

Illustration & Comics



For students who want to apply their drawing talents to the art of comic book storytelling. Learn about the many influences comics, and their characters, have had on society. You will gain an understanding of effective visual storytelling techniques as well as best practices for the comic creation process. Using traditional materials such as pencil and ink, you will create a visual narrative accompanied by a written script.



WHAT'S INCLUDED



TUITION

Students will take part in at least 18 hours of practical lectures and skills workshops per week. They will design, create and present a comic to their class.



ACTIVITIES

We offer a variety of onsite evening activities including sports, discos and team games. Our activities provide opportunities for students to have fun and make international friends.



EXCURSIONS

Excursions allow students to really get to know the USA. We use destinations such as Downtown Boston as a classroom, where students will find historic and cultural information through guided walking tours and visits to museums and other places of interest.



EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Our educational visits provide the perfect complement to lectures and workshops and give a real world perspective to our courses. They include tours of the Brockton Fuller Museum and comic shops in Harvard Square.



CERTIFICATE

Awarded for the successful completion of the course.

LEARN FROM PROFESSIONALS

Our Illustration & Comics course is taught by teachers with professional experience of comic book illustration.

BROADEN YOUR SKILLS IN THE INDUSTRY

You will learn the process behind making comics as well as learn the secrets to being successful in the comic book business. This course will help you prepare for portfolio reviews with editors as well as emphasize the importance of meeting deadlines once you're given your first comic book gig!

DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS IN:

In this introductory course, students will develop skills across all phases of the comic book creation process. From writing to coloring, students will explore and experiment with the tools, formats, and mediums used by professionals.

SCRIPTWRITING

In the business of comics, it is often the case where one person writes the story and another draws the comic. Students will learn how to put their vision into words and write a detailed, professionally formatted script.

DEVELOPING CHARACTERS

What makes a character relatable and believable? Why do we care about characters and how do they affect our emotions? We will discuss these ideas and learn how to write multidimensional characters.

COMIC VOCABULARY

What is a panel? What are closure and juxtaposition? We will discuss the terminology in the universal language of comics.

DIGITAL COLORING

Capture the eye of the reader with brilliant colors using Adobe Photoshop. We will learn the importance of a limited color palette and how to effectively create mood and contrast.

PAGE LAYOUT AND COMPOSITION

Comics are a visual medium first and foremost. A visually enticing comic page can help effectively tell the story. The job of the artist is to create illustrations that capture the reader, tell the story and, simply put, look cool!

PERSPECTIVE

The ability to draw characters and environments in perspective is essential in creating the illusion of depth. This illusion helps create a believable three dimensional world on the comic page.

THE BUSINESS OF COMICS/ SELF-PUBLISHING & WEB COMICS

So, now you want to make comics for a living. We will discuss how to break into the mainstream business and work for the largest publishers as well as self-publishing your work in print or on the web.

- Maximum class size**
10 students

Accommodation
Single en-suite room
Meals are included (breakfast, lunch and dinner)

Excursions are also included

Requirements
Age: 14 - 17

Minimum English standard:
Equivalent to IELTS 5.0+/- Intermediate

Start Dates available:
Sunday 12th July 2026 (2 weeks)

Program Outcomes

1. You will develop an understanding of the techniques used for storytelling in comic books.

2. You will develop your understanding through experimentation with a variety of drawing, inking and coloring techniques.

3. You will have the opportunity to discuss your work and share your ideas with your tutor who is an industry professional.

SAMPLE PROGRAM

Week 1	MORNING 08:45-12:00			AFTERNOON 13:00-16:00		EVENING 19:30-22:00	
Sunday	Arrival and Local Orientation					DINNER	Orientation Activities
Monday	BREAKFAST	Discussions on what makes good storytelling and scriptwriting	LUNCH	Included Half Day Excursion: Boston Freedom Trail & Quincy Market			Ice Breakers
Tuesday		How to develop characters and establish a setting		Included Half Day Excursion: Boston Harbor Cruise & Tour			Game Show
Wednesday		Juxtaposition, panel layout, story flow		Included Half Day Excursion: Harvard University Tour & Cambridge area			Sports or Board Games
Thursday		The various shots, angles, and views		Included Half Day Excursion: Movie trip at AMC Braintree to see Superman			Karaoke & Talent Night
Friday		How to create the illusion of time and movement		Included Half Day Excursion: Newbury Street Shopping & Copley Square Tour			Murder Mystery Activity
Saturday	Included Full Day Excursion: New York City						

Week 2	MORNING 08:45-12:00			AFTERNOON 13:00-16:00		EVENING 19:30-22:00	
Sunday	Onsite Activities e.g. Arts & Crafts and Sports, Shuttles to the Mall, or Optional Full Day Excursion						
Monday	BREAKFAST	Perspective: Creating the illusion of depth	LUNCH	"Included Half Day Excursion: Boston Aquarium"		DINNER	Welcome Party
Tuesday		Introduction to the art of inking		Included Half Day Excursion: Premium Outlets Shopping and Inspiration at Wrentham			Halloween Party
Wednesday		How to illustrate a captivating cover		Included Half Day Excursion: Duxbury Art Complex			Sports or Board Games
Thursday		Studio time to finish drawing or inking your comic		Included Half Day Excursion: Brockton Fuller Museum			International Night
Friday		"Finish drawing and/or inking your comic Class presentation of comics"		Included Half Day Excursion: Historical Tour of Plymouth			Movie Night
Saturday	Included Full Day Excursion: Canobie Lake Amusement Park					Relax with Friends	

Sample timetables are illustrative only. We reserve the right to make changes without notice.