

Fall 2018
LAA 6656

University of Florida Department of Landscape Architecture
Advanced Landscape Architecture Studio

SYLLABUS

Instructor: Alpa Nawre, Assistant Professor
Office: 442 Architecture
Office Hours: By appointment, Email at alpa.nawre@ufl.edu

Class Meetings: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, periods 7-9 Architecture Studio #318

Purpose:

This course provides the opportunity to explore a comprehensive design problem, seeking solutions that meet aesthetic, cultural, environmental and functional objectives unique to a region.

Objectives:

The objectives of the course are:

- To analyze a project site in the context of a developing country and summarize the findings in a succinct way that supports design conceptualization.
- To gain an understanding of unique factors important to design decision-making in projects that deal critical landscape infrastructure.
- To clearly communicate design solutions through graphic, written, digital and oral techniques.

Project Description:

Landscape infrastructure is essential to mankind's survival and with the world's population exceeding 7 billion; the design of infrastructure and mismanagement of resources poses a significant threat for the future. The design of landscape infrastructure systems is a global concern and India provides a rich venue to experiment and explore relevant design solutions to address this concern. Landscape architects have a major role to play in overcoming global challenges and the studio project will focus on issues in urban and rural India.

The studio will address the theoretical understanding of landscape infrastructure as multi-functional rich 'laminated landscape' venues through lectures/discussions/mappings. Through the studio, students will gain a thorough understanding of design issues in the context of a developing country such as India; ability to work at multiple scales in multi-ethnic context and the design tools for designing flexibility through use and time.

There may be an optional 10-day field trip to India, during the semester to introduce the culture and landscape of India as we travel from the country's capital of Delhi and make our way to the heart of the country. We will visit several important monuments and gardens on our visit including the Humayun's Tomb Gardens, Delhi Fort, Delhi Haat, Lotus Temple and more.

Evaluations:

The course objectives are the basis for evaluating student work. In addition, students will demonstrate receptiveness (ie positive attitudes), initiative and organizational skills as attributes

of creativity and professionalism. Work that consistently fails to meet proficiency levels or project deadlines will result in a course failure. Student's performance will be assessed on individual accomplishments, contribution to group projects and active participation and engagement in course activities. Attendance at all course meetings and field trips is mandatory.

Attendance:

Requests for excused absences will be considered when the request is submitted in writing by email to the course instructor at least 24 hours in advance of the class being missed. Emergency excused absence requests may be made by emailing the course instructors PRIOR to the beginning of class and will be decided on a case-by-case basis. Requests received after the start of class will not be considered. All absences must be approved. A single unexcused absence will result in a full letter grade reduction for the course. Three unexcused absence shall result in a failed evaluation for the course. In the case of illness or a family emergency, a schedule for the completion of make-up work must be determined with the instructor as soon as possible upon a student's return to class. Failure to comply with the agreed upon schedule will result in a failing grade for that project.

Studio Projects:

The overall studio project portion of the grade is comprised of multiple exercises and assignments throughout the semester. The weighting of each exercise and project will be identified on the individual project descriptions. Students are always welcome to meet with the course instructor to discuss their performance and success in the course.

Course Structure:

This course is structured as a studio. Students are responsible for learning that is guided by the instructor through activities including lectures, seminar-style discussions, design and planning projects and exercises and site visits, field investigations and in-studio working sessions to allow ample time for progression and production activities. The Fall semester calendar includes a number of holidays and other scheduling challenges. Any changes in schedule will be announced in class or via the course canvas page.

Expectations:

The course plan for the semester includes lectures and/or discussions that will introduce and explore concepts, principles and approaches that will underpin all subsequent exercises. Any time not devoted to lectures and/or discussions is devoted to studio work (working independently and in teams, in studio, during the posted class hours). It is expected that you will be at your desk advancing the work of your projects and exercises for the full duration of the noted studio hours. From time-to-time, you will have an opportunity to meet with a studio instructor to discuss your work and to explore directions for advancement. Please be aware that your day-to-day progress will be evaluated and documented. This evaluation determines a significant part of your final assessment for each exercise and project and for the semester in general. Class discussions are not lectures. Students are expected to be prepared to participate and to make thoughtful, polite and respectful contributions to the discussions. Evaluations for discussion activities will be based on initiative, thoughtfulness, collaborative inquiry. You will also be evaluated on the basis of professionalism and positive attitudes, all essential to student's success in this course and beyond the academic walls.

Exploring ideas in Design:

There are few absolutes in design problems. “Solving” a problem means exploring options and arriving at a solution that best meets the objectives of the project. But arriving at “the solution” requires exhaustive exploration. The instructor will assist you in your process and challenge you with different perspectives and alternatives. If you are confused or unclear about any direction you receive during desk critiques, please ask for clarification.

Developing Your Process:

Be prepared and organized for your design critiques, whether individual or by group. Be clear and articulate about how you have developed your work over the course of previous crits. Have new work to present at each crit. Crits are not meant to give you the answers to design problems, but are an opportunity to engage in analytical and problem-solving processes and to challenge yourself to understand and master new approaches and solutions. Instructors are not required to provide crits for students who are unprepared.

All students using the studio are expected to do so respectfully. Sound travels and can be very distracting to others. Please speak quietly and avoid calling out across the studio space. Cell phones must not ring or be used during class times. If you have an emergency and must use your phone, please do so outside of the studio (breezeway or balcony). Studio door combinations are not to be shared with anyone not formally associated with this course.

Plagiarism:

This and all LA courses are aware of the problems of plagiarism in general. It is the nature of design to not reinvent the wheel unnecessarily, to creatively build upon successful precedents, and to collaborate. To work in a vacuum and demand strictly original ideas from oneself is highly unlikely to occur in any design field. So what is appropriate “building” and what is plagiarism? From the LA policy:

1. Plagiarism/misrepresentation

There shall be no question of what is your work and what is someone else’s. 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 his own

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 thesis or senior 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.)

For this course, it is important to indicate source(s) for graphics and other information, acknowledge direct quotes and use of information even if it is paraphrased, and indicate if an image or drawing is your work or someone else's.

COURSE POLICIES

Minimum Grade Required:

A minimum grade of C is mandatory. Any grade lower than C means the course must be retaken to achieve a C or higher. A student may only take the course over once. If on the second attempt a C or better is not earned, the student will be dropped from the program. All University procedures for grade petitions still apply.

Materials:

Drafting/Drawing Equipment including a 12, 18 or 24 inch roll of tracing paper, Computer with CAD and other graphic software. Rendering materials

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 (Canvas, CD, PDF, word file, etc.). In cases of 3-D models, digital JPG photographs should be submitted.

All files must be named as follows:

(Course#Name)(Project+Description)(Student-Lastname).(jpg)

Example: 2360PrincLADiagPlnWeesner.jpg

4ch 8ch 8ch 6ch (ch = letter characters)

- Use CAPS for Separation
- Save images in JPG format at a maximum 200 resolution
- *No spaces, hyphens, or underscoring*
- Drawings submitted incorrectly or in an incorrect file format will be rejected and you will need to resubmit.

Texts, Software and Other Resources

This course will utilize the UF's e-learning Canvas site. Announcements, Course Calendar, Grades, Discussions, and Course Resources will be posted to this site. It is expected that you will login into and check-in on the site periodically and to retrieve course resources and required readings. This course will have no required textbook but it is expected that all assigned readings will be completed and students will be prepared to discuss the readings at the beginning of the class. Recommended readings will also be posted over the course of the semester.

UF POLICIES

Grading:

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	100-93	92-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-67	66-63	62-60	59-0
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 <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Student 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.

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 (<https://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.

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

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>.

GETTING HELP

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, 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. 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:

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

Counseling and Wellness Resources

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