CMX 304: Making Comics 1
Recipe Book

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Some reminders about our Recipe Book from the syllabus:

**Making Comics Recipe Book (10%):** Imagine that as a group we are creating our own Making Comics Textbook, for which each class member contributes a short, single chapter highlighting some element of comics creation that you feel is particularly important, is unique to your own way of working, was helpful to you in learning to make comics – something that stands out and you’d like to explore a bit in depth in terms of organizing it in such a way to benefit others from your experience. This can include visual examples, process artifacts, the sorts of things you would want to see to learn for yourself. We’ll discuss the form and specifics together over the term, but in addition to book-like formats, we can try other formats – doing it as a video, in comics form, and something online – that provides links to related resources.
COLOR FOR EMOTION

When making a comic, it can be nice to have a color palette chosen especially if you are trying to convey a certain emotion!

To show emotion in happy/excited scenes, use bright colors like yellow and orange!

While darker colors like blue and gray can be used to show sadness or discomfort.

Color doesn’t have to be neat.
Put it together by immunity.

ANGER
RED, BLACK, ANGRY

LOVE
PINK, PURPLE

Think of the story you are telling and use color to ENHANCE it!

Mikyla
OUT OF EASE?
CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO NEXT?
TRY THIS:

PICK A NUMBER BETWEEN...

1-10 This is how many PANELS your page will have
1-8 This is how many SPEECH BUBBLES you'll have
1-6 This is how many COLORS you're to use
1-4 This is how many CHARACTERS your page will have

IS CHOOSING A NUMBER TOO MUCH RESPONSIBILITY?
DOWNLOAD DICE (a free dice rolling app) OR USE A RANDOM NUMBER GENERATOR AND HAVE THE FATES (or a computer) DECIDE FOR YOU!

THIS EXERCISE TAKES THE PRESSURE OFF WHEN MAKING COMIC PAGES AND LETS YOU FOCUS ON BEING CREATIVE!
# Random Character Generator

For those having a hard time making a character for their comics.

**Select a random number for each category.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td>0: 1-4 Female, 0: 5-8 Male, 0: 9-12 Nonbinary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hair Type/Color</strong></td>
<td>0: 1-4 Straight, 0: Even # Natural, 0: 5-8 Curly, 0: Odd # Dyed, 0: 9-12 Wavy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eyes</strong></td>
<td>0: Even # Natural color, 0: Odd # Unnatural, 0: Prime # Two Colors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Features</strong></td>
<td>0: 1-4 Animal Ears/Horns, 0: 5-8 Wings, 0: 9-12 None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Personality</strong></td>
<td>0: 1-2 Mean, 0: 7-8 Shy, 0: 9-4 Lazy, 0: 9-10 Dumb, 0: 5-4 Happy, 0: 11-12 Chronic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other things to consider:**
- What genre is your comic?
- What kind of story would this character be in?
- Who is your audience?

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It is important to remember that any character, no matter how simple or complex, can make a good character. They can be whatever you want them to be.

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Jade
Jennifer
TIME & SPACE
By Bailey Haworth

AAAND ACTION!

YOU CAN START WITH SIMPLE PANEL CONNECTIONS... THAT FLOW LIKE WATER.

YOU CAN EVEN GO BACK IN TIME.

WHEN I'M COOKIN UP SOME COMICS I LOVE TO PLAY WITH TIME & SPACE.

OR YOU CAN MAKE ONE SCENE OUT OF TWO.

IF THE STORY CALLS FOR IT...

JUST THINK OF A STORY THAT CAN HAVE LOTS OF SIMULTANEITY.
Did you know that panels are critical tools to communicate?

Panels are good ways to communicate motion, action, emotion, and more. For example, this long panel is great for a scene where someone is falling!

You can also show relational shifts.

Panels can also communicate tension.

Panels can also showcase action!

Remember, the goal is to engage your readers and have fun telling your stories!
Dad, you know lines can show feelings.
These lines look happy to me!
These lines feel strong.

Lines can be skinny or bold or curvy!

How do these make you feel?

They make me feel anxious.

Lines are amazing.

What can you make others feel?
EMOTION: HOW TO

Facial expressions are super important! In comics and movies, you can’t hear a character’s emotion, you can only see it. There are many ways to show emotion, the most common way is through facial expression.

When drawing emotion, my tip is to make it exaggerated!

Her eyebrows raise in excitement.

Her mouth is open wide to further push her happiness and joy.

Bigger wide eyes help push the emotion!

Negative emotions can be pushed more than positive ones. Anger, fear, and sadness all work to scrunch and furrow the face.

Confusion is all in the eyebrows. The mouth could be a small slit for neutral confusion, a frown for negative confusion, a slight smile for awkward confusion, or a big upward smile for positive/ joking confusion.

I like to put a number between the eyes for anger or sadness.

Giants have a funny expression. This guy does this a lot.

His brows are so close, they are married with 2 kids.

Confusion is a small slit for neutral confusion, a frown for negative confusion, a slight smile for awkward confusion, or a big upward smile for positive/joking confusion.

This is a frequent emo name is confused & nervous.

The corners of his mouth are downward for that ‘unsure’ look.
Sometimes, due to a global pandemic, you find yourself stuck on the other side of the world.

It happens.

Obviously this creates some problems.

So if you ever find yourself in this position...

Oh, wait... that's a lie. Leave a dictionary until the last minute...

Here's some tips on how to stay awake!

- Drink coffee
- Eat sugar
- Drink coffee
- Eat sugar

Good luck
Here is a box.

Fill it up with colors.

Or just forget how to.

Let your story stretch out across the page.

Draw stuff wherever it needs to be.

Where that takes you.