

# COMICS & MANGA

## 2021 Syllabus

### MMC Project Group

Course Overview

### Instructor

Sophia Reeder  
Reeder.156@osu.edu

### Contact

Feel free to contact me through email or Carmen if you have any questions about the Project Group or assignments! I check my email daily, so I will do my best to respond promptly.

### Session Hours

Tuesdays, @ 2:00pm

### Description

This class will go over the basics of comics and manga (Manga are comics or graphic novels originating from Japan). We will be looking at the different styles that are incorporated in both storytelling and art in this medium. Students should take this Project Group if they are interested in learning about and creating their own short or long-form comics. This class is meant to be introductory and focus on content that you want to make, in whatever style or genre you find most appealing!

**\*\*\* You DO NOT need to be a "good artist" to take this class! (see Week 2 description)\*\*\***

### Materials

1. A designated place or software/app to make your comics and complete homework. This does not need to be an app you pay for! There are plenty of free drawing programs you can download, or you can use a sketchbook. Week 1 we will go over all the different options you have.
2. A way to share your projects (ability to screen shot or take good pictures of your sketchbook).
3. Colored pencils, markers, pens, etc. if you are not drawing in an app.

### Attendance and Participation

You can earn full points in this class by arriving and completing assignments on time. Most assignments are set up so you can explore areas you are interested in. I want this to be fun and chill! Please be willing to share your projects and participate in discussions. If you have to miss a class, please let me know ahead of time.

### Grading

Attendance: 35 (5 points per class)

Assignment 1: 10

Assignment 2: 10

Assignment 3: 10

Assignment 4: 10

Assignment 5: 10

Final Project: 15

Total Points: 100

	Description	Weekly Assignment
Week 1	<p>Introductions!</p> <p>We'll go over the syllabus and I'll introduce a bunch of different apps you can use for the Project Group if you don't have a sketchbook.</p>	<p>Be ready to share one of your favorite comics or manga for next class and the app/medium you will be using for your assignments.</p> <p>Please include: The name/title of the comic or manga, a brief summary of what it is about, how you heard about it, why you like it (style, story, characters, author?), etc...</p>
Week 2	<p>Style and Talent Discussions</p> <p>We'll discuss what it means to be a comic or manga artist. Do you really need to be great at art to make a comic (spoiler alert: the answer is no!)? We'll talk about style and how your art style can lend itself to a particular genre.</p>	<p>Please take a single panel from a comic or manga (it can be one you already know or one you recently discovered) you like and redraw it in 2 different styles. Be ready to explain why you decided to draw it in these styles and how the change in styles affects the overall feel of the panel.</p>
Week 3	<p>Layouts and Panels</p> <p>One of the most fundamental aspects of comics and manga are panels! We'll discuss how the shape, size, and placement of comic panels help tell a story.</p>	<p>Create three different comic layouts based on the different panel layouts we discussed in class. All three comics can have the same content as long as the layout is different. Be ready to explain why you chose to display your comic this way.</p>
Week 4	<p><b>Color!</b></p> <p>We'll go over color and its role in comics and manga, as well as how it can help move the eye through a panel and emphasize important moments.</p> <p>We'll also discuss how color isn't always needed in every panel to tell a story, and how black and white images can be just as powerful.</p>	<p>Create a comic and duplicate it. One version should be in black and white, and the other should be in color. Think about what you want to emphasize and be ready to share the difference color makes.</p>
Week 5	<p>Word Block Placement</p> <p>A crash course in how NOT to make your comic look cluttered with big paragraphs of text! We'll go over placement and shape of word bubbles, and how to "show not tell."</p>	<p>Use what we learned in class to make a comic that focuses on dialogue. Be ready to explain the methods you used to move the reader's eye and avoid clutter.</p>
Week 6	<p>Genre</p> <p>We'll go over the many genres of comics and manga and how artists convey emotions through their artwork.</p> <p>We will also discuss the final project for this Project Group!</p>	<p>Final Project: Pick a specific genre you want your comic to fall into. Then, create a comic that is a minimum of one Word document page length using what you have learned in this class. Use different panel layouts, color, and word bubble placement to tell your story. Your comic can be as silly or as serious as you want, just make sure it's something you are proud of it! Be ready to present it next class.</p>
Week 7	Final Class!	Present final projects!