CARTOONING & COMIC ART II
ART F395 (3 credit hours)
July 8th – August 15th, Monday-Thursday, 6-9pm, Art Department Room 317
Jamie Smith, Instructor (907-378-6018) jamienuggets@gmail.com

Course Description

An advanced studio class on sequential art - telling a story with images and text - that focuses on the basic elements of creating cartoon and comic art features. Exploration of all stages in production with an emphasis on the conceptual and developmental process, as well as drawing and storytelling skills.
Prerequisite: F195 Cartoon & Comic Art 1, or permission of the instructor.

Objectives

Students will learn materials and techniques in the field of cartoon and comic art, study the work of historical and contemporary creators, and develop an understanding of visual and narrative techniques in combining words and pictures through page and panel breakdowns and thumbnailing, using reference studies and research materials, character development and writing & editing.
Students will explore the genres of single-panel/gag cartoons, strips, editorial cartooning, storyboarding, collaborative approaches with traditional comic book scriptwriting, penciling and inking, alternative comics, minicomics, graphic novels, caricature and humorous illustration.
Advanced students will lead all weekly critiques and provide commentary, insight and guidance on work from others in the class and set a professional example by demonstrating a consistent level of output, skill & presentation. Advanced students will also complete additional panels and/or pages for each assignment/critique with added emphasis placed on experimentation in technique & mediums, along with work in color. Advanced students will additionally be expected to post all work on-line (on either personal website or blog, or through a hosted social network site such as Pintrest, Picasa, Deviant Art, MySpace or Facebook). In addition, advanced students will complete one self-published book (minicomic/zine format), which will consist of a minimum of eight-pages from select examples of classwork and/or independent body of work prearranged individually with instructor. Completed script/outline of project is due at end of week 1 including roughs with panel + page breakdowns. Through weeks 2-4 penciled pages will be due in class on Monday, with inked pages by Thursday critiques. By week five all work should be ready for formatting and/or coloring. At the end of the sixth week the completed project is due including copies for class
Course Outline

1st Week: materials & techniques, characters, lettering
2nd Week single panels/gag cartoons, editorial cartoons
3rd Week: strips & syndication, history of sequential art
4th Week: comic books (scripting/penciling/inking)
5th Week: graphic novels, storyboarding
6th Week: final pages for class publication

Grading Policy

There will be daily reviews of work-in-progress and weekly critiques of major assignments, and a final class publication of selected student work. Participation in critiques and classroom discussions will be used in factoring +/- of grade. No late work will be accepted. Students are evaluated on the basis of the following:

Five Critiqued Assignments:
10 points – character(s) + materials & technique
20 points – gags & editorials/caricature
20 points – strips
20 points – collaborative pages (script/pencil/ink/color)
30 points – publication
100 points total

A = 100-90: B = 79-89: C = 50-78: D = 25-49: F = 24-0

Sample Critique Checklist and Criteria for Grading Work:
(2 points) Complete? - All required work done/on time? Name on it?
(2 points) Content/Concept? – Original, clear communication of idea or point?
(2 points) Composition? – Elements arranged
(1 point) Linework? – Variation, consistency?
(1 point) Value? – Use of textures, spot-blacks, tones, wash?
(1 point) Lettering? – Legible?
(1 point) Presentation? – Smudged, torn, professional looking?
(10 possible points)

9-10 points = A: 7-8 points = B: 4-6 points = C: 3-4 points = D: 1-2 points = F
Attendance

Attendance is mandatory, and will factor overall for final grade.
Maximum 1 excused absence, after that grade will drop by one letter grade per each absence (ex: 2 absences = A to a B; 3 = C; 4 = D; 5 absences = failure).

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with disabilities including equal access to campus and course material. For information contact Office of Disabilities Services 203 WHIT 474-7043.

Materials List

Graphite pencil (*HB or #2*)
Derwent Sketching pencil (medium or heavy wash)
Eraser (*Magic Rub, Pink Pearl*)
12” ruler, metal w/cork backing + T-square
Drafting/low-tack masking tape
Felt-tip pens (*Sharpies – Fine & Ultra-Fine, Flair, Razor Point, etc.*)
Micron Pens (range from thin 01 to thick 08)
*optional Pitt/Faber-Castell artist pen set
Assortment of misc. ball-point pens (black ink)
Dip-pens with large + crow-quill nibs (ex: Hunt 108, Gillette 170)
*optional Fountain pen (ex: Rotring Art Pen, Rapidograph)
Brush (#0 or #1 rounds, synthetic blend)
*optional Winsor-Newton series 7 (#2 or #3) and/or Pentell Pocket Brush
Waterproof black India ink (*ex: Higgins Black Magic, Winsor & Newton, Dr. Phil Martin’s Bombay, Speedball Superblack*)
Whiteout, Dr. Phil Martin’s Bleed Proof White or opaque white acrylic paint
9x12 sketchpad (*drawing paper, wirebound*)
8x10” or 9x12” and 11x14” Bristol Board pad (*smooth – not vellum*)
Tacklebox for storing supplies
Small folio – ex: plastic slipcase/presentation folder
3-ring binder + hole puncher or big clip for keeping handouts and copies together
Setup with adequate lighting and good posture