

# NABA

NUOVA ACCADEMIA  
DI BELLE ARTI

# SUMMMER COURSES

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**A.Y. 2025-26**  
**SYLLABUS**

Hand Illustration

1<sup>st</sup> session: June 30<sup>th</sup> – July 10<sup>th</sup> 2026

[www.naba.it](http://www.naba.it)



# Hand Illustration

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*Course Structure:* 45 hours – 9 lesson days

ECTS: 3 ECTS credits\*

Introductory level

\*ECTS credits only awarded to university students or participants who are completing or have completed a university or academic study path

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The course focuses on illustration and how to create effective imagery for various professional purposes. Alternating lectures and practical workshops, participants will learn different techniques, processes, and approaches to traditional illustration, including painting, collage, and colored pencils, for books and design applications. Participants will explore diverse techniques through multiple exercises, including three-dimensional drawing, linear drawing, chiaroscuro, watercolor, and tempera painting. The course will then progress to developing the ability to illustrate written texts, working on two types of books, one for children and one for adults. This phase focuses on text interpretation through illustration, including the study of environments, character design, and action representation.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The main objective of the course is to make students aware of all the areas in which illustration can be applied, and to provide them the tools to create fascinating handmade images.

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

This course is intended for students who have no background in illustration and who are attending or will attend their first year of university studies in art and design.

Students are required to have some basic drawing skills.

## **OUTPUT**

By the end of the course, each student will have a portfolio of illustrations - whose

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number may vary from 4 to 6, depending on the students' level.

The illustrations will concern publishing as book covers or film posters, children books or animation (characters and background design).

## LIST OF MATERIALS AND TOOLS

- Stationary set.
- The Academy will provide most basic materials. Participants may supplement these with additional materials for their personal projects upon the professor's request.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is required for successful completion of the course. Attendance will be taken every class period. On the last day of classes, instructors will issue a Certificate of successful attendance only to all students who completed at least 80% of the course.

## COURSE POLICY

The Faculty of NABA takes Academic integrity seriously. Instances of academic dishonesty such as plagiarism won't be tolerated. Mobile phones will be kept switched off all the time during class. Use of laptop during classes for personal purposes is forbidden.

## TEACHING METHODS

Learning by doing: a mix of theoretical lessons, field trips and practical workshops. The course will be held in the Visual Art Atelier laboratory, with guidance provided by the Academy's technical staff.

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## Contacts

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## Grading

Total number of ECTS assigned for the successful completion of the course: 3 ECTS

### GRADING SYSTEM

GRADING WEIGHTS	GRADING SCALE				
1. Attendance 30%	Excellent = 90-100				
2. Participation and creative process 40%	Good = 80-89				
3. Final work / final presentation 30%	Average = 70-79				
TOTAL 100%	Below Average = 60-69				
	Poor = 59 or below				
	EXCELLENT 90 -100%	GOOD 80 – 89%	AVERAGE 70 – 79%	BELOW AVERAGE 60 – 69%	POOR BELOW 60%
Attendance (30%)	On time, perfect attendance	Seldom late: attended between 95% and 90 % of the course	Occasionally late: attended between 90 % and 85 % of the course	Occasionally late: attended between 85% and 80% of the course	Frequently late, attended less than 80% of the course: <b>FAILED</b>
Participation and Creative Process (40 %)	Demonstrates strong understanding of the topic & thorough, creative research	Shows good grasp of the topic & good research	Exhibits average comprehension of the topic & average research	Shows some awareness of the topic & below average awareness of research	Has shallow insight into the topic & poor grasp of research
Original Project (Final work/ Final presentation) (30%)	Exhibits exceptional analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits exceptional analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits average analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits below average analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits poor analysis of concepts & production of original proposal

## Contacts

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1<sup>st</sup> week

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## COURSE SCHEDULE\*

DAY		LESSON-SUBJECT
Day 1 - Tuesday	NABA Staff	Welcome and Registration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drawing Basics. Pencil sketch: line quality, shading, measurement techniques, tracing, composition. Still life drawing.</li> </ul>
Day 2 - Wednesday		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drawing 3D Shapes.</li> <li>Mixed Media tutorial for illustration: how to create an illustration using a combination of colored pencils and watercolors.</li> </ul>
Day 3 - Thursday		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Nature and landscape drawing” - colored pencils and watercolors.</li> <li>Floral decoration and live drawing from plants.</li> </ul>
Day 4 - Friday		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performance drawing “Emotions”, group performative illustration.</li> <li>Stop motion illustration. (Mixed Media).</li> <li>Portraits and self-portraits “Fine details come last”. Color pencil drawing.</li> <li>Illustration: Flowers, Animals and Insects.</li> </ul>

\*The Academy reserves the right to:

- amend or cancel courses, change course location or substitute course leaders, professors, guests, visits location;
- make any changes that in our absolute discretion we consider necessary or appropriate for reasons of operational efficiency or due to any other circumstances that are beyond our control.

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2<sup>st</sup> week

## COURSE SCHEDULE\*

DAY	LESSON-SUBJECT
Day 5 - Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Adding Personality to Characters” - from sketch to collages.</li> <li>• “The one style for any creative personality”.</li> <li>• Watercolor Painting, tips and techniques.</li> </ul>
Day 6 - Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to create the amazing full-color book illustration with watercolors (The exercise).</li> <li>• Text analysis and how this text can be represented through traditional illustration.</li> </ul>
Day 7 - Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportions of the human body. The figure for Dynamic Posing - Action, Foreshortening, Construction. The lesson with the model.</li> </ul>
Day 8 - Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Perspectives” - how to Draw Buildings in 1-Point Perspective.</li> <li>• City perspectives for illustration - How to Draw Buildings in 1 and 2 -Point Perspective. (The group will go out to draw on the streets of Milan.)</li> <li>• “STEP BY STEP - FOLLOW ME ON THE WAYS OF MILAN”.</li> </ul>
Day 9 - Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *<i>Field Trip</i> for drawing in the streets of Milan.</li> <li>• Final Presentation.</li> </ul>

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