 23 11/21	Manga Production: Final drawing	Workshop: transferring the sketch to the final drawing.
Lecture 24 11/25	Manga Production: Finishing	Workshop: transferring the sketch to the final drawing.
Lecture 25 11/28	Manga Production: Finishing/DEADLINE	Workshop: transferring the sketch to the final drawing.
Lecture 26 12/2	Manga Production: Lettering	Finalized story manga project.
Lecture 27 12/5	Manga Production: Editing the booklet: Postscript, Extra pages	Finalizing the group publication
Lecture 28 12/9	Manga Production: Promotional content	Workshop: creating posters and postcards
Lecture 29 12/12	Manga Production: Promotional content	Workshop: creating posters and postcards
Lecture 30 12/12-16	Final Exhibition	final display of all works created during the course

【Textbooks/Reading Materials】

While textbooks are not required as the main focus of this course is on the studio practices, handout and references materials will be provided by the instructor when required. Students are also encouraged to explore various manga publications on their own during their studies in Japan.

Purchase of the suggested reading and resources in the list below are not required but highly recommended for those who had less experience in studio practice prior to this course.

Suggested reading:

- 『人を描くのが楽しいね！—マンガのための人物デッサン—』中村成一, 廣済堂出版, ISBN: 4331514706

Recommended resources:

- 「人を描くのが楽しいね」: <https://www.asahi-net.or.jp/~zm5s-nkmr/index.html>

Section 4

【Learning Assessments/Grading Rubric】

Class Participation 30%

Final Project 40%

Project Assignments 30%

As this is a beginner-level course, the evaluation of students will be heavily influenced by the

2023 Spring Semester

personal growth of the student between the beginning to the end of the course as well as the level of completion on their project and class project participation. 30% of the student's final grades under the project assignments will be the evaluation of their personal growth and the effort they placed into their projects. As the production of a publication that consists of all students' work is the final output of this course, the ability to meet deadlines and work with fellow students will also be an important measure for evaluating students' achievement, which will account for 40% of the final grades. While a large portion of this studio course involves individual work, as a group publication project the full participation of all students will also factor into their final grades under the grade category for class participation which will account for the remaining 30%.

Section 5

【Additional Information】

Students are not required to have any previous study in studio art or creative writing to take this course, however, as the production of a publication is the center focus of this course, students are expected to meet various short deadlines which may involve work beyond the class periods. While the improvement of technical skills in writing and drawing is one of the learning elements of the course, personal growth and the ability to work in a group will be the key factors that students who are considering taking on this challenging course should be aware of.

A material fee of ¥10,000 per semester, payable in advance, will be charged. (non-refundable)
The material fees are NOT refundable even though you drop the course.