

University of Florida
Department of Landscape Architecture
Year Three Second Year of Advanced Graduate Study: Fall and Spring Semester

SYLLABUS

LAA6971	Thesis	3 Credits
LAA6979	Terminal Project	
Prerequisite	None	

Instructor

See course handout for the specific semester.

General

This option, in lieu of thesis, is available for a design project that because of magnitude or design complexity does not adapt to thesis format.

Thesis

“The first essential is that the thesis begins with a problem; the second that a hypothesis be formulated for its solution. If there is no hypothesis, stated or implied, then whatever the product may be it is not a thesis. Third, the thesis must possess validity, which simply means that it must be what it purports to be.”
(Graduate Student Handbook p. 54)

All theses must meet the requirements of the Graduate School (format, dates, etc.)

Terminal Project

The terminal project is an identifiable issue, condition, or circumstance which can be subject to inquiry and resolution. It has research dimension, either by component or process; it may include a format consistent with thesis requirements or a format of non-traditional size, shape or material. It must include written documentation.

Course Objectives

The satisfactory completion LAA 6971 or LAA 6979 is a condition of the requirement of the degree, Master of Landscape Architecture. The following criteria reflect the conditions of both options:

1. The subject of either option is the responsibility of the student
 - a. Related to ongoing faculty research
 - b. Not related
2. The initiative for proposal development for either option lies with the student
 - a. Satisfies department objectives
 - b. Satisfies student objectives and needs

Course Outline / Content

Candidates must develop this degree requirement prior to filing the names of the committee with the Graduate School. Candidates are encouraged to discuss the initiative with any member of the Graduate Faculty. The chair and one other committee member must be on the Graduate Faculty of the Department. Optional third member may be outside the Department of Landscape Architecture, but must also hold graduate faculty status.

The sequence requires two semesters – three credit hours of research, followed by three credit hours of thesis or terminal project. Both culminate with a formal defense. Digital copies of the entire report must be given to all committee members, the departmental archives, and the University of Florida Library.

Grading

Detailed grading criteria for each offering of this course can be found in the course handout for the specific instructor and semester.

Grading 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>

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.

Submission of Student Work

All student work may be retained and used by the Department of Landscape Architecture. 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 as requested. Please follow the directions given by the instructor as to how they will be submitted (Sakai, CD, PDF, word file, etc.). However, all files must be named as follows:

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

Example: 3352PlantDesAssig10Smith
4ch 8ch 8ch 6ch

Use caps for separation
No spaces, hyphens, or underscoring

In cases of models and other 3-D work, digital JPG photographs should be submitted

Critical Dates

See course handout

Class Attendance and Participation

See course handout

Class Demeanor

See course handout for expectations of the professor (e.g., tardiness, cell phone usage)

Policy for Make-Up Exams or Other Missed Work

See course handout

Texts, Software, and other Resources

None

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. Your instructor 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."

Revised: November 2012

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 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.

Student Accommodations

Support services for students with disabilities are coordinated by the Disability Resource Center in the Dean of Students Office. 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.

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>

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.