

SYLLABUS

Credits:	1
Prerequisites:	None
Course Website:	http://lss.at.ufl.edu (E-Learning)
Instructor:	Glenn Acomb, FASLA, Department of Landscape Architecture
Office Location:	Room 434 ARCH
Office Hours:	Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM (appointments recommended)
Office Phone:	352.392.6098 x 315
Email:	acomb@ufl.edu
Technical Assistance:	UF's Help Desk can provide assistance to students (352) 392-4357

Course Overview

This is an introduction to the variety of applications and technologies of green roofs (and to a lesser extent, green walls). Having emerged as a useful tool in sustainable design and construction, green roofs and green walls provide a variety of benefits including water and energy conservation, mitigating heat island effect, contributing to biodiversity, and enhancing the uses of a building.

This course is composed of a series of online PowerPoint presentations, readings, reaction discussions, one or two visits to green roof sites in or near Gainesville, and an exploratory project.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will:

- Understand the sustainability principles for vegetated building components
- Be acquainted with the types of green roofs and their applications (and vegetated walls)
- Be familiar with the principles and guidelines for green roof design
- Understand the basic technical components of green roof assemblies
- Be exposed to the variety of growth media and plant selections, with a focus on their performance in hot-humid climates

Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills

This course is suitable for any major. In general, students should have a basic awareness of, or willingness to learn, basic building systems, site ecosystems (especially stormwater), and general issues of sustainability. Students will be expected to compose Microsoft Word and Powerpoint documents.

Student Learning Outcomes

This is an introductory course intended for the following student learning outcomes:

Content Knowledge

- To integrate concepts from the general body of knowledge of green roof technology in the decision-making of the built environment.

Critical thinking

- To combine and analyze information from multiple sources to support decision-making.

Communication

- To conduct and/or produce competent oral, written and visual communication.

Teaching Philosophy

The approach to this on-line course is to introduce students to the applications and technology of green roofs is to provide a guided set of materials that will allow students to engage in readings, online discussions, opinion responses and subject exploration. An exploratory project (either the creation of a green roof design proposal or the preparation of a case study of an existing green roof) will allow students to apply aspects of the topics presented in the course.

Instructional Methods

Students are expected to review, in advance, E-learning lectures (Powerpoint presentations with audio/video recordings), perform assigned readings, and execute assignments. Assignments include opinion statements/short papers shared in online discussion groups, case studies of selected green roof technologies, and related short exercises.

The evaluation criteria by which student work will be measured include:

- Participation (participation in course interactions and attention to deadlines)
- Craft in Communication (writing, documentation, computational skills/abilities)
- Focus on Assignment Objectives (understanding the instructional purpose of an assignment)
- Understanding the application and technology of green roofs through a test (latter half of the term).

Evaluation Policies and Class Participation

The grade for the course will be based on this *approximate* allocation:

- Class Participation – 50% (based on the frequency and quality of participation)
- Short Assignments (short papers/assessments) – 30%
- Test/Quiz – 20%

COURSE EVALUATION

Evaluations/Projects (subject to change)	Weight
Project 1, Written Opinion	5%
Project 2, Reading brief (short summary)	5%
Project 3, Reading report (1 page)	5%
Project 4, Project – green roof assembly discussion	5%
Project 5, Special Project (case study or green roof concept)	10%
Test	20%
Class Participation	50%

Grading criteria will adhere to the University of Florida Grade Policy:

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

For greater detail, see the Registrar's Grade Policy regulations at <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

Other Policies

- An assignment or assessment that is late will have its grade lowered 10% for each day that it is late. Late submittals on the same day will be lowered 5%.
- Make-up assignments or assessments *will only be granted if a valid excuse is given for the absence and if agreed to by the instructor.*
- It is the responsibility of the student to confirm and resolve late submittals or make-up assignments prior to the last day of class.
- E-Learning and email communication will be used to provide timely communication to students. It is the responsibility of the student to provide an accurate email address, as well as maintain the email connection and mailbox capacity throughout the semester.

Submission of Student Work

All student work may be retained and used by the Department of Landscape Architecture. Digital copies of work must be turned in to all assignments in the following naming convention:

(Course#Name)(Project+Description)(Student-Lastname).(fileformat)
Example: 4905IntroGrnRoofs_Asmt3_HighLine_Lopez.pdf

Use CAPS for separation. Use no spaces, hyphens, or underscoring. Save images in JPG format at a maximum resolution of 200 dpi.

Texts, Software and Other Resources

The required text is *Planting Green Roofs and Living Walls*, 2nd ed., Nigel Dunnett and Noel Kingsbury, Portland, Oregon: Timber Press, 2009.

Readings or other resource material will be posted in the "Resources" location in E-Learning or will be distributed by email.

Students shall have access to a computer with the following software (current releases on or after 2013):

- MS Office (Word, Excel and Powerpoint)
- Virus and spyware protection software
- Adobe Acrobat or Adobe Reader

Disclaimer

As the semester progresses, there may be the need for revisions to class schedule and plans in order to enhance class outcomes.

UF POLICIES

Student Accommodations

Support services for students with disabilities are coordinated by the Disability Resource Center in the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dsp.ufl.edu/drc/>). To obtain individual support services, each student must meet with a support coordinator in the Disability Resources Program who will work with the individual student

and the instructor to determine appropriate support strategies. There is no requirement for a student to self-identify his/her disability; however, students requesting classroom accommodations must register with the Dean of Students Office. Appropriate documentation regarding the student's disability is necessary to obtain any reasonable accommodation or support service.

Academic Honesty

The University requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. When students enroll at UF they commit themselves to honesty and integrity. The faculty of Landscape Architecture fully expects you to adhere to the academic honesty guidelines you signed when you were admitted to UF. In completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement:

"I understand the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University."

Furthermore, on work submitted for credit by all UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

It is to be assumed that all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as a group project by the professor. This does not mean that students cannot help one another in learning material, but all work that is turned in must be independent work of that individual.

Misrepresentation or plagiarism, such as claiming another's work to be one's own, refers to graphic, images, and design work as well as written work. Submitting work from one course to fulfill the requirements of another (unless expressly allowed by the instructor) is also misrepresentation.

The University Honor Code and the Department of Landscape Architecture Academic Honesty Policy are to be followed to the letter. Any students found to have cheated, plagiarized, or otherwise violated the Honor Code in any assignment will be punished according to the severity of the act and may be referred to the Honor Court. It is each student's responsibility to report any infraction, and it is expected that each faculty will report all infractions as well.

For more information, see <http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/honor.html> and the Department of Landscape Architecture Academic Honesty Policy.

Netiquette: Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. For a description of what is expected and what will occur as a result of improper behavior see <http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>.

Religious Holidays

The university calendar does not include observance of any religious holidays. The Florida Board of Governors and state law govern university policy regarding observance of religious holidays. Students shall

be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith with prior notification to the instructor. Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances.

University's Syllabus Policy

The University's complete Syllabus Policy can be found at:

http://www.aa.ufl.edu/Data/Sites/18/media/policies/syllabi_policy.pdf

Getting Help

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Sakai, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit

<http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

Counseling Resources

Students experiencing crisis or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. Both the Counseling Center and Student Mental Health provide confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. The Counseling Center is located at 301 Peabody Hall (next to Criser Hall). Student Mental Health is located on the second floor of the Student Health Services in the Infirmary. For further information on services and how to make an appointment, call the Counseling Center at 392-1575 or Student Mental Health at 392-1171.

See the following web sites for additional resources: Counseling Center: www.counsel.ufl.edu and Student Mental Health: <http://www.hsc.ufl.edu/shcc/smhs.htm>

Evaluation of Faculty

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in the course based on 10 criteria conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific feedback times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The semester is organized in the following sequence (*subject to change as the semester progresses*):

Week 1:	Introduction to Course and Green Roofs
Week 2:	Benefits and Technology of Green Roofs
Week 3:	Sustainability (for site and building);
Week 4:	Water, Energy and Temperature; Project 1
Week 5:	Green Roof Assembly Components
Week 6:	Waterproofing; Site Visit to UF Green Roof (tentative date)
Week 7:	Media and Drainage; Project 2
Week 8:	Cisterns and Irrigation; Design Standards
Week 9:	Plants a; Project 3
Week 10:	Plants b
Week 11:	Design Standards; Project 4
Week 12:	Maintenance; Field Trip (TBD, tentative date)
Week 13:	Sloped Roofs; Test Review
Week 14:	Green Walls; Test
Week 15:	Project 5: Special Project (self-selected with course instructor approval)
Week 16:	Project 5: Special Project