

Environmental Planning and Design Studio

LAA 4356

6 Credit Hours

Fall 2019

Monday – 1:55-4:55pm; Lab day with TA office hours

Wednesday/Friday, 1:55-4:55pm, Arch 316

Instructors: *Tom Hctor*
436 ARCH, Email: tomh@geoplan.ufl.edu
Other Instructors TBD

Teaching Assistants: TBD

Office Hours: By appointment via email or as arranged during class

Course Website: <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>

Course Communications: Questions regarding this course may be submitted via email or during class sessions.

Required Text: To be announced

Course Description: Design studio introduces students to decision-making and the regional scale (county-scale and larger). It builds upon the principles and technologies introduced in all the previous design studios.

Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills: LAA 4353 or URP 4273.

Purpose of Course: This design studio will introduce students to decision-making at the regional scale (county-scale and larger) using GIS and land use suitability analysis techniques within a group and individual setting. In the first half of the semester, working within a multi-county study area (with Alachua County likely to be the focal county), students will develop GIS regional land use suitability analyses for conservation, agriculture, or future urban land uses. Students will then work in groups to synthesize this information and create a composite land use suitability map for the study area. Finally, students will conduct individual projects in the second half of the semester based on the results of the initial regional studies.

Course Goals and/or Objectives: The primary objectives of this course are as follows:

- To develop familiarity with GIS and GIS-based suitability analysis and to apply these techniques to the process of inventory, analysis, and synthesis within a specific study area.
- To understand the influence of regional context and regional land use decisions on land use planning and design decision-making at a variety of scales.
- To explore principles of conservation ecology, agricultural land use, and urban design and their influence on regional land use planning decisions.

Teaching Philosophy: In this course we hope to foster a dynamic and collaborative learning environment for both students and instructors. Our goal is to guide students through the process of inventory, suitability analysis, and synthesis using GIS at a regional scale, while providing room for individual contributions that may enrich the process as a whole.

Instructional Methods: Course instruction will be primarily based on lectures provided during studio time, individual/group desk critiques to assess and guide progress, and feedback during group and individual presentations.

Grading Policies:

Primary Tasks and Evaluation: We anticipate the following list of tasks and evaluation weightings for the semester.

Tasks	Percent of Grade
GIS Exercises - Complete a series of GIS exercises based on in-class lectures to build understanding and proficiency in ArcGIS (Individual)	15%
Task One: Inventory - Conduct basic regional character research for the study area (Group)	15%
Task Three: Analysis - Conduct suitability analysis for agriculture, conservation and human settlement within the study area. (Individual/Group)	25%
Task Four: Synthesis – Work within groups to create a composite future land use plan for the study area, which combines results from the regional suitability analysis. (Group)	20%
Task Five – Develop individual or small group projects 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. Other specific projects may be provided based on the study area chosen for the semester. (Individual/Small Group)	25%

Grading Scale: 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. 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

Course Schedule

Schedule and Final Exam: A detailed schedule for this course will be provided at the beginning of the semester and will be updated as needed. The final exam for this studio will consist of a final project presentation with date to be determined.

Course Policies:

Attendance Policy: Attendance to class is mandatory. One unexcused absence is permitted. Each additional absence will lower the student’s grade by 4%. Students are requested to contact an instructor if they will not be attending the discussion session. *Cell phone use is not acceptable in class except for emergencies and should be conducted outside of the studio.*

Assignment Policy: Students are expected to complete all assignments in a timely fashion, as well as actively participate in the discussion and combined group tasks. Timely completion of all project requirements is expected. Late work will be penalized 4% per day unless there is an acceptable excuse for the late submittal. Work submitted more than one week late will not be accepted. The final presentation and all presentations leading up to the final presentation will be assembled using MS Powerpoint.

Course Technology: ESRI ArcGIS software will be available to all students at the beginning of the semester. **Each student is expected to have a minimum 100 GB external hard drive to store class GIS data and results. In addition, if you are using a Mac computer you need to come to class with the ability to run Microsoft Windows. Information for doing so can be obtained here:**

<https://gis.harvard.edu/blog/installing-arcgis-desktop-mac>

All course content will be available through Canvas, UF’s online learning portal unless otherwise specified. All assignments are to be submitted to Canvas unless otherwise indicated. 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.

UF Policies:

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

**Netiquette: Communication Courtesy: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. [Describe what is expected and what will occur as a result of improper behavior – <http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>]

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. 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.

Disclaimer: *This syllabus represents 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.*