

## Syllabus

**ARTE401: Manga and Beyond:  
Japanese Popular Culture in the Visual Art World  
Every Spring**



(a postcard of *Power of Shōjo Manga* exhibition at Janet Turner Print Museum in 2005)

**Instructor:** Dr. Masami Toku

**Class hours:** *\*Check the schedule!* a hybrid course of on-line (1=2 hours per week) and in-person on-site (2 hours per week) at #208 in Art & HFA building. *\*Check course schedule*

**Unit:** 3 units (*\*No prerequisite course is required*)

**Office:** ART220 (Art & HFA building)

**Contact:** Office phone: 898-6866/ Emergency-Email: [mtoku@csuchico.edu](mailto:mtoku@csuchico.edu))

**Office hours:** *\*Check the schedule!* twice a week (each 2 hours)

This class is designed to provide all students with a philosophical and practical basis for understanding the diversity and power of visual pop-culture, especially through the phenomenon of Japanese comics (manga). PPT lectures, discussions, readings, films, and creating & writing exercises will focus upon visual thinking strategy as a communicative tool.

### Course Objectives:

The final goal of this course is to help students (from beginners to those with advanced knowledge) understand the role and value of Japanese pop-culture that influences youth minds and society worldwide in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The topics include:

**1. Psychological and Cognitive Issues:**

- Universality vs. Cultural Specificity: Children's Artistic development in their pictorial world
- Visual Pop-culture's Influences on Children's Drawings and their Aesthetics

**2. Historical Issues: Traditional Concept of Manga in Japan vs. Modern Manga:**

- Origin of Manga and Development of Modern Manga with the Influence of Other Comics
- Grammar of Manga: Development of Manga Literacy

**3. Censorship and Gender Studies in Manga:**

- Censorship in traditional and modern manga (and comic code in American comics)
- Boy's vs. Girl's Manga (including Gekiga vs. Lady's Comics)
- Boy's Love in Shojō Manga (Why has boy's love become a worldwide phenomenon?)

**4. Cultural Issues: Manga vs. Anime and Other Comics:**

- Manga vs. American Comics vs. B.D. ("bande dessinée")
- Is "Manga" Japanese comics in general or a style of comics?

**5. Social Issues: Manga and Its Influences in the Visual Art World:**

- Manga vs. Anime/ - Comic Market/- Cosplay (costume play)
- Manga in other media

**6. Pedagogical Issues: Development of Visual Literacy by Implementing Visual Pop-culture in Education**

- 4-panel Art Project: What's Going on in the Youth World?
- Comic Book Project: Find and Express Your Identity

**7. Manga and Beyond: What is the Future of Manga?** - Influences on Youth Mind, Society, and Culture (e.g. Ani-song, Karaoke, Avata, Persona, and so on)**Required Textbook:**

(NAEA Journal, 2001  
Spring Issue)

***International Perspectives on Shōjo and Shōjo Manga:***

***The Influence of Girl Culture*** (by Toku, published in June 2015, Routledge Research in Cultural and Media Studies):

The Kindle version (eBook: \$49.85 published in January, 2016):

[https://www.amazon.com/International-Perspectives-Shōjo-Manga-Influence-ebook/dp/B00YY63KQM/ref=mt\\_kindle?encoding=UTF8&me=&qid=&dpID=41D1pv3wkML&preST=SY445QL70&dpSrc=detail](https://www.amazon.com/International-Perspectives-Shōjo-Manga-Influence-ebook/dp/B00YY63KQM/ref=mt_kindle?encoding=UTF8&me=&qid=&dpID=41D1pv3wkML&preST=SY445QL70&dpSrc=detail)

\*The eBook ***Manga!: Visual Pop-culture in ARTS Education*** will be published by InSEA (International Society for Education through Art) publication in summer 2020 (in progress).

## COURSE POLICIES

### **Attendance:**

This course contains a great deal of material that is impossible to make up, so daily work is important. Attendance, preparedness and punctuality are considered as a part of your **professional development**. **Late submission** will also affect your grade.

Regardless of the result of exams, if you missed more than 3 times, your grade will automatically be dropped (e.g. A to B, B to C ...) and more than 5 time will be "F."

If you expect to miss a class period due to special conditions including personal reasons (e.g. physical condition, family trip, and so on), let the instructor know **ASAP** for alternate arrangements for exams and assignments.

### **Tentative Assessment** (Your grade/record will be updated regularly on BB Portal):

- 100+ points (about 41+-%): Chapter exercises and writing assignments (eBook: mostly 10 pts. each)
- 60+ points (about 25+-%): 4+ studio assignments (15 pts. each)
- 40+ points (about 17+-%): Midterm Studio Project (and cosplay presentation)
- 40+ points (about 17+-%): Final project (research paper and related presentation)
- +-Extra pts: Professional development (attendance, preparedness, punctuality, participation, etc.)

*All studio works should be completed by the due date based on the instruction.*

*Studio work will be evaluated on the basis of craftsmanship, originality, and demonstrated understanding of the theories of children's artistic development and the issues involved. Going beyond the minimum requirements is the mark of an excellent student, and will be reflected in your final grade.*

*Unless otherwise specified, all papers must be typed (double-spaced), proofread, stapled (if over one page), and professionally presented (follow the instructions carefully).*

### **Grading Policy (Tentative):** \*Your final grade should be as follows:

<b>A: 3.75 – 4.00 GP</b>	<b>(Approximately 94% ≤ 100%),</b>
<b>A-: 3.60 - 3.74 GP</b>	<b>(Approximately 90 ≤ 94 %)</b>
<b>B+: 3.45 - 3.59 GP</b>	<b>(Approximately 86 ≤ 90 %)</b>
<b>B: 3.30 - 3.44 GP</b>	<b>(Approximately 82 ≤ 86 %)</b>
<b>B-: 3.20 - 3.29 GP</b>	<b>(Approximately 80 ≤ 82 %)</b>
<b>C+: 3.05 –3.19 GP</b>	<b>(Approximately 76 ≤ 80 %)</b>
<b>C: 2.90 – 3.04 GP</b>	<b>(Approximately 72 ≤ 76 %)</b>
<b>C-: 2.80 - 2.89 GP</b>	<b>(Approximately 70 ≤ 72 %)</b>
<b>D+: 2.60 – 2.79</b>	<b>(Approximately 65 ≤ 70 %)</b>
<b>D: 2.40 - 2.59 GP</b>	<b>(Approximately 60 ≤ 65 %)</b>
<b>F: under 2.40 GP</b>	<b>(Approximately &lt; 60 %)</b>

**Main Assignments (Tentative):** *the details will be announced and updated on Blackboard Portal!*

Weekly reading and writing assignments along with chapter readings from the textbook & others, and bi-weekly & monthly art-making projects below, plus one art historical research paper.

**Chapter review writings and exercises:**

Selected chapter review exercises and writings along with the readings will be assigned. (Please make sure to access the readings including PPT lectures and submit on time.)

**Final paper related to the topic of visual pop culture based on your interests and readings in class and others:** *The details will be introduced and discussed in class.*

**Related studio projects: \*Art Projects (AP) \*Following are sample projects (tentative)**

*\*All projects have to be completed based on the instruction by the due date.*

*\*Unfinished assignments will not be graded no matter how attractive.*

**AP1: 2 Self-portraits (Exaggerated portraits based on a photo & Collage)**



Chara (character) Faces

**AP2: Traditional Manga (comics):  
What's going on in your world?  
(2D caricature Pen & Ink drawing)**



Chouju giga (animal caricature scroll, 12th C by a monk artist, Toba)

**AP3: Modern Manga and Beyond:  
Figures of Hero and Heroine OR  
Local Mascot (Yuru-chara) (3D air dry clay)**



Korean Tiger with traditional gate

**AP3 (Mid-term Project)  
Cosplay (Costume Play:  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cosplay>  
) Mask and/or Costume (Papier-  
mâché and/or Fabric – midterm  
project)**

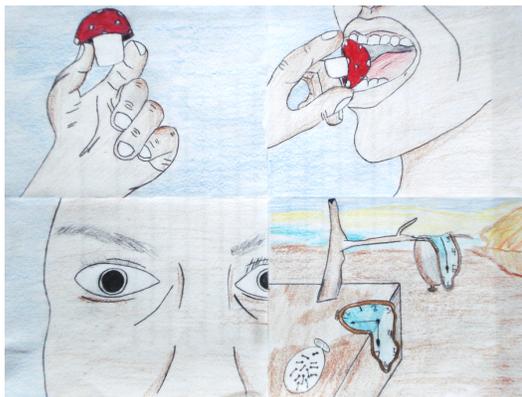


(3/23/16 at Comic Expo in Chicago)

**AP4: 4-panel Art MANGA (Mix-media) along  
with art historical research paper**



4-panel art in conjunction with Mona Lisa & Bijin-ga  
With Dali's *Persistence of Memory* below



**AP5: Food as Art (Group project)  
*\*The detail will be announced in  
class in advance!***



Kyalaben (lunch box w/ characters)

## **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

*All contents are synchronized to the required chapter readings (eBook) and PPT lectures on BB Portal!  
The details about each assignment will be explained and directly linked from "Assignments" on Portal!*

## **SPECIAL INFORMATION**

### **Disability Support Services (Americans with Disabilities Act):**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with the instructor as soon as possible, or see the instructor during office hours. Please also contact ARC as they are the designated department responsible for approving and coordinating reasonable accommodations and services for students with disabilities. ARC will help you understand your rights and responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act and provide you further assistance with requesting and arranging accommodations

•Accessibility Resource Center, ARC  
(Disability Support Services, DSS, is now ARC)  
www.csuchico.edu/dss <<http://www.csuchico.edu/dss>>  
530-898-5959 | Student Services Center 170

### **Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting**

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I also have a mandatory reporting responsibility. I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct with the University. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the Counseling and Wellness Center (898-6345) or Safe Place (898-3030). Information on campus reporting obligations and other Title IX related resources are available here: [www.csuchico.edu/title-ix](http://www.csuchico.edu/title-ix)