

Summer Curriculum Development Grant Report (August 4, 2023)

Soojin Kim, Assistant Professor of Digital Art & Design, Department of Art and Art History

Title: ART 3xx - Graphic Narratives of Asia - Manga to Webtoons

Summary

Manga, Webtoons, Anime, and Korean Dramas are becoming global mediums, with creators and audiences from all over the world. This summer, I created 300 level ELAC course that provides students with insights into the comic book culture and industries of Japan and Korea. This class focused on manga and webtoons would offer students the opportunity to explore stories and cultures from around the world, promoting cross-cultural learning and understanding. Through the ELAC workshop, I was able to create a syllabus, and with the fund, I purchased an iPad that is one of the popular creation tools of webtoon artists these days. I tested out the new device and software to run the course smoothly.

Activities

June 2023

- Participating in ELAC Institute
 - Defined the course objectives and learning outcomes
 - Selected course reading materials and multimedia resources
 - Creating a course schedule
 - Designing assessments (assessments & projects)
- Created a course syllabus to fit ELAC requirements
 - The new course syllabus is attached to the end of this report

July 2023

- Test out Procreate & Adobe Illustrator on iPad & Cintique.

ART 3XX-01

Graphic Narratives from Asia: Manga to Webtoon

Course Description

Learning Outcomes

Creativity
Communication

High Impact Practices

ART 3XX-01 Graphic Narratives from Asia: Manga to Webtoon Fall 2024 | M, W 12 –2:45 pm | FAIC 327

Soojin Kim | Department of Art & Art History | Digital Art & Media Design
Office: FAIC 318 | Hours: M 4-4:30 pm, W 2:45-4:30 pm, R 1:15-4 pm

Are you a comic book fan? Are you interested in learning how this form of art evolved and affected the popular culture and entertainment industry? Would you like to create your own comic book? In this course, we will explore the brief history of Japanese manga and Korean webtoons in terms of the perspective of cultural exchange, media evolution, and their impact on other art form. Students will share their readings of manga or webtoons addressing the point of view, metaphor, the interplay of text and images, and image styles. Eventually, students will be able to create their own works by learning the professional processes of storyboarding, character creation, panel composition, and style establishment. There will be biweekly tutorials and exercises for creation skills and final outcome of the student project will be in a digital format, but will incorporate any hands-on creation methods.

Primary Software Used: Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop

Optional Software Used: Procreate, Clip Studio, Sketchup

Levels: Undergraduate

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Learn the creative process of sequential art such as writing an initial script, storyboarding, character & background design and panel composition
- Develop and improve digital skills to create sequential art creating and publishing comic books, including writing, drawing, and marketing while creatively applying the elements of Storytelling to their artwork.
- Create their own manga or webtoon.
- Create an e-portfolio
- Develop an understanding of the history and evolution of graphic narratives from Asia, including the cultural and societal influences that have shaped it over time.
- Explore the role of graphic narratives in the current popular culture and their impact on other forms of media, such as movies, television, and video games.
- Examine the themes and messages communicated in comic books, such as social commentary, politics, and cultural identity.
- Explore manga and webtoons addressing the point of view, metaphor, the interplay of text and images, and artistic techniques used to impact the reader's experience.

High Impact practices(HIPs) are shown to increase student efficacy (or empowerment) and learning. These practices aim at helping students to apply what they are learning in academic and real-world contexts.

This course includes the following HIPs.

- ❑ Students will engage in **Diversity/Global Learning** by detailed examining the differences of reflections of gender representation, culture, and society in graphic narratives originating from East Asian Culture
- ❑ Students will create their **ePortfolio** archiving their comics and share with the public.

Learning Materials

- ❑ Blackboard access *
- ❑ McCloud, Scott. *Making Comics: Storytelling Secrets of Comics, Manga and Graphic Novels*. 1st ed. New York: Harper, 2006.
- ❑ Hong, Nan-ji, and Jong Beom Lee. *Webtoon School: Everything you need to know about webtoon creation and story writing*. Popppub, 2022.
- ❑ Cho. (2021). The Platformization of Culture: Webtoon Platforms and Media Ecology in Korea and Beyond. *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 80(1), 73–93.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0021911820002405>
- ❑ Kneece, M. (2019). *The art of comic book writing: the definitive guide to outlining, scripting, and pitching your sequential art stories*. Vancouver, B.C.: Langara College.
- ❑ Jin. (2019). Korean Webtoonist Yoon Tae Ho: History, Webtoon Industry, and Transmedia Storytelling. *International Journal of Communication (Online)*, 2216.
- ❑ El Refaie, Elisabeth., and Ebrary, Inc. *Autobiographical Comics: Life Writing in Pictures*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2012.
- ❑ Eisner, Will. *Comics and Sequential Art: Principles and Practices from the Legendary Cartoonist*. Eisner, Will. Will Eisner Library. New York: W.W. Norton, 2008.
- ❑ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hero%27s_journey
- ❑ <https://design.tutsplus.com/tutorials/create-a-comic-how-to-plan-and-lay-out-your-comic--cms-24179>
- ❑ <http://makingcomics.spiltink.org/flow-the-eyelines/>
- ❑ <http://makingcomics.spiltink.org/transitions/>
- ❑ <https://comicbookglossary.wordpress.com/>
- ❑ <https://www.mythopoeia.us/blog/creating-comics-101-story-though-panels>
- ❑ <http://www.creativecomicart.com/comic-panels--layout.html>
- ❑ <https://www.clipstudio.net/how-to-draw/archives/157055>

Creative Materials

- ❑ Onedrive access *
 - ❑ Additional external hard drive or flash(thumb) drive
 - ❑ Headset or earbud, and microphone for an online learning environment
 - ❑ Sketch paper pad and student's own choice of drawing/p tools
 - ❑ Any supportive digital creation tools and softwares of your own are welcome to use
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Assessments

Each assignment will be calculated using the following assessments:

Assessment	Percentage of final grade
Understanding of Context	25
Effectiveness of Communication	25
Authenticity/Originality	25
Level of Completion	25

Assignments

Assignments	Title/Description	Learning Outcomes Addressed
Assignment 1	Analytical Reading Write an analytical reading reflection and discuss in class.	Communication: Examine the themes and messages communicated in comic books, such as social commentary, politics, and cultural identity, and artistic techniques used to impact the audience's experience.
Assignment 2	Kishōtenketsu Create a four-panel comic using Kishōtenketsu story structure.	Creativity: Learn and apply the basic creative process of sequential art and storytelling methods to create students' own art.
Assignment 3	Asian Folklore Create one page/spread manga or webtoon inspired by folklore from Asia.	Creativity & Communication Learn how the comic creator controls the reader's pace, direction, and reaction throughout a comic panel & gutter layout. After the creation in-class critique will be followed.
Final Project	Webtoon Proposal Develop a webtoon proposal and create the first two episodes students own and publish.	Creativity & Communication Improve digital skills to create sequential art creating and publishing sequential art while creatively applying the elements of storytelling to their artwork.

Grading

Your grade is based on assignments(30%), final project(30%), in-class exercises(10%), e-portfolio (10%), participation in discussions and critiques(10%), and attendance (10%).

Important Requirements: Be prepared to participate in group activities in class. Readings are due before the beginning of class for the date assigned so that you are familiar with the topics and ready for discussion. Late assignments will be accepted with -a 5 points(out of 100) penalty by the final exam date. One-third of the studio work for this class is expected to be accomplished outside of class. Use the Webb 410 General Computer Lab and FAIC 330/327 Open Lab, 313 Digital Resource Room (available with instructor permission for classwork only). If you have a valid excuse(Illness, observation of religious holidays, and other emergency situations) for an absence, please contact me prior to class with a relevant proof document.

A 100–95 90% | B 88 85 80% | C 78 75 70% | D 68 65 60% | F 59% or below (A grade of C, 75% is the minimum grade which counts toward your major.)

Class Cancelation Policy

In the case that class needs to be canceled, you will be notified by email as early as possible with the adjustment of the syllabus.

Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University's numerous policies and procedures contained in the University Catalog and Student Handbook. The Code of Conduct policies and the Policy on Academic Misconduct are of special significance, since cheating, plagiarism, and personal misconduct are strictly prohibited and carry severe penalties. Students should read and understand Eastern's Academic Misconduct Policy, which can be found in the student handbook: <https://easternct.makekb.com/entry/307/>. All violations will be handled under the procedures established in this policy.

Academic Success Center

Students are encouraged to use the support offered by the Academic Services Center (ASC) located on the ground floor of the Library. Advising Services and tutoring in math, writing, and other subjects, including supplementary instruction, are available. The ASC also offers Peer Academic Coaching (PAC) assistance with study techniques, time management, "Eastern in 4" planning, and understanding learning styles. For further information about our services, please call 465-4625 or check the ASC website at <http://www.easternct.edu/asc/>.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Eastern Connecticut State University is committed to following the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the ADA Amendment Act of 2008, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended in 1998. If you are a student with a disability and are in need of accommodations or assistance evacuating a building in the case of an emergency, please contact the Office of AccessAbility Services (OAS) at 860-465-0189 or AccessAbility@easternct.edu. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and must be communicated to faculty members through a Letter of Accommodations, which is drafted by the OAS.

Final Examination Statement

University policy states that “No examination shall be given during the final week of scheduled classes of a full semester course.” Faculty must receive prior approval from the Vice-President of Academic Affairs in order to schedule an examination during the final week of classes. Faculty may, with approval from the Vice-President of Academic Affairs in consultation with the Academic Dean and Registrar, hold a single exam session for all sections of the same course. Students will be notified of the exam date, time, and place on the course syllabus.

Student Sexual Misconduct Statement

Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, as well as the Board of Regents Policy on Sexual Misconduct Reporting, Support Services, and Processes, prohibit acts of sexual misconduct – sexual harassment, sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and inappropriate relationships between employees and students. If you or someone you know has been or experiences harassment or assault, resources are available with the Sexual Assault & Interpersonal Violence Response Team (SAIV-RT). Alleged violations can be reported to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equity and Diversity at 860-465-5791. Reports to law enforcement can be made to Eastern Connecticut State University Police Department at 860-465-5310. To receive support and advocacy, please contact the Coordinator of the Sexual Assault & Interpersonal Violence Response Team (SAIV-RT) at 860-465-4314. You may also visit the SAIV-RT website at SAIV-RT Response Protocol - Eastern (easterncnct.edu) for more information including a list of confidential resources.

Statement on Student Wellness

Any student who is facing challenges (i.e. mental health, securing food/housing) and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students at 860-465-5244 for support. Students experiencing an immediate threat to their safety or well-being should contact 24-hour emergency services by dialing 911 or the Eastern University Police Department: 860-465-5310.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is located at 182 High Street and offers a full range of support services to all enrolled Eastern students. These services include individual, group, and couples counseling; psychiatric services; crisis intervention; consultation for faculty, staff, and family members; and referrals for outside services. CAPS can be reached by calling 860-465-0181 or visiting the CAPS website for more information (<https://www.easterncnct.edu/counseling-services/index.html>).

Writing Assistance

The Writing Center is a really great thing. Located on the first floor of the library, the Writing Center is staffed with trained undergraduate peer tutors who can help you at all stages of the writing process, for any class. If you're having trouble coming up with an idea for a paper, don't understand an assignment, or simply want a “second set of eyes” for your paper to “see if it flows,” go to the Writing Center. Appointments are recommended, especially around midterms and finals—you can make those online using Insight. It's best to bring a copy of the assignment with you when you go to the Writing Center and do expect to participate in your session—the Writing Center's not a proofreading or editing service, though tutors will show you how to do those things on your own.

Diversity Statement

Eastern Connecticut State University values the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff. Differences in race, ethnicity, national origin, class, religion, learning styles, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, age, ideology, and other aspects of human variation and characterization, including but not limited to those protected by law and CSCU policies, enrich the educational experiences and social and intellectual development of students and create a rich cultural environment. Eastern is committed to ensuring that regardless of their differences, all members of the Eastern community are challenged to achieve their full potential and are supported in their pursuit of that goal in a campus environment that is free from discrimination and harassment.

Revisions To Syllabus*

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to revision at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified of any changes that will be made.

Course Outline

WEEK 1		COURSE INTRODUCTION AND SYLLABUS REVIEW BIRTH OF MANGA
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WEEK 2	ASSIGNMENT	MANGA CULTURE
	1	ASSIGNMENT 1 - Analytical Reading

WEEK 3	ASSIGNMENT	WEBTOON & WEB PLATFORM
	1	

WEEK 4	ASSIGNMENT	ELEMENT OF STORYTELLING
	1	

WEEK 5	ASSIGNMENT	ESSENTIAL MANGA EFFECTS
	1	
	DUE	

WEEK 6	ASSIGNMENT	ASSIGNMENT1 DISCUSSION
	2	ASSIGNMENT2 - Kishōtenketsu

WEEK 7	ASSIGNMENT	RESEARCH & CONSTRUCTION
	2	

WEEK 8	ASSIGNMENT	DIRECTING
	2	ASSIGNMENT3 - Asian Folklore
	DUE	

WEEK 9	ASSIGNMENT	PANNEL LAYOUT
	3	

WEEK 10	ASSIGNMENT	
	3	

WEEK 11	ASSIGNMENT	PROPOSAL AND PORTFOLIO
	3	
	DUE	

WEEK 12	FINAL PROJECT	ASSIGNMENT3 CRIT
		FINAL PROJECT - Webtoon Proposal

WEEK 13 FINAL
PROJECT
FINAL
PROJECT

WEEK 14 FINAL PROPOSAL PRESENTATION
PROJECT

WEEK 15 FINAL
PROJECT

FINAL FINAL FINAL PROJECT SUBMISSION
EXAM PROJECT
DUE
