

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA**  
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SUSTAINABILITY & THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

**SYLLABUS**

**DCP 4290 – Capstone Project in Sustainability and the Built Environment    6 credits**

Prerequisites: DCP 4941 Practicum in Sustainability and the Built Environment  
or  
DCP 4942 Field Experience in Sustainability and the Built Environment  
or  
Approved DCP studio course with a sustainability emphasis

General

Each student will undertake an individual project under the direction of a faculty member, with a focus on comprehensive solutions to a problem in sustainability based on research. This final semester-long project allows students to explore specific areas of personal interest, to hone problem-solving abilities, to enhance their ability to do research and to improve independent decision making and organizational skills.

Objectives

To learn to write effective, clear and well-organized proposals that incorporate a scope of work, schedule and work products.  
To undertake an independent work effort and complete it satisfactorily.  
To explore problem-solving for an issue of sustainability and the built environment.

Grades

Final grades will be derived as follows using the grading scale shown below:

- 25% Mid Term Review
  - 25% Oral Communication
  - 75% Content
- 75% Final Presentation and Paper
  - 15% Oral Communication
  - 15% Written Communication
  - 70% Content

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Numeric Grade	93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	0-59
Quality Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0

Late Submittals

Late submittals with no excused absence will be dropped a letter grade for each 24 hour period.

If for any reason you are unable to complete the work expected for the mid term and final presentations, you will be counseled as to your options. Part of your responsibility is to stay on your designated Critical Path and determine ways to complete the necessary work in a timely way.

### Text

No required text, but a literature search and bibliography are expected.

### Schedule

Prior to the start of Class: Develop a Project Proposal per attached Outline

WEEK 1 Submit Project Proposal to BSSBE Director and Project Advisor

WEEK 9 Mid Term Presentation

WEEK 15 Final Presentation

WEEK 16 Final Written/Graphic Submittal

### Meeting Times

Students are expected to meet weekly with their assigned advisors. Please contact your advisor to arrange a suitable time and location for weekly meetings.

### Presentation and Submittal Formats

Mid Term and Final Presentations will be made using powerpoint. The final written/graphic submittal will be made digitally. An abstract will be submitted in separate digital file and will also be included in the beginning of the written capstone report.

### Requirements for Bibliographic References

Unless otherwise requested by your advisor, use the Author Date method as follows:

#### *Book*

Lincott, L. 2003. *Learning GIS*. Gainesville, University of Florida Press.

#### *Chapter or other contributions to a book*

Thompson, K. 2006. Environmental Impacts of Unregulated Chicken Slaughter Industries. In: Cleaver, S. *The Emerging Land Uses Compendium*. Minnesota, University of Michigan Press: 22-48

#### *Paper in a Journal (Landscape Journal) or Periodical (like Landscape Architecture Magazine)*

Schnadelbach, T. 2002. A contemporary Parisian didactic landscape. *Landscape Architecture* 36 (2): 35-75

#### *Web pages*

Field Operations, et al. 2001. *Lifescape*.

[www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/fkl/fien1.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/fkl/fien1.pdf) [accessed March 25, 2007]

### Writing Style

The style of the final written text is to be determined in consultation with your advisor. Do not expect your faculty advisor to serve in the capacity of copy editor for you.

### Policy on Lost Data

All students are required to maintain an appropriate system for backing-up their work. No accommodations can be made for lost data.

### Students with Disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructors when requesting accommodation.

### Academic Honesty

Students in the Department of Landscape Architecture are expected to adhere to all University of Florida academic honesty policies. Failure to do so will result in grade penalties and/or referral to the University Honor Court. Since the University's policies are necessarily generalized, the Department of Landscape Architecture further clarifies academic honesty within the specific setting of design education. The following acts are considered to be academically dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism/misrepresentation: There shall be no question of what your work is and what someone else's is. This applies to all aspects of student performance, including but not limited to
  - CAD drawings and construction details
  - design guidelines (written and graphic)
  - design, planning, and management projects or portions of projects
  - class reports and papers (again, both written and graphic information)
  - any assignment where sole authorship is indicated, such as take-home tests, individual projects, etc.

Examples of inappropriate activities include:

- copying graphics for a report without crediting the original source
- representing someone else's work as your own (using existing CAD construction details, tracing drawings, etc.)
- allowing someone else to represent your work as their own

Given the collaborative nature of problem-solving courses, interaction between students is desirable, but the intention and degree of assistance must be appropriate. For example, it is appropriate to discuss the assignment/method/software program/course materials—but it is not appropriate to solve or resolve a large portion of the project together.

The importance of precedent and learning from past works is a necessary part of most problem-solving processes. Again, it is the intent and degree of "borrowing" ideas that is at question. Anything not original must be paraphrased and cited, or quoted; using accepted style formats such as APA, MLA, Chicago Manual of Style, etc. This includes information obtained from the Internet, public documents, graphics, and personal interviews as well as more traditional written sources. Proper crediting of all information that is not common knowledge is necessary for academic honesty as well as for professionalism. (For example, analysis drawings and/or text should cite the sources from which data was obtained so that if questions arise later, they can be quickly and accurately answered.)

2. Multiple submissions of the same or similar work without prior approval If the instructors understand that you are doing a paper associated with your project topic, then doing similar work

for two different classes is acceptable—if the instructors agree to it. If a single paper is submitted for one class, then later is submitted for another, and the instructors expect original work, then the multiple submission is inappropriate.

### 3. Falsifying information

Examples include:

- misrepresenting reasons why work cannot be done as requested
- changing or leaving out data, such as manipulating statistics for a research project, or ignoring/hiding inconvenient but vital site information. (However, for educational purposes only, certain aspects of the “real world” may be jointly agreed upon as not being pertinent to the academic goals of the course, such as not dealing with specific project parameters or budget, changing the program, etc.)
- altering work after it has been submitted
- hiding, destroying, or otherwise making materials unavailable (hiding reference materials, not sharing materials with other students, etc.)