CARTOONING & COMIC ART I ART F195-F71 (3 credit hours)
July 6th – August 12th, Monday-Thursday, 6-9 pm, Art Department Room 317
Jamie Smith, Instructor (907-378-6018) jamienuggets@gmail.com
Office Hours: Before and after class in Fine Arts Room 317

Course Description

An introductory 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. No prerequisites/previous art experience necessary.

Objectives

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.

Student Learning Outcomes

After taking this class, students will
• Have practical knowledge of materials and techniques in the field of cartoon and comic art
• Gain firsthand experience in publishing their work online and in print
• Be familiar with historical and contemporary creators
• Understand visual and narrative techniques for combining words and pictures through page and panel breakdowns and thumbnailing
• Be able to market their work for commercial applications and clients
• Use reference studies and research materials, character development and writing and editing

Course Outline

• 1st Week: materials & techniques, characters, lettering
  - lecture times: Monday, 6-7 p.m., Tuesday, 6-7 p.m., Wednesday, 6-7 p.m.
  - studio times: Monday – Wednesday, 7-9 p.m., Thursday, 6-9 p.m.
• 2nd Week single panels/gag cartoons, editorial cartoons (studio/lecture – same as above)
• 3rd Week: strips & syndication, history of sequential art (studio/lecture – same as above)
• 4th Week: comic books (scripting/penciling/inking) (studio/lecture – same as above)
• 5th Week: graphic novels, storyboarding (studio/lecture – same as above)
• 6th Week: final pages for class publication (studio/lecture – same as above)

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)
30 points – vignette
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) Line-work? – 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

All students are expected to abide by the University of Alaska Fairbanks Student Code of Conduct (http://catalog.uaf.edu/academics-regulations/students-rights-responsibilities/). As such, students will be expelled for cheating, plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty.

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 B; 3 = C; 4 = D; 5 absences = failure).

The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and ensures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. For
information contact Office of Disabilities Services (208 WHITAKER BLDG, 474-5655) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.

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 0.1 to thick 0.8)
*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 Pentel 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