

IDH2952 Graphic Novel Design: Storytelling through Art

Instructors:

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Office hours available upon request | Individual meetings are encouraged - email to schedule

Class Meetings

Thursday, Period 7 (1:55-2:45), Little Hall 117

Face coverings are expected at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated.

Description

Graphic Novel Design will explore narrative storytelling through art. We will analyze themes and layouts of primarily autobiographical graphic novels, illustrations, and comics to apply to our own art practice. These readings take on historical, cultural, and ethnographic perspectives that we will use to enhance our ability to tell stories through illustration. Students can expect to develop their personal style, learn drawing fundamentals, and engage with different forms of narration. Assignments will consist of class discussion, process pieces, readings, and three projects. The end product of this class will be a portfolio of works created throughout the semester that confronts identity, past, current events, and the future.

Required Texts

There is no single required text, but students will be expected to read several graphic novels throughout the course. Multiple graphic novels will be set aside via course reserves and available to be borrowed from Library West for 24 hours. Students are also welcome to use personal copies of any texts. Further details will be discussed in class and posted on Canvas. Any additional readings will be made available on Canvas.

Materials

This class is very flexible with material requirements. At minimum, a writing utensil and blank paper (8.5x11" printer paper works) is needed. Students may also consider using fine ink pens, markers, paints, and bristol paper. Students can work digitally, but all art must be printed for critiques.

Guiding Questions

The course objectives are centered around the following questions:

- How does the course content connect with your art practice? Your major? Your posture toward life?
- How do we make meaning of various elements of graphic novels?
- In what ways does illustration enhance storytelling?
- What is your role as the artist in shaping the content and style of the artwork?

Points and Assignments

Deadlines, instructions, and grading criteria are provided in Canvas.

30 Participation (attendance, process work, reading discussions)
20 Project 1
20 Project 2
30 Final Project

Grading Scale - Based on points earned

93-100 (A); 90-92 (A-); 87-89 (B+); 83-86 (B); 80-82 (B-); 77-79(C+); 73-76 (C); 70-72 (C-); 67-69 (D+); 63-66 (D); 60-62 (D-); 59-0 (E)

Project Evaluation

We will take into account the following areas when evaluating projects completed for this class. Further discussion of these areas will take place throughout the course.

- Research
- Successful resolution of the problem
- Initiative - scope of undertaking. Did you challenge yourself?
- Craftsmanship, neatness, attention to detail, etc.

Critiques

For each of our projects, we will have an in-class critique involving instructors and students offering feedback to each other. For these critiques, students are expected to prepare questions, solicit responses, and encourage constructive criticism during group discussions. Students should consider comments (take notes during discussions), using any and all to gauge the effectiveness of their work and plan for next steps. It is expected that students will be able to allow the evolution of ideas to influence formal and conceptual choices in their work.

Attendance policy

This is a very active, participatory, and discussion-centered course. Attendance is mandatory at each class. More than one unexcused absence will result in final grade reduction by one letter grade for each additional absence. Please arrive on time and ready to work each week. Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Undergraduate Catalog and require appropriate documentation:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Late Work Policy

Because of the nature of the critiques and necessity of feedback, it is expected that students will turn in projects on the due date. Any exceptions must be arranged prior to the deadline.

Course Schedule *subject to change

Week 1	Introductions & Story Assignment
Week 2	Topic: Character design
Week 3	Topic: Composition

Week 4	Topic: Storyboarding
Week 5	Project 1 Critique 20 pts
Week 6	Topic: Dialogue Speaker: TBA
Week 7	Topic: Perspective
Week 8	Project 2 Critique 20 pts
Week 9	Topic: Color design
Week 10	<i>Spring Break - no class</i>
Week 11	Topic: Direct Observation Studies
Week 12	Topic: Open Studio
Week 13	Final Project Critique 30 pts
Week 14	Topic: Portfolio development
Week 15	Celebration & gallery

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Online Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

UF Honesty Pledge

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of

behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis Services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the [Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: Visit [UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450

In Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to

another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code