landscape architecture site analysis
(online)

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: Online

Instructor:
Andrea Galinski, CFM, Associate Scholar
(e): andrea.galinski@ufl.edu
(c): 215-262-5523

(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 information to organize and locate the proposed program elements or suggest additional 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 course will introduce you to the extensive process of analyzing sites for planning and design. Coursework will focus on:

- Online instructional content. Lectures, online videos, readings, and other course materials posted online will provide unique perspectives on subject matter. This combination of multimedia information and

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recorded lectures will create an engaging atmosphere for active learning.

- **Discussions.** Students will engage in a discourse of the course content material through weekly online discussions.

- **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 online (using digital data and **ArcGIS Online**)

## 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)**
  - 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](https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/ufl/detail.action?docID=1120063) 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. Participation is monitored through UF’s e-learning website CANVAS.

### Online Work

As this is an asynchronous online course, there is no required class attendance. The Summer course has been constructed to compress a 3-credit, 15-week class from a Fall semester into a 6-week Summer semester course. (One credit hour represents "not less than 1 hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of 2 hours 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, for a typical Fall semester class, there is a total of ~9 hours of work required per week. For a Summer class, there are ~22.5 hours/week of lectures, readings, quizzes, discussions, and assignments each week. 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](http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf)

### Getting Technical Help

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3. SACS: [https://citt.ufl.edu/resources/student-engagement/ensuring-academic-rigor/](https://citt.ufl.edu/resources/student-engagement/ensuring-academic-rigor/)

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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.

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\(^1\) (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\(^1^4\).

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

\(^1\) Disability Resource Center: https://disability.ufl.edu/
\(^1^4\) Counseling & Wellness Center: https://counseling.ufl.edu/
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\textsuperscript{15}.

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>D-</th>
<th>E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Numeric Grade</td>
<td>100-93</td>
<td>92-90</td>
<td>89-87</td>
<td>86-83</td>
<td>82-80</td>
<td>79-77</td>
<td>76-73</td>
<td>72-70</td>
<td>69-67</td>
<td>66-63</td>
<td>62-60</td>
<td>59-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Points</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.33</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please see the UF Grades and Grading Policies\textsuperscript{16} for more information.

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. Due to the compressed nature of the summer semester, work submitted more than 3 days 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\textsuperscript{17}.

1. Peer Reviews (5% of final grade): Students will review their classmates’ assignments and provide meaningful feedback. This is intended to provide an opportunity for critical evaluation of colleagues’ work as well as reflection on their own work submitted.

2. Weekly Discussions (15% of final grade): Weekly discussion sessions on Canvas 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 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.

3. 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.

4. Mid-Term Exam (20% 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.)

5. Cumulative Term Project (35% 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\textsuperscript{18}), as well as other tools.

6. 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.

\textsuperscript{15} Distance Learning: https://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/
\textsuperscript{16} UF Grades and Grading Policies: https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/
\textsuperscript{17} UF Attendance Policies: https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/#absencestext
\textsuperscript{18} ArcGIS Online: https://www.esri.com/en-us/arcgis/products/arcgis-online/overview

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Evaluation/Grading Summary for Online Course:
- 5% Peer Reviews
- 15% Weekly Discussions
- 15% Quizzes
- 20% Mid-Term Exam
- 35% Cumulative Term Project
- 10% Final Term Project
- 100% Total

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Week</th>
<th>Weekly Assignments</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1: Overview</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 01: Site Selection&lt;br&gt;Quiz 01: Site Planning Process, Base Mapping + Site Selection&lt;br&gt;Discussion 01: Introductions&lt;br&gt;Discussion 02: Site Planning Process + Base Mapping</td>
<td>Sunday, May 17 @11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course Overview, Shaping the Built Environment, + Site Selection</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 02: Physical Characteristics&lt;br&gt;Quiz 02: Topography, Geomorphology, Hydrology + Soils&lt;br&gt;Discussion 03: Topography, Geomorphology, Hydrology + Soils&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 01</td>
<td>Sunday, May 24 @11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2: Physical Inventory</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 03: Climate, Ecology + Soils&lt;br&gt;Quiz 04: Climate + Ecology&lt;br&gt;Discussion 04: Climate, Ecology + Site Visits&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 02</td>
<td>Sunday, May 31 @11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topography, Geomorphology, Hydrology, + Soils</strong></td>
<td>Mid-Term Exam (inclusive of Week 4 material)&lt;br&gt;Assignment 04: Zoning, Infrastructure, + Cultural Resources&lt;br&gt;Quiz 04: Land Use, Regulation, Culture + History&lt;br&gt;Discussion 05: Land Use, Regulation + Sense of Place&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 03</td>
<td>Friday, June 5 @9:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3: Biological Inventory</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 05: Final Analysis + Site Synthesis&lt;br&gt;Quiz 05: Site Synthesis&lt;br&gt;Discussion 06: Site Synthesis&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 04</td>
<td>Sunday, June 7 @11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Climate, Ecology, + Fieldwork</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 06: Final Analysis + Site Synthesis&lt;br&gt;Quiz 06: Site Synthesis&lt;br&gt;Discussion 07: Exploring Precedents + Conclusions&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 05</td>
<td>Friday, June 19 @1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4: Human Systems</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 07: Exploring Precedents + Conclusions&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 05</td>
<td>Friday, June 19 @1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cultural + Historical Context</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 08: Exploring Precedents + Conclusions&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 06</td>
<td>Friday, June 19 @1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5: Site Synthesis</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 09: Exploring Precedents + Conclusions&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 07</td>
<td>Friday, June 19 @1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final Analysis + Site Synthesis</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 10: Exploring Precedents + Conclusions&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 08</td>
<td>Friday, June 19 @1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 6: Conclusions</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 11: Exploring Precedents + Conclusions&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 09</td>
<td>Friday, June 19 @1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Exploring Precedents + Conclusions</strong></td>
<td>Assignment 12: Exploring Precedents + Conclusions&lt;br&gt;Peer Review: Assign 10</td>
<td>Friday, June 19 @1:00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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