Osaka Gakuin University 2024-2025 Fall Semester

Japanese Visual Art (Manga & Anime) Theory and Practice

Instructor :

Mohammad MOSTAFANEZHAD E-mail: mohamadom2017@gmail.com Lesson: Tuesday & Friday 15:30-17:15 Subject code : 1045

Course Description:

This course offers a deep dive into the evolution of Japanese Comics (Manga), tracing their journey from traditional forms like emaki scrolls, Japanese painting, woodblock prints, as well as Takarazuka theatre, kamishibai, and so on to modern Manga and their synergy with Japanese animation (Anime). We will explore how these art forms evolved after their contact with Western arts and have eventually shaped contemporary Japanese pop culture and the world.

You will be introduced to the greatest Manga and Anime creators and their works that left a lasting impact on Japanese society and art.

In this course, in addition to many other topics to be chosen as course projects that relate to Japanese pop culture and art, students will get the exciting chance to create actual Manga, emaki scrolls, and kamishibai as their individual or group projects.

Resources

There is no required textbook. Printed handouts will be provided throughout the course. Course content is based on the following: Mangasia! Book by Paul Gravett 2017

The Essential Guide to World Comics By Tim Pilcher and Brad Brooks 2005

Japanese Visual Culture by Mark W. MacWilliams 2008

Manga! Manga! the world of Japanese comics by Frederik L. Schodt 1986(winner of the Osamu Tezuka Culture Award)

60 years of Japanese comics by Paul Gravett 2004

Comics, Manga, and graphic novels; a history of graphic narratives by

Robert s. Petersen 2010

Understanding Comics by Scott McCloud 1993

Making Comics by Scott McCloud 2006

Manga in Theory and Practice by Hirohiko Araki 2017

Evaluation

Attendance (15%) Class Participation (25%) Weekly Readings and in-class tests (30%) Final Project (30%)

Notes:

1. Other resources and guidelines will be distracted throughout the course.

2. You need some drawing utensils for the workshops on creating Manga (weeks 7,8&12). Paper will be provided.

Course Schedule:

Course starts from the week of 9/9

Week 1: Introduction to the course, introducing the resources and projects, building teams.

Week 2: "Origins of Japanese Art" - Study traditional forms like Emaki scrolls, Takarazuka theatre, and Kamishibai.

Week 3: "Chou Jinbutsu Giga (Toba-e) and Hokusai Manga" - Explore these iconic works and their influence on Japanese art and culture.

Week 4: "East Meets West: The Intersection of Japanese and Western Art" - Study the contact and influence between Japanese art and Western art, Comics, and political cartoons.

Week 5: "Transition to Pop Culture" - Explore how modern manga and anime were born.

Week 6: "Manga & Anime: Art and Narrative" - Learn about the greatest Manga and Anime creators and their works.

Week 7 & 8: "Hands-on Experience" – Guidance on creating actual Manga, Emaki scrolls, and Kamishibai as individual or group projects.

Week 9: "Pop Culture and Society" - Discuss the societal impact of pop culture, including issues of gender, identity, and globalization.

Week 10: "The Business behind the Manga and Anime industry" - from production to marketing.

Week 11: "Future of Pop Culture" - Analyze the impact of Japanese pop culture on today's world and implications for the future.

Week 12: Preparation and guidance for the final projects

Week 13: "Final Project Presentation" - Present a research project or a work of Manga, Emaki, Kamishibai, etc.