This advanced course focuses on defining a professional orientation in the practice, criticism, and curation of illustration and cartooning today, focusing on the studio and the archive as zones of investigation and achievement. Work isolates issues of creative approach, production, distribution, and market position to define and test a major project concept. Projects may include picture books, zines, games, animated projects, comics, and other forms of published matter. Students will define research questions and establish an editorial orientation for critical engagement with visual culture. Project definition and early work will carry forward into the work of IVC Thesis Studio II.

**Thesis proposal + Individual thesis work**

During the Fall semester students will define and make a detailed thesis proposal including indication of content and form, audience, a timeline, creative bibliography. Students continue to make progress based on their project timeline with support from faculty, peer reviews, and guest critics. Workshops will occur periodically through the semester to aid students in writing and imagining formats.

**Weekly Log**

Students will maintain a weekly reflection/log of their thesis progress, as a way to collect content for their eventual thesis documentation. Any digital format that can be easily shared between students and faculty.

**Thesis Advising Appointments**

Students are required to sign up for at least one advising appointment per week. Thesis Advising Appointments are available Mondays and Wednesdays, 4.30-7.20pm with John Hendrix and Dan Zettwoch. Please refer schedule for more details.

**VIRTUAL TOOLS/SPACES**

This class will convene virtually over Zoom, Slack, and Figma. Small group discussions and one-on-one reviews may happen in person if both faculty and students are willing and clear the WashU self-screening prior to being on campus.

**Zoom**

Our synchronous sessions will be on Zoom. Full group meetings will be on Zoom at 9am on Fridays. In some sessions we will meet as smaller groups or one-on-one, timings for these will fall within our class period and will be shared in advance. Please refer to schedule for group and individual meeting days.

**Figma**

This will be used exclusively as a virtual pin-up space for work in progress and synchronous/asynchronous written feedback during discussion and critique.

**Slack**

All course documents, announcements, communication will happen on Slack. Please make sure you have notifications enabled.

**CONTACTING ME**

Email and Slack are the best way to reach me. I will respond within 24 hours to emails and Slack messages on Tuesdays and Thursdays (I teach 9am-4pm M/T/F). Weekends will have slower responses. If I have not responded to your email, follow up because my inbox is an avalanche on a good day, and yours probably got buried.
# Schedule

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<th>MONDAYS/WEDNESDAYS</th>
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**Thesis Advising Appointments**

One appointment required per week with either John Hendrix or Dan Zettwoch.

In person meetings will take place at the MFA IVC studio.

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**Mondays**

- **John Hendrix**
  - 5:30-7:30pm In person
  - Sign up in advance here

**Wednesdays**

- **Dan Zettwoch**
  - 4:30pm and 5pm Only Zoom
  - 6-8:30pm Zoom/In person
  - Sign up in advance here, Use this Zoom link, Passcode: 343141

- **John Hendrix**
  - 4:30-6:30pm Only Zoom
  - Sign up in advance here
  - Zoom link provided on confirmation
END OF SEMESTER REVIEWS

End of semester reviews will take place on December 18 to review progress on thesis work through Fall and rough timeline for Spring. More information will be shared on format for these reviews, once we cross the midterm mark.

GRADING SYSTEM

**A**
Superior: performance is consistently outstanding, showing excellence in craft and problem-solving; actively/constructively pursues research and work both inside and outside class. Attendance and all levels of participation are excellent.

**B**
Above Average: performance is consistently good, showing above average progress in craft/skill-level and problem-solving; actively pursues research and work both inside and outside class. Attendance and all levels of participation are above average.

Any grade below a B- is not a passing grade in the Graduate School of Art. Performance is average and requirements are not met. The student will be issued a deficiency notice or placed on probation if a grade of B- or lower is issued.

INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

If you have a WashU Accommodation Letter, please email it to me as soon as possible, so we can discuss how best to implement your accommodations in this class. If you have any concerns about accommodations whether in relation to classroom participation, dynamics, or logistics, please email me (sravikrishnan@wustl.edu) or John Hendrix (jhendrix@wustl.edu). All interactions in class and or studio will be civil, respectful and supportive of an inclusive learning environment.

A COMMITMENT TO ANTI-RACISM, FAIRNESS & DIVERSITY

I am committed to the ongoing work of anti-racism and ask you to do the same. To move forward, we must acknowledge that designers and illustrators also contribute to the creation and perpetuation of unjust systems and institutions. This commitment takes time and sustained involvement; let us all work together and approach new knowledge with a learning mindset. Here are some specific initial areas I am committed to making change in, to uphold throughout the semester:

- Including references from underrepresented and overlooked illustrators to broaden the canon of existing eurocentric examples we already have easy access to.
- Challenging harmful stereotypes not only in the work we produce, but also in the expectations of the kind of work we produce.
- Dismantling the idea of what counts as relevant “knowledge” and “expertise” in a classroom and who gets to be keepers of these.

I encourage you to hold me accountable to these, and ask questions, engage in a conversation about how I (and we) might collectively move towards being part of an anti-racist, intersectional creative community.
COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols

Exceptions to course policies, expectations, and requirements (including attendance and assignment deadlines) because of COVID-19 diagnosis, symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or exposure to a person with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 diagnosis will be made in collaboration between the student and instructor. In these cases, please notify your instructor as soon as possible to discuss appropriate accommodations.

All Danforth Campus students, faculty & staff must complete and pass a daily health self-screening prior coming onto campus or leaving their residence hall room each day. If an individual does not pass the daily self-screening, they must not leave their room or come to campus and must immediately contact Habif Health and Wellness Center at 314-935-6666 (students) or Occupational Health at 314-362-5056 (faculty and staff). Go to screening.wustl.edu.

While on campus, it is imperative that students follow all public health guidelines established to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission within our community. The full set of University protocols can be found https://covid19.wustl.edu/health-safety/. This includes:

- **Each student must visit** [screening.wustl.edu](http://screening.wustl.edu) **daily to complete the daily self-screening assessment before coming to campus or leaving their room in residential housing. A passing screening will result in a green checkmark on their phone screen.**
- **Each student is required to show that day’s green check mark to their teacher at the start of each class.**
- **Complying with physical distancing requirements at all times and adhere to signage and environmental cues.** This includes not congregating before or after class as well as during breaks or class activities.
- **Complying with universal masking.** All individuals on campus must wear disposable masks or cloth face coverings while occupying indoor public settings, including: multi-person offices; hallways; stairwells; elevators; meeting rooms; classrooms; restrooms; and when in campus outdoor spaces unless you can maintain six feet of physical distance from others. In the event that a student cannot wear a mask due to a medical condition or other concerns, they should consult with their academic advisors.
- **Practicing healthy personal hygiene**, including frequent handwashing with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds and/or using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- **Complying with cleaning and sanitation protocols.** Students may be responsible for wiping down common surfaces after use, particularly those that might be shared with others (e.g. classroom desks). [Instructions for Sam Fox students can be found here.](#)

We take your health and the health of our community seriously. Any Danforth Campus student who is **currently diagnosed with COVID-19, is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or has had direct contact with a person with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 diagnosis must remain home and isolate yourself from others.** Students who have symptoms and/or do not pass the screening protocol described below must call the Habif Health and Wellness Center at 314-935-6666 for additional instructions.
ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Sam Fox School Attendance Policy remains in place, but accommodations will be made this fall in light of COVID-19. As noted in public health protocols, any student who is diagnosed with COVID, is experiencing symptoms associated with COVID, or has been exposed to COVID directly should not come to class. Please communicate with the instructor immediately about the situation and work toward a commonly understood resolution. In some cases, students may shift their participation online. In other cases, students may need to make up for missing classes or critiques/reviews through other means.

This class uses a combination of online and in-person individual and group meetings, along with student access to studios and labs on campus. Absences due to health may be counted as excused if the student communicates with faculty ahead of class. For sudden illness, a student who communicates within twelve hours of class-time may also be excused. If a student is consecutively absent and does not communicate with faculty, faculty will attempt to contact the student but this absence will be still be counted as unexcused. If there is no response from the student after two attempts, faculty may initiate a Notice of Concern procedure for the student. Upon issuing the Notice of Concern, the student will follow up with Georgia Binnington, Dean of Students, for next steps and further communication regarding this issue.

Students are allowed two unexcused absences. After two unexcused absences, students will receive one full letter grade penalty for each subsequent absence. Three late arrivals and/or early departures will equal one absence. If a student misses more than 20 minutes of a required session in class, they are considered absent. Missing a review or critique equals two absences. If a student must miss a critique, please inform faculty beforehand. Any student who misses class is responsible for checking in with peers to find out what they missed, making up all work, and being prepared for the next session.

In case of severe medical or family emergencies, contact the Dean of Students Georgia Binnington as soon as possible: gbinning@wustl.edu, 314-935-6532. Additionally, if you are diagnosed with COVID-19 and need to temporarily discontinue your studies, please also notify your Chair John Hendrix (jhendrix@wustl.edu) as soon as possible for assistance in managing your academic progress.

CONTINGENCY PLAN

In the event that all instruction is required to move online during the semester (due to COVID-19), all meetings and class sessions will move to Zoom, while Figma will continue to be used as a virtual “pin up” space.

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

For information on all available student resources, including disability accommodations, campus safety, mental health resources, writing assistance, grievance procedures, and much more, please go to https://insidesamfox.wustl.edu/students/advising/student-campus-resources/

IMPORTANT DATES

Election

There is a federal election happening on November 3, 2020. If you would like to register to vote prior to the election, you can do so at wustl.turbvote.org.
Course Policies & Resources for Students

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Reasonable Accommodations for Disabled Students
Washington University in St. Louis supports the rights of enrolled students to a full and equal educational opportunity and, in compliance with federal, state, and local requirements, is committed to reasonable accommodations for individuals with documented disabilities. Disabled students for whom accommodations may be necessary must be registered with, and provide their faculty official notification through, WUSTL’s Disability Resources (https://students.wustl.edu/disability-resources/). Once established, responsibility for disability-related accommodations and access is shared by DR, faculty, and the student. Please contact Disability Resources at 314.935.5970 or disabilityresources@wustl.edu.

GRADE DISPUTE POLICY

The Sam Fox School aims to provide each student with a fair assessment of their academic work and studio. Students have the right to dispute their overall course grade (not individual assignments) if they believe that grade does not accurately reflect the quality of their work. A grade dispute must be submitted to the faculty member who assigned the grade within 30 days of receipt of the grade. The School stresses that every effort to resolve this dispute be made by the faculty and student involved. A student’s eligibility for advancement in sequential coursework requires timely resolution of the grade dispute. For more information visit https://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/files/Greivance%20Policy_Update%202019.pdf.

TECHNOLOGY POLICIES

Computers or other electronic devices, including “smart pens” (devices with an embedded computer and digital audio recorder that records the classroom lecture/discussion and links that recording to the notes taken by the student), may be used by students at the discretion of the faculty member to support the learning activities in the classroom. These activities include taking notes and accessing course readings under discussion. If a student wishes to use a smart-pen or other electronic device to audio record lectures or class discussions, they must notify the instructor in advance of doing so. Permission to use recording devices is at the discretion of the instructor, unless this use is an accommodation approved by Disability Resources.

Nonacademic use of laptops and other devices and use of laptops or other devices for other coursework is distracting and seriously disrupts the learning process for other people in the classroom. Neither computers nor other electronic devices are to be used in the classroom during class for nonacademic reasons or for work on other coursework. Nonacademic use includes emailing, texting, social networking, playing games, instant messaging, and use of the Internet. Work on other coursework may include, but is not limited to, use of the Internet, writing papers, using statistical software, analyzing data, and working on quizzes or exams. The nonacademic use of cell phones during class time is prohibited, and they should be set on silent before class begins. In the case of an emergency, please step out of the room to take the
call. The instructor has the right to hold students accountable for meeting these expectations, and failure to do so may result in a loss of participation or attendance points, a loss of the privilege of device use in the classroom, or being asked to leave the classroom.

The Sam Fox School Information Technology Infrastructure has many services for your benefit. Visit https://sites.wustl.edu/insidesfs/it/ for more information.

LICENSE FOR NON-EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO REPRODUCE AND DISTRIBUTE
Shreyas R Krishnan has non-exclusive right to reproduce and distribute work produced in this class as part of a publication or body of work, which may include products from this course or other works. Students retain ownership of all rights held under copyright. This permission is revocable for 3 months following the conclusion of this course via notification in writing to Shreyas R Krishnan.

ETHICS/VIOLATION OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Ethical behavior is an essential component of learning and scholarship. Students are expected to understand, and adhere to, the University’s academic integrity policy: wustl.edu/policies/undergraduate-academic-integrity.html. Students who violate this policy will be referred to the Academic Integrity Policy Committee. Penalties for violating the policy will be determined by the Academic Integrity Policy committee, and can include failure of the assignment, failure of the course, suspension or expulsion from the University. Additionally, students should If you have any doubts about what constitutes a violation of the Academic Integrity policy, or any other issue related to academic integrity, please ask the instructor.

Always cite sources when ideas are presented and/or language that was developed by another individual, including material from class lectures and discussions. Violation of this policy includes collaborating on assignments where collaboration is not allowed and/or utilizing notes, texts, etc. on any assignment where use of such materials is not allowed.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
If English language proficiency is such that the student may need special assistance in lectures, reading, written assignments, and/or exam taking, please communicate these needs to the instructor who may refer the student to the English Language Program (ELP). ELP is a University-wide resource that provides classes and academic English language support designed to increase non-native English-speaking students’ English language proficiency and to facilitate their academic success at Washington University. Other Academic Assistance resources are available through the Office for International Students and Scholars.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS
The Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Art recognizes the individual student’s choice in observing religious holidays that occur during periods when classes are scheduled. Students are encouraged to arrange with their instructors to make up work missed as a result of religious observance, and instructors are asked to make every reasonable effort to accommodate such requests. The Office of Religious,
Spiritual and Ethical Life maintains a calendar of many religious holidays observed by the WashU community.

**RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS**

For information on all available student resources, including disability accommodations, campus safety, mental health resources, writing assistance, grievance procedures, and much more, please go to [https://insidesamfox.wustl.edu/students/advising/student-campus-resources/](https://insidesamfox.wustl.edu/students/advising/student-campus-resources/)

**SAFETY**

*Emergency Numbers (on campus)*
- Ambulance/Fire/Police 314-935-5555
- Emergency Health Service 314-935-5555

**URGENT CARE**

Student Health Services utilizes Barnes Jewish Hospital Emergency Department, which is located on Kingshighway. Call 314-362-5000 to reach the hospital.

**ACCOMMODATIONS BASED UPON SEXUAL ASSAULT**

The University is committed to offering reasonable academic accommodations (e.g., no contact order, course changes) to students who are victims of relationship or sexual violence, regardless of whether they seek criminal or disciplinary action. If you need to request such accommodations, please contact RSVP (information above) to schedule an appointment with an RSVP confidential, licensed counselor. While information shared with counselors is confidential, requests for accommodations will be coordinated with the appropriate University administrators and faculty. See: [RSVP Center](#)

**Reporting Sexual Harassment**

If a student discusses or discloses an instance of sexual assault, sex discrimination, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking, or if a faculty member otherwise observes or becomes aware of such an allegation, they will keep the information as private as possible, but as a faculty member of Washington University, they are required to immediately report it to the Department Chair or Dean or directly to Ms. Jessica Kennedy, the University’s Title IX Director, at (314) 935-3118, jwkennedy@wustl.edu. Additionally, you can report incidents or complaints to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards or by contacting WUPD at (314) 935-5555 or your local law enforcement agency. See: [Title IX](#)

**Confidential Resources for Instances of Sexual Assault, sex discrimination, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking**

If a student needs to explore options for medical care, protections, or reporting, free, confidential support resources and professional counseling services are available through the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP) Center in Seigle Hall, Suite 435, rsvpcenter@wustl.edu, 314-935-3445. For after-hours emergency response services, call 314-935-6666 or 314-935-5555 and ask to speak with an RSVP Counselor on call.
Mental Health
Mental Health Services' professional staff members work with students to resolve personal and interpersonal difficulties, many of which can affect the academic experience. These include conflicts with or worry about friends or family, concerns about eating or drinking patterns, and feelings of anxiety and depression. See: https://students.wustl.edu/mental-health-services/ Additionally, see mental health services offered through the RSVP Center listed above.

WashU Cares
WashU Cares, within the Health and Wellness Unit, provides resources to all students on the Danforth Campus who may be having a hard time. WashU Cares is committed to helping create a culture of caring. Through proactive, collaborative and systemic approaches we work with students to identify interventions, resources, and supports that allow them to be successful. If there is a concern about the physical or mental well-being of a student, please file a report on our website. See: https://washucares.wustl.edu/