

MAKING COMICS II

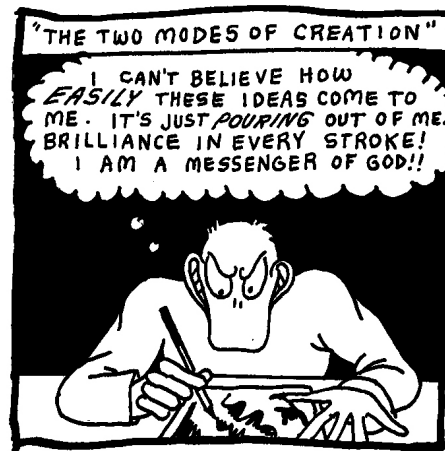
ILL 321-501 : Tues/Thu : 3:10 - 4:30

Instructor : Molly Colleen O'Connell

Email : professormco@gmail.com

Office Hours : 1:00 - 1:30 T/Th

Classroom/office : 14 E Jackson Rm 501



Alex Graham

A continuation of Making Comics, this course explores advanced aspects of writing and drawing one's own narratives in long-form sequential art. The focus is on honing individual approaches to storytelling, media, color, lettering and layout. Students will expand their knowledge of the comics canon by reading and discussing contemporary works. Students will synthesize initial exercises and assignments into a final long-form project. Self publishing and production techniques will also be introduced. PREREQUISITE(S): ILL 206

COURSE EXPECTATIONS :

- Be prepared for class. Have the materials you need for the day, your homework ready for critique, the reading read...
- Be mentally present. Engage with the material and your classmates. We share this class equally; everyone's voice is important and necessary, and everyone can and should participate. Speaking in class is easy for some, more difficult for others. This can be based on personal and cultural factors. Make a personal goal to speak more if you find you are often quiet, and challenge yourself to listen if you find you are often vocal, and encourage others to share.

ATTENDANCE :

- Be on time. 2 tardys = absence. 3 absences = grade drop. 4 absences = you fail the class.
- If you are sick, or have tested positive for covid, stay home. Email me so we can discuss how to proceed.

GRADING SYSTEM :

- You won't be graded on drawing ability or charm! You will be graded on your effort, passion, and time spent with brush in hand(so to speak) on each assignment. This class requires 5+ additional hours of outside of class work each week.
- Late work will not be accepted unless a reasonable excuse is approved by the instructor and is subject to grade penalty.
- Coursework will be uploaded to the google drive for grading, regardless if critiqued in person or not. Take your time scanning/documenting your work because the version uploaded will be graded, and I can only grade what I can see.
- If you ever want to know more about your grade or how you are doing in class, just ask! I love to talk to students about their work, and I send grade feedback when I can, but sometimes due to class volume it is up to the student to inquire for more in depth feedback.
- Your participation grade is based on attendance and active participation in the course.
- For class readings, you are expected to take notes and reflect in your sketchbook, a page per reading.

An "A" is reserved for assignments that go above and beyond what is requested.
A "B" is for well executed work that demonstrates clear effort, above average.
A "C" is for work that fulfills the assignment, about average effort.
Anything below is a bit sad, unfinished, exhibits little to no effort, or does not fulfill the assignment.

SUPPLIES :

In this course, the materials to produce comics are up to you, be they analogue or digital! But evidence of progress will be due weekly. You may also need to purchase paper for mini zine assignment, but we will discuss this more in class. You will also definitely need a usb drive for printing.

CLASS SCHEDULE : This course has 3 projects, a single page zine, 16 page mini comic, and a 20+ page comic. There will be additional printing demos, discussion of self publishing, progress critiques, and discussion of readings.

This course is meant to give you time and support to author an in depth comic project. To be frank, it's the first time I am teaching it so consider it a game plan that may change due to the whims and needs of the course. Changes will be announced in person and on d2l.

Week one : Mini Comics reading + Quimby's Inspo Zine Assignment
Week two : Xerox Demo, File prep, Print Center Tour, Discuss WLB + CCTV
Week three : Single page zine due, discuss Bird by Bird
Week four : Riso demo, assembly demo, discuss Art Comic
Week Five : Print time in class, discuss Gaylord Phoenix
Week Six : Mini Comics critique, discuss Skim
Week Seven : Studio time, discuss Cosplayers
Week Eight : Studio time, discuss Dumb
Week Nine : Studio time, discuss Peanut Butter Sisters
Week Ten : Comics due Tuesday, Thursday = Final critique!!

Final Grade Breakdown:	
Participation	10%
HW + Readings	20%
Mini Comics	30%
Big Comic	40%

Total	100%

Weekly Readings : Each week we will have a reading to complete, mostly mini comics, a little writing about writing, and some excerpts from longer form comics. For each reading, you will need to write a response, fill a sketchbook page(s) equal to about 8.5 x 11. I would like you to pay particular attention to how the comic works vs the just the story itself. I.E. how is the pacing achieved? How is the dialogue depicted? Is there humor? How is it deployed? What is unique about the inking, format, layout, etc? These readings are research, find techniques you would like to use (or that you abhor and would never). Responses will be due on d2l every Tuesday (except week one).

PAPER Suppliers:

www.orderlewis.com (local, you can pick up in person in Pilsen)
www.frenchpaper.com (Michigan based, lots of stunning colors and weights)
www.thepapermillstore.com (Affordable online supplier)

RISO sites:

<http://stencil.wiki>
<https://colorlibrary.ch>
<http://perfectly-acceptable.com/print>
<https://issue.press/printing>
<http://www.colourcodeprinting.com>

COMICS sources :

www.TCJ.com (The Comics Journal: reviews, articles, interviews)
www.thenib.com (online comics publisher)
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU0v4IGzj2wK-PmjASkK2Rg> (Cartoonist Kayfabe youtube channel)
Quimby's Bookstore in Wicker Park: 1854 W North Ave, open Thurs - Mon 12-6 pm