



## COURSE OUTLINE

This course is a comprehensive overview of the practice of penciling, inking, and colouring as the foundation of visual storytelling technique. Students will practice sketching in pencil, from the initial thumbnails, through rough layouts, and to finished drawings ready for rendering in ink, and finally in colour.

### 1. Instructor Information

|     |               |                               |                    |                |
|-----|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| (a) | Instructor:   | Ken Steacy                    |                    |                |
| (b) | Office Hours: | Tuesday & Wednesday 1:30–5:30 |                    |                |
| (c) | Location:     | Young 315E                    |                    |                |
| (d) | Phone:        | (250) 888-2939                | Alternative Phone: | (250) 888-4324 |
| (e) | Email:        | steacy@shaw.ca                |                    |                |
| (f) | Website:      | kensteacy.blogspot.com        |                    |                |

### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Determine which graphite density, ranging from 4H to 6B, is appropriate to the task
2. Choose appropriate substrate ie: vellum or plate finish surface
3. Sketch concepts, characters and layouts freely
4. Produce finished penciled pages ready for rendering and reproduction
5. Letter penciled pages both freehand and with lettering guide
6. Render penciled pages in ink using a variety of tools ie: pen, marker, brush etc.
7. Apply colour to rendered pages with a variety of media both transparent and opaque

### 3. Required Materials

(a) Text:

COMICS AND SEQUENTIAL ART by Will Eisner  
Norton, ISBN 978-0-393-33126-4

(b) Other: *Please refer to materials supply list*

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

#### VIST 130 TECHNIQUE 1

*NB: This course and VIST 110 (VISUAL STORYTELLING) are closely interconnected, and assignments in VIST 130 will be reviewed in VIST 110, which are to be completed as both CLASSWORK and HOMEWORK*

*All classes start with Show & Tell: teacher shares comics and graphic novels they currently read or have recently discovered with the class, along with a brief analysis of the specific appeal of form and/or content*

#### Week 1 - September 3

LECTURE: Introduction to materials to be used in course, and the reasons for selecting differing tools and substrates, including set square & t-square, tapes, papers, pencils, erasers, pens, brushes, inks, markers, watercolours (opaque & transparent) etc.

DEMONSTRATION: Presentation of original artwork, showing how the choice of materials informs the outcome of the work

CLASSWORK: Explore results of applying various tools on differing surfaces, develop characters for 1-pager.

HOMEWORK: Create layout of 1 page comic depicting "What I Did On My Summer Vacation" as told by yourself, or your avatar

### **Week 2 - September 10**

LECTURE: Pencilling basics

DEMONSTRATION: Practice creating samples of the above

CLASSWORK: Work on pencils of 1-pager

HOMEWORK: Finish pencils of 1-pager

### **Week 3 - September 17**

LECTURE: Scaling of layouts to full-size artboard on lightbox using template

DEMONSTRATION: As above

CLASSWORK: Ink 1-pager

HOMEWORK: Finish inks of 1-pager

**Assignment #1—1-page comic, is DUE at the beginning of the next class! See attached Grading Rubrics. This assignment is worth 10% of your final grade.**

### **Week 4 - September 24**

LECTURE: Rough, tight, and finished pencils and their application

DEMONSTRATION: Pencilling the full-size page, articulation of the dynamic nature of story development, review pencils of 1-pager

CLASSWORK: Continue work on layouts of first 8-pager.

HOMEWORK: Research pencillers and their approach to layouts and tight pencils, create thumbnails for first 8-pager, based on story written for either fiction or non-fiction creative writing class

### **Week 5 - October 1**

LECTURE: Slideshow presentation: overview of teacher's career

DEMONSTRATION: Lettering, including balloon shapes, sound effects, etc, use of Ames Lettering guide, choice of paper and tools for specific effects

CLASSWORK: Practice lettering, work on pencils of first 8-pager

HOMEWORK: Finish layouts of first 8-pager

### **Week 6 - October 8**

LECTURE: Inking, choice of materials and tools, focus on dip-pens and brushwork

DEMONSTRATION: Creating the above

CLASSWORK: Continue to work on pencils for first 8-pager

HOMEWORK: Research inkers and how their approach transforms layouts and tight pencils, continue pencils of first 8-pager

**Week 7 - October 15**

LECTURE: Inking continued, focus on markers

DEMONSTRATION: Practice with inking tools

CLASSWORK: Continue work on inks for first 8-pager

HOMEWORK: Finish inks of first 8-pager

**Week 8 - October 22**

LECTURE: Inking continued, focus on creating tonal variations with various wet and dry media

DEMONSTRATION: Create examples of the above

CLASSWORK: Continue application of tonal values to first 8-pager

HOMEWORK: Finish first 8-pager

**Assignment #2—8-page comic, is DUE at the beginning of the next class! See attached Grading Rubrics. This assignment is worth 40% of your final grade.**

**Week 9 - October 29**

LECTURE: Colour theory and practice as it applies to comics & graphic novels

DEMONSTRATION: Create examples of the above with various wet and dry media, on different substrates

CLASSWORK: Practice application of the above. Continue work on layouts of second 8-pager.

HOMEWORK: Finish layout for second 8-pager, adapted from randomly selected story written by classmate

**Week 10 - November 5**

LECTURE: Field trip to Art Gallery of Greater Victoria to analyze and understand the importance of colour in terms of composition and storytelling in art

CLASSWORK: Continue work on pencils for second 8-pager

HOMEWORK: Finish inks for second 8-pager

**Week 11 - November 12**

LECTURE: Advanced colour application with airbrush!

DEMONSTRATION: Create examples of the above

CLASSWORK: Practice with airbrush. Continue work on pencils of second 8-pager

HOMEWORK: Continue work on pencils of second 8-pager

**Week 12 - November 19**

CLASSWORK: Continue work on inks of second 8-pager

HOMEWORK: Finish pencils of second 8-pager

### Week 13 - November 26

CLASSWORK: Continue colouring second 8-pager

HOMEWORK: Finish inks of second 8-pager

### Week 14 - December 3

LECTURE: Wrap-up of Technique 1, and intro to Technique 2

DEMONSTRATION: Comparison of analogue to digital techniques

CLASSWORK: Finish colouring second 8-pager

HOMEWORK: Assemble portfolio from assignments

**Final Assignment: 8-page comic, is DUE at the beginning of the next class! See attached Grading Rubrics. This assignment is worth 40% of your final grade.**

### Week 15 - December 10

Final assignment and portfolio review

#### 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

*Grading Rubrics are attached*

|                            |            |                            |
|----------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| <b>One Page Comic</b>      | <b>10%</b> | <b>DUE: September 24th</b> |
| <b>Eight Page Comic</b>    | <b>40%</b> | <b>DUE: October 29th</b>   |
| <b>Final Assignment</b>    | <b>40%</b> | <b>DUE: December 10th</b>  |
| <b>Class participation</b> | <b>10%</b> |                            |

#### 6. Grading System

##### Standard Grading System (GPA)

| Percentage | Grade | Description                                                                                                             | Grade Point Equivalency |
|------------|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 90-100     | A+    | Works well above and beyond course requirements!                                                                        | 9                       |
| 85-89      | A     | All assignments completed to high degree of finish, responsive to critiques, thoroughly engaged in classroom activities | 8                       |
| 80-84      | A-    | As above, though to slightly lesser degree                                                                              | 7                       |
| 77-79      | B+    | All assignments completed, good participation                                                                           | 6                       |
| 73-76      | B     | All assignments completed, acceptable participation                                                                     | 5                       |
| 70-72      | B-    | As above, though to slightly lesser degree                                                                              | 4                       |
| 65-69      | C+    | Some assignments late or incomplete, lack of full participation                                                         | 3                       |
| 60-64      | C     | Some assignments late or incomplete, missed classes, noticeable lack of participation                                   | 2                       |
| 50-59      | D     | Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.   | 1                       |
| 0-49       | F     | Minimum level has not been achieved.                                                                                    | 0                       |

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

**LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS**

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services, or the College web site at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca).

**STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY**

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services, and the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED

## Grading Rubric for All Assignments

|           | <b>A Range (80 -100%)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>B Range (70 – 79%)</b>                                                                                                                                                 | <b>C Range (60 – 69%)</b>                                                                                                                                      | <b>D Range (50 – 59%)</b>                                                                                                                  |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mechanics | Demonstrates strong understanding and practice of selecting appropriate paper to achieve final effect, i.e. plate or vellum finish; accurately places and rules live art area, trim lines and bleed crop marks; proper placement of overlay                        | Chooses appropriate paper but some area designators are inaccurately or inconsistently placed and/or ruled                                                                | Confusion with appropriate paper choice; sloppy placement and rules                                                                                            | No consideration given to paper choice; no evidence of rules                                                                               |
| Pencils   | Thoughtful choice of pencil hardness range relative to paper selection; strong use of medium to articulate character and composition; erasures are thorough and neat; personal style is evident                                                                    | Choice of pencil hardness may be ill-considered but medium still used well to establish form; erasures may be incomplete and/or slightly messy                            | Confusion about appropriate hardness; too light or too heavy-handed application of medium; awkward, inconsistent or vague articulation of form; messy erasures | No consideration given to choice or application of medium; form obscured by inappropriate line weight; no erasures                         |
| Letters   | Demonstrates strong understanding of requirement for accurate ruling of guidelines and use of Ames lettering guide; careful and legible use of appropriate fonts; balloons and caption well placed; shows creative approach to balloons, borders and sound effects | Clear ruling and letterforms though text may not totally conform to ruled lines; some awkward or misplaced balloons or captions                                           | Poorly ruled and/or lettered text; badly placed balloons or captions                                                                                           | Unruled captions and/or word balloons; inappropriate or illegible fonts; no consideration of placement                                     |
| Inks      | Skillful handling and appropriate choice of inking tools for the chosen surface; shows confident varying or constant line weight as required with pen, marker, brush, etc.; personal style continues to manifest itself                                            | Choice of inking tool may be ill-considered for subject but technique is used well to articulate form for accurate reproduction; some evidence of emergent personal style | Shows form and subject clearly but some uncertainty about selection of tool is evident; heavy-handed application of ink; personal style not yet evident        | Awkward, inconsistent or vague articulation of form; no apparent consideration of choice of tool; heavy-handed application of ink          |
| Colours   | Demonstrates skillful handling and appropriate choice of dry and wet (transparent or opaque) colouring media and tools for the chosen surface; personal style continues to manifest itself                                                                         | Technique is used well to articulate form and values but choice of colouring media or tool may be inconsistent and/or ill-considered for subject                          | Shows uncertainty about selection of media or tool; heavy-handed application of colour; muddy or unclear establishment of values                               | Awkward, inconsistent or vague articulation of form; no apparent consideration given to tools or media; heavy-handed application of colour |

## Grading Rubric for Classroom Participation

| A Range (80 -100%)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | B Range (70 – 79%)                                                                                                                                                                   | C Range (60 – 69%)                                                                                                                        | D Range (50 – 59%)                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Participates actively and enthusiastically in all classroom discussions and critiques; comes to class prepared by doing all assigned readings and homework; brings in comics and graphic novels for Show &amp; Tell regularly; exceeds expectations in presentations and homework assignments</p> | <p>Participates actively in discussions, critiques and Show &amp; Tell; comes to class prepared in almost all cases; shows good effort in presentations and homework assignments</p> | <p>Occasionally participates in discussions, critiques and Show &amp; Tell; adequate effort in presentations and homework assignments</p> | <p>Never or seldom participates in discussion, critiques and Show &amp; Tell; assignments missing, incomplete or poor quality with no sign of research, effort and/or comprehension of the task</p> |