

LAA 3352C: Planting Design Studio

Fall 2020

5 credit hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:55-4:55pm

Location: Zoom Virtual World

Instructor: Bryce Donner
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Teaching Assistant: Isabella Guttuso
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Office Hours: By appointment via email or as arranged during class.

Course Website: <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/406689>

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

Required Text: A list of required and recommended readings will be provided in class, which will be available either digitally through UF ARES (required readings) or for optional purchase or loan from the UF Library (recommended readings).

Fees: Potential fees include a fee for submission to the Florida Association of Native Nurseries Annual Design Competition, and expenses for possible site visits for studio projects. If payment of these expenses is problematic, students should speak to the instructor immediately. Additional fees, as described on the UF Schedule of Courses website will also be required.

Course Description: Planting design is one of the foundational skills in the profession of landscape architecture, a combination of fine art and technology, with unique spatial and temporal qualities. The planting design studio introduces the planting design process, its relationship to site planning, existing site conditions, project locale and client needs. This studio will explore the art and technology of plants with consideration of various scales of sites and site ecosystems; designs for human use; and with consideration for sustainable design and landscape management practices.

Planting design is a blend of garden design and fine art. But because landscape compositions are a synthesis of a site's environmental technologies (ecosystem, soil, water and microclimate), the intended human functions/uses, and a dynamic system of experiences that evoke appreciation and memory, this art form is an especially complex one to be truly successful – especially over time.

The art of planting design is especially rich in its connection to painting, sculpture, and dance. Each scene in the landscape is a composition of color, form, texture, with the addition of sensory characteristics. Different from painting, though, this art is sculptural – composed of three-dimensional forms of a wide variety of materials. It is also akin to dance – experienced from many positions as one moves through the site – and at both macro and micro scales. And most unique of all, the landscape and experience changes over the course of minutes, hours, days, season and ages.

This course will focus attention on the act of design, the importance of a meaningful and defensible concept, the choreography of moving throughout the design, experiences of climate and time, and the importance of the natural systems of site, ecosystem and planted design.

Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills:

ORH 3513C Environmental Plant Identification and Use
LAA 2360C Principles of Landscape Architecture

Purpose of Course: The organization of this course focuses on exploring planting design in a variety of ways. We will seek a foundation in the art elements and their compositions. We will explore design in several scales and genres, though we will focus on smaller to moderate size sites. The goal is to expose the student to the richness of this design genre, while providing a foundation that can be used beyond this semester and well into one's practice.

Course Objectives: The objective of this course is for students to be competent in the following:

- An understanding of the principles of art and design as they apply to planting design
- An understanding of the functional and aesthetic value of plants in design
- An understanding of the relationships between planting design, ecology, hydrology and sustainability
- An understanding of the critical role of water in the landscape
- An understanding of landscape maintenance and its relationship to planting design
- An ability to produce accurate and professional quality planting plans and specifications

Teaching Philosophy: In this course we will foster an interactive learning environment for both students and instructors. Collaborative team projects will be key to fostering a productive studio atmosphere. Clear communication and constructive criticism will promote the development of student's design capabilities and preparedness for working in a professional environment.

Instructional Methods: Course instruction will be primarily based on lectures, class discussions, assigned readings, input from guest reviewers and/or lecturers, and studio work and presentations.

Grading Policies:

Primary Tasks and Evaluation: Evaluation will be based on a combination of attendance, participation and performance in in-class activities and exercises, and studio project assessments. A list of primary projects and weights is provided below:

Assignment	Percent of grade
Participation	10%
Exercises/Readings	25%
Narrative & Concept Project	15%
Native Planting Design Project	20%
Final Planting Design Project	30% (Divided among final and interim product submissions)

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

Required Course Readings:

A list of required course readings will be provided at the start of the semester. All required readings will be available via the UF Library, ARES, or Canvas.

Recommended Course Readings:

Planting Design:

- Reed and Stibolt (2018) Climate-wise Landscape Design
- Rainer and West (2015) Planting in a Post-Wild World
- Van Sweden, James (2011) The Artful Garden
- Myers, Mary Andrea Cochran: Landscapes
- Oudolf Piet Oudolf: Landscapes in Landscapes
- Gilles Clement (2015) The Planetary Garden and Other Writings
- Michael van Valkenburgh (2019) Designing a Garden: Monk's Garden at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Plant Technology:

- Nelson, Gil (2008) Florida's Best Native Landscape Plants
- Odenwald, N. and Turner, James (2000) Identification and Use of Southern Plants for Landscape Design, 3rd edition, Claitor's Publishing
- Watkins, Florida Landscape Plants
- Gilman, Florida Plant Guide Betrock Publishing
- The Florida-Friendly Landscaping Guide to Plant Selection and Landscape Design
- The Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Handbook
- The Florida Friendly Landscaping Pattern Book
- Adopting a Florida Friendly Landscape: Steps for Converting a Traditional Development Landscape to a Florida Friendly Landscape

Sustainability:

- Thompson and Sorvig, Sustainable Landscape Construction, 2nd ed., Island Press
- Calkins, The Sustainable Sites Handbook, Wiley
- Dunnett and Kingsbury, Planting Green Roofs and Living Walls, Timber Press

Computers and Applicable Software This is a list of the required software for this course:

- AutoCAD (the current release within the past 2 years)
- LandFX
- MS Office (Word, Excel and PowerPoint)

- Adobe Acrobat or Reader
- Adobe Photoshop and InDesign

Course Schedule

A course schedule will be provided at the start of the semester. All dates are subject to change and notice will be provided if changes are required.

Course Policies:

Attendance Policy: Attendance to class is mandatory and attendance will be taken at the beginning and end of each class. Up to 3 excused absences are permitted. Students must contact an instructor if they will not be attending class and will require an excused absence.

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 class discussions. Required readings must be completed prior to class. Timely completion of all assignments is expected. Late work will be penalized 10% per day unless there is an acceptable excuse for the late submission. Work submitted more than one week late will not be accepted. Assignments will be due at 11:59pm on the assigned deadline unless otherwise specified.

Course Technology: All course content will be available through Canvas, UF's online learning portal unless otherwise specified. Students may access this site at <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/> by logging in with their UF credentials. All assignments are to be submitted to Canvas unless otherwise indicated.

It is each students' responsibility to regularly back-up their computer files to a separate hard drive, flash drive or cloud-type storage. Weekly back-up is a recommended minimum frequency. Failing to do so is not considered an acceptable excuse to warrant an extension on a project deadline.

Students are expected to maintain a fully functioning email account for the entirety of the semester as this will be a critical form of communication. Daily review of email is expected if a notice is needed to be delivered to the class.

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 via Canvas. 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.). 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.

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.

If you require special arrangements for this class due to physical or health-related limitations, make an appointment with me as soon as possible so we can review your needs. This class may include field trips and/or walks around or near campus to observe designs and plants.

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. <http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

Evaluations: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-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. 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 class learning opportunities. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.*