

Andy Gouveia – Artist & Teacher  
andygouveia@gmail.com  
andygouveia.com

## Narrative Illustration

### Course Goal:

Intermediate and advanced students work to create a small portfolio of illustrations that exhibit principles of clear storytelling, character staging, and basic design. Final work will include finished pencils, inks and one illustration (color is optional).

### Course Overview

A project based intermediate/advanced level course aimed at adult students who have previous drawing experience or who have already taken an intro drawing course before this class.

Students will work on a series of illustrations in various drawing media to tell stories using figures and characters in scenes. Examples of vintage and contemporary illustrators will be used for inspiration, with an emphasis on clear storytelling principals and concepts (vs polished final work). Topics covered will include pen and ink illustration, sequential art, storyboards, book illustration (in watercolor), character design, hand made zines and using color for mood.

### Class Structure

- 1 Lecture/Exercise (approx 10 - 20 min) – review concepts and look at examples.
- 2 Demo (approx 15 – 20 min) – in class teacher demonstration – interaction and question/answer.
- 3 Studio time (approx 1+ hour)– project based student work time.
- 4 Showcase and Critique (approx 5 -10 min) – review peer work, crit based on strengths and needs.

### Homework

Optional further study assignments and exercise will be given weekly. Outside homework is recommended, but not a requirement of this class. Since this is a project based course, some projects will require outside class time for full completion.

## **10 Week Class Overview** (subject to change)

Weeks 1 and 2

### **Character Design**

Project: 2 characters interacting

Concepts: Shapes, squash/stretch, contrast of forms

Weeks 3 and 4

### **Storyboards**

Project: Three beat storyboards

Concepts: Selecting shots, movement/motivation, simple narrative

Weeks 5

### **Color Illustration**

Project: the book illustration 2 page spread

Concepts: 4 color watercolor, wet media, focal point, designed text

Weeks 6 - 7

### **Sequential art and text**

Project: the six panel page – basic comics design

Concepts: Page layout, visual flow, borders and gutters, using text

Weeks 8 - 10

### **Storybook Dummy/Zines**

Project: the mini book

Concepts: Page flow, limited color, working with page turns

## **Suggested Materials List:**

(Pencil and sketchbook are the only required materials for class one)

Pencils: HB, 2B, 4B 6B

One Blue Col-Erase pencil

Faber Castell Aquarelle Graphite HB

Micron Pigma Ink Pen - 03, 05, 08 (reg tip)

Sketchbook for notes and rough sketches

One pad of Bristol board paper (Strathmore 300 Series, 20 sheets)

1 Full sheet Arches Paper for watercolor (or pad of watercolor paper)

## **Outside reference for further study (books):**

*Understanding Comics* by Scott McCleod

*Drawing Comics the Marvel Way* by Stan Lee and John Buscema (1977)

*Cartooning* by Brunetti