LAA 6656 Section 8692 & URP 6341 Section 111F
Environmental Design and Planning Practicum/Geodesign
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SYLLABUS
Spring Semester, 2016
6 credits, TR Periods 2 – 5, ARC 411

Prerequisites – LAA 6382 + URP 6270 and/or permission of the instructors

General

Course Purpose
This course is intended to provide students experience in the evolving area of Geodesign.
"Geodesign is a design and planning method which tightly couples the creation of design
proposals with impact simulations informed by geographic contexts." (Flaxman 2010) or:
Geodesign provides a design framework and supporting technology for professionals to
leverage geographic information, resulting in designs that more closely follow natural
systems and effective urban form. (Modified from Esri)

Pre-GIS environmental design processes will be discussed and land use suitability and
assessment of environmental sensitivity using GIS will be employed. We will integrate
principles and methods of urban and regional planning and design, landscape ecology,
conservation biology, and GIS analysis to design sound land use and conservation plans
and strategies.

The focus of the first half of the studio is suitability analysis to identify land use conflicts
and opportunities. The focus of the second half of the studio is the development of one of
the following for Sarasota County:
- A future population allocation scenario
- An analysis of the impact sea level rise will have on future land use
- A concept for a system of conservation and recreation lands
- Redevelopment/infill of an existing urban/suburban area
- A compact greenfield development scenario

Topics to be addressed:
- landscape ecology
- geographic information systems
- land use planning
- environmental planning theory and methods
- landscape / ecosystems management
- urban density
- urban morphology

Problem Statement
Our studio for Spring 2016 will focus on Sarasota County. In addition, the following counties will be examined as part of this studio project: Manatee, Hardee, Charlotte and Desoto.

Performance and Grading

Schedule and Basis for Grades
Assignments will be produced through a combination of group and individual work. At the beginning of the semester, students will be given a set of goals and objectives that will drive the suitability analysis. Three groups will be formed, each to focus on a different set of land uses: Agriculture/Conservation, Urban 1 and Urban 2.

Assignments	Estimated Dates	Percent of Grade
Assignment One – Develop an understanding of Sarasota County by exploring the following topics: - comprehensive plans - political landscape - demographics - economy - ecological and recreational resources	January 5 - 19	10%
Assignment Two – Prepare the goals and objectives that will drive suitability analyses and conduct the analysis.	January 21 – February 25	40%
Assignment Three – Prepare final suitability for agriculture, conservation and urban land uses.	March 8 - 15	10%
Assignment Four Option 1 – Explore land use conflict on undeveloped lands, and mixed use and infill opportunities on developed lands. Assignment Four Option 2 - Develop an individual or small group project to focus on topics such as water restoration, wildlife corridors, ecotourism development, trail development, productive agriculture, transportation, or new sustainable urban infrastructure within the study area based on the results of the suitability analysis developed in the first portion of the semester. (Group or Individual)	March 15 – April 21	40%

Grading Scale
The following scale and associated letter grades will be used in this course.

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

According to Departmental Policy, Landscape Architecture majors must receive a C or better to move forward. Any grade lower than a C will require that the course be taken over again.

Late Work
Every attempt is to be made to submit work on the day assigned. A grade reduction of 10% per day will occur unless there is an acceptable excuse for the late submittal.

Attendance
Attendance at all class meetings is expected. If for some reason you are not able to attend, please be sure to notify your instructors in advance.

Final Presentations
All presentations leading up to the final presentation will be assembled using MS Powerpoint. The final presentation will employ ESRI's Story Maps. It is scheduled for Thursday, April 21 during what would be our regular class meeting time.

Submission of Student Work
All student work may be retained and used by the Departments of Landscape Architecture and/or Urban and Regional Planning. Digital Copies of student work for this course must be turned in at the completion of each assignment. No grades will be computed into the final course grade until digital submissions have been turned in via email. Files are to be named as follows:

course# name project student name. dwg/pdf/jpg/

Example: 3352PlantDesAssig10Smith
Use caps for separation
No spaces, hyphens, or underscoring

Texts, and other Resources

Readings
Readings will be circulated in class or digitally. These have been selected to provide important background for addressing the problem under consideration. Students should consider the purchase of the following text for use in the class.

Carr and Zwick. Smart Land Use Analysis: The LUCIS Model. ESRI 2007

Useful Web Links
The following are useful initial weblinks:
Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project
http://www.fnai.org/clip.cfm
Office of Greenways and Trails Florida Ecological Network website
http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/about/ecological.htm
Conservation Trust for Florida Greenways Program website
http://www.conserveflorida.org/index.php/greenways-program.html
1000 Friends of Florida Florida Ecological Network History and Programming Article
http://www.1000fof.org/PUBS/EcologicalGreenwaysFinalVersion.pdf
1000 Friends of Florida Tools for Protecting Florida's Working Landscapes Article
http://www.1000fof.org/PUBS/Fl-working-landscapesFinal2011.pdf
Florida Forever Needs Assessment
http://www.fnai.org/FlForever.cfm
Bureau of Economic and Business Research Information
http://www.bebr.ufl.edu/start
Florida Rural Land Stewardship Area Program
http://www.dca.state.fl.us/fdcp/dcp/rurallandstewardship/
Florida Forever Coalition website
http://www.supportfloridaforever.org/
Florida 2060 human population projection
http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org/planning/2060.asp
1000 Friends of Florida Working to Sustain Florida's Rural and Natural Lands Report
http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org/planning/ruralreport.asp
1000 Friends of Florida Wildlife Habitat Planning Strategies Manual
http://www.floridahabitat.org/wildlife-manual

UF Policies

Academic Honesty
"UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class."

Disabled Students requesting Accommodations
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing

appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Counseling Resources
Students experiencing crisis or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx , 392-1575.
Please call the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

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.

Online Course Evaluation
 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/.

Disclaimer
This syllabus represents our current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.