landscape architecture site analysis
(hybrid)

course description

Inventory, analysis and evaluation of site development procedures; emphasis on landscape ecology. (3 credits)
Prerequisites: None, course is open to all students
Course Type: Hybrid (classroom + online)

Instructor:

Andrea Galinski, CFM, Associate Scholar
(e): andrea.galinski@ufl.edu
(c): 215-262-5523
(web): UF Canvas e-Learning website,
https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/369742

(o): 461 Architecture Building
(office hours): Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30am or by appointment

course objectives, learning outcomes, & expectations

This is an introduction to the process of inventory, analysis and synthesis of information about a site and its context. Our purpose is to expand your knowledge of natural and cultural resources and user needs that directly affect planning, design, and landscape management decisions. Through the semester, assignments will help develop and refine your ability to selectively inventory appropriate natural and cultural resources on site, as well as analyze the selected inventory data relative to key issues and program requirements, thus providing the wherewithal to organize and locate the proposed program elements and, often, to suggest additional program elements. Additionally, this course will examine site synthesis which will enable you to synthesize natural, cultural, and user information through various methodologies used by the field of landscape architecture as well as many allied professions.

Student Learning Outcomes

The course is linked to the following department learning outcomes for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture:

- **Content Knowledge:** Integrate concepts from the general body of knowledge of the profession of Landscape Architecture in design decision-making; Apply core professional landscape architecture skills in design decision-making; Apply ethical understanding to design decision-making.
- **Critical Thinking:** Combine and analyze information from multiple sources to support design decision-making.

Teaching Philosophy

I believe that landscape architecture is a valuable and exciting discipline. I aim to share this passion with students, so that they will be able to utilize the tools of landscape architecture as both citizens and working professionals to respond to shifting environmental, technological, cultural, and socioeconomic conditions. I aim to cultivate in my students independent thinking that challenges both peers and professors, critical self-evaluation, and strong practices of self-guided exploration. To this end, I strive to be direct, responsive, and transparent in assessment and feedback.

Instructional Methods

This online and in-class hybrid course will introduce you to the extensive process of analyzing sites for planning and design. Coursework will focus on:

- **Instructional content.** A combination of in-person and online lectures, videos, readings, and other course materials will provide unique perspectives on subject matter. This classroom discussions and well as online multimedia information will create an engaging atmosphere for active learning.

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- **Discussions.** Students will engage in a discourse of the course content material through weekly online discussions.
- **Weekly meetings.** Additionally, students will engage and interact via weekly in-person meetings.
- **Quizzes + Mid Term Exam.** There will be several quizzes given over the course of the semester, as well as a mid-term exam, which will be given online.
- **Assignments.** Several iterative assignments will enable students to apply the site analysis techniques learned in coursework to a location of their choosing. To conduct the site analysis, students will collect information both online (using digital data and ArcGIS Online), as well as in-person through site visits and observations. Please note that the final term project will serve as the final exam for the course.

Course Materials

All course materials and resources, such as lectures, videos, and other pertinent readings, will be posted online to the CANVAS website.

- **ArcGIS Online**
  ArcGIS Online is an intuitive geographic information systems (GIS) platform providing mapping and analysis tools. As part of the course assignments, students will use this platform to develop some of the site analysis course assignments. Access is available for free using UF GatorLink ID credentials.
- **Textbook (Optional)**
  LaGro, James A. (2013.) Site Analysis: Informing Context-Sensitive and Sustainable Site Planning and Design, 3rd Edition. John Wiley & Sons. Hoboken, NJ
  o The physical book is not required for the course. However, this book mirrors most of the course and will be helpful throughout your landscape architecture career. It is available HERE through the Library with a valid GatorLink ID

course policies

Participation

Students are expected to complete all assignments, discussions, and quizzes in a timely fashion. Attendance of the weekly meetings is mandatory. One (1) unexcused absence is permitted. Each additional absence will lower your grade by 4%. You are requested to contact the instructor in advance if you will not be attending the weekly meeting.
Also, participation is monitored through UF's e-learning website CANVAS.

Hybrid Work

Although a portion of the class is online, this course has been constructed very similarly to a regular 3-credit class that meets in person. (One credit hour represents "not less than 1 hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of 2 hours out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester…" (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges). This means that, there is a total of **~9 hours of work required per week** for completing lectures, videos, readings, quizzes, discussions, and assignments each week – including some that may take you to a library or to a local place. *Please be sure to schedule the appropriate amount of time each week to devote to this class and the various assignments.*

Netiquette – Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats. A guide provided by University of Florida can be found here.

Getting Technical Help

For issues with technical difficulties for e-Learning on CANVAS, please contact the UF Help Desk at:
- On campus at HUB 132
- helpdesk@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP (4357) → s*elect option 2*

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk 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.

Distribution of Materials on Canvas
The digital course materials provided on CANVAS (e.g., lectures, assignments, quizzes, etc.) are provided for personal study and are not intended for distribution by electronic or other means. Further distribution or posting on other websites is not permitted.

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 final grades will be issued until digital submissions have been turned in as requested. *Typically, all files must be submitted as Portable Document Formats (PDF). Please adhere to assignment file submission guidelines.*

Online Course Evaluation
Students in this class are participating in the pilot evaluation of the new course evaluation system called GatorEvals. The new evaluation system is designed to be more informative to instructors so that teaching effectiveness is enhanced and to be more seamlessly linked to UF's CANVAS learning management system. Students can complete their evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under "GatorEvals." Please note your other classes this semester may be evaluated in the current GatorRater online evaluation system. Thank you for serving as a partner in this important effort!

UF policies + resources
Academic Resources
- Career Connections Center- career assistance and counseling. Reitz Union, 392-160.
- Library Support- various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center- general study skills and tutoring. Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420.
- Writing Studio- help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct
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 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."*

Within the Department of Landscape Architecture, it is to be assumed that all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as a group project by the instructor. 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. 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.

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Limitations + Student Accommodations

If a student has any limitations that might prevent him or her from meeting the requirements of this course, they are asked to notify the instructor. Support services for students with disabilities are coordinated by the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565) in the Dean of Students Office. Students requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. (There is no requirement for a student to self-identify his/her disability to the instructor.) Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

U Matter, We Care

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing Staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

Counseling + Wellness Resources

Students experiencing crisis or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the University's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center (CWC) provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. The CWC is located at 3190 Radio Road. For further information on services, making appointments, and emergency or after-hour assistance call the CWC at 321-392-1575 or on the web.

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.

Student Complaint Process

Each online distance learning program has a process for, and will make every attempt to resolve, student complaints within its academic and administrative departments at the program level. If you are unsure about who to contact at the program level please email distance@dce.ufl.edu and a member of the distance learning staff will forward your complaint to the appropriate UF administrative authority. You can find more information here.

grading & exam policies

Grading

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

Please see the UF Grades and Grading Policies for more information.

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Evaluation of Performance

Timely completion of all project requirements is expected; work is typically due by the end of each week (Sunday at 11:59pm), unless otherwise noted. **Late work will be penalized 2.5% per day.** Work submitted more than one week late will not be accepted unless prior accommodations have been made. Requirements for making up missed assignments or other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found here.

1. **Weekly Discussions (10% of final grade):** Weekly discussion sessions on Canvas and in the classroom will provide students with the opportunity to reflect on the topics presented during the week, as well as engage with other students enrolled in the course. The lecture content will vary from week to week and the discussions will reflect both aspects of that week's lectures and activities as well as your own personal synthesis and/or reflection on the subjects, perspectives, issues, and methods discussed.

2. **Quizzes (15% of final grade):** To ensure student engagement in the online content and lectures, quizzes will be given throughout the semester. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped in the final grade calculation. Please note that quizzes are due at the end of each week and may not be submitted late unless previous accommodations have been made.

3. **Mid-Term Exam (25% of final grade):** A mid-term exam will be assigned online and will include questions from each topic covered to date. (There will be no attendance or proctoring required.)
   - The mid-term is tentatively scheduled for **Friday, October 18, 2019 from 6:00am-9:00pm**.

4. **Cumulative Term Project (40% of final grade):** Applying the information that you are learning in class is primarily done through a cumulative term project comprised of several site analysis assignments that explore a location of your choosing. To conduct the site analysis, you will collect information both online (using digital data and ArcGIS Online), as well as in-person through site visits and observations. (You will want to pick a close and easily accessible site as you'll have to visit it a few times over the arc of the semester.)

5. **Final Term Project (10% of final grade):** A final project will be based on the cumulative results of the term project assignments and focus on site synthesis.

Evaluation/Grading Summary for Course:
- 10% Weekly Discussions
- 15% Quizzes
- 25% Mid-Term Exam
- 40% Cumulative Term Project
- 10% Final Term Project
- **100% Total**

course schedule

The following is an overview of the course schedule and assignments:

Course Week	Weekly Assignments	Classroom Meetings	Due Dates
Week 1: Course Introduction	**Discussion 01:** Introductions	Wednesday, Aug 21 @8:30am	Sunday, Aug 25 @11:59pm
Week 2: Site Planning Process *(Introduce Assign 1)*	**Quiz 01:** Site Planning Process **Discussion 02:** Site Planning Process	Wednesday, Aug 28 @8:30am	Sunday, Sept 1 @11:59pm
Week 3: Base Mapping + Site Selection	**Quiz 02:** Base Mapping + Site Selection **Discussion 03:** Base Mapping + Site Selection **Assignment 01:** Site Selection	Wednesday, Sept 4 @8:30am	Sunday, Sept 8 @11:59pm
Week 4: Physical Inventory + Analysis: Topography + Geomorphology	**Quiz 03:** Topography + Geomorphology **Discussion 04:** Topography + Geomorphology	Wednesday, Sept 11 @8:30am	Sunday, Sept 15 @11:59pm

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(Introduce Assign 2)			
Week 5: Physical Inventory + Analysis: Hydrology + Soils	**Quiz 04:** Hydrology + Soils **Discussion 05:** Hydrology + Soils **Assignment 02:** Physical Characteristics	Wednesday, Sept 18 @8:30am	Sunday, Sept 22 @11:59pm
Week 6: Ecological Inventory: Climate + Ecology *(Introduce Assign 3)*	**Quiz 05:** Climate + Ecology **Discussion 06:** Climate + Ecology	Wednesday, Sept 25 @8:30am	Sunday, Sept 29 @11:59pm
Week 7: Ecological Inventory: Fieldwork	**Quiz 06:** Fieldwork **Discussion 07:** Site Visits **Assignment 03:** Climate, Ecology + Soils	Wednesday, Oct 2 @8:30am	Sunday, Oct 6 @11:59pm
Week 8: Human Systems: Land Use + Regulatory Context (Introduce Assign 4)	**Quiz 07:** Land Use + Regulation **Discussion 08:** Land Use + Regulation	Wednesday, Oct 9 @8:30am	Sunday, Oct 13 @11:59pm
Week 9: Midterm Exam Week	**Mid-Term Exam**		Friday, Oct 18 @11:59pm
Week 10: Human Systems: Infrastructure	**Quiz 08:** Infrastructure **Discussion 09:** Infrastructure	Wednesday, Oct 23 @8:30am	Sunday, Oct 27 @11:59pm
Week 11: Human Systems: History + Culture	**Quiz 09:** Culture + History **Discussion 10:** Culture + History **Assignment 04:** Zoning, Infrastructure, + Cultural Resources	Wednesday, Oct 30 @8:30am	Sunday, Nov 3 @11:59pm
Week 12: Final Analysis + Site Synthesis (Introduce Assign 5 + 6)	**Quiz 10:** Site Synthesis **Discussion 11:** Site Synthesis	Wednesday, Nov 6 @8:30am	Sunday, Nov 10 @11:59pm
Week 13: Analysis Technologies	**Quiz 11:** Analysis Technologies **Discussion 12:** Analysis Technologies **Assignment 05:** Final Analysis	Wednesday, Nov 13 @8:30am	Sunday, Nov 17 @11:59pm
Week 14: New Site Analysis Applications	**Quiz 12:** New Site Analysis Applications **Discussion 13:** New Site Analysis Applications	Wednesday, Nov 20 @8:30am	Sunday, Nov 24 @11:59pm
Week 15: Exploring Precedents	**Discussion 14:** Exploring Precedents		Sunday, Dec 1 @11:59pm
Week 16: Conclusions	**Discussion 15:** Conclusions **Assignment 06:** Site Synthesis (Final Project)		Wednesday, Dec 4 @11:59pm

Please check the course website on CANVAS for more detailed information regarding course content, assignments, quizzes, due dates, and other pertinent material.

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