
Urban Design Spring 2020

LAA 4353c: 6 credits

Class meets: MWF (8:30am – 11:30am)
and as required (site visits, presentations, workshops, etc. TBA)

Location: Arch 322 & Arch 316

Instructor: Alpa Nawre
Office Hours: Office hours by appointment.
Please email me to set a time
alpa.nawre@ufl.edu

Course Description

This studio explores the discipline of urban design and its relation to landscape architecture. The course focuses on sustainable built environments and urban place-making for marginalized communities. Topics include urban growth trends, development patterns, redevelopment strategies and infill approaches.

Course Objectives

The studio helps position landscape architects to become leaders in urban design processes. Students enrolled in this studio will expand on the skills and training in landscape architecture by exploring current trends in urban design theory, revisiting the fundamental tenants of historic and contemporary urban development models, refining skills in approaches to the systematic analysis of complex biological, human and geophysical environments while advancing the development of skills in urban design.

Students will strengthen skills in values-based design decision-making, employing an iterative process towards defensible solutions to real-world problems. They will learn to explore the impacts and implication of policy on urban and architectural form, and to respond sensitively and appropriately to local cultural and environmental contexts. Students will develop sustainable solutions to complex urban problems and will design safe, vibrant and healthy urban environments with the goal of creating urban environments that are both joyful and memorable for all urban communities.

Course Structure

This is a sixteen-week, full-semester course. The course includes lectures, group discussions and exercises, individual/team projects, and formal presentations. 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.

Textbook, Readings and Media

There is no required reading for this course. Readings will be distributed from time to time as necessary. A number of books are on course reserve in the library. Recommended references include:

Steiner, F, Thompson, G. F. & Carbonell A. **Nature & Cities: The ecological Imperative in Urban Design and Planning**. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. 2016
Krieger A. & Saunders W. **Urban Design**. University of Minnesota Press. 2008

Course Policies

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 class time not devoted to lectures and/or discussions is for you to make progress on your studio project(s), working independently or in teams. It is expected that you will be 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 is important. 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, and 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. Cell phones must not ring or be used during class times. If you have an emergency and must use your phone, please turn off your video, mute and rejoin the class when possible.

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. This course will be delivered through face to face instruction and live zoom sessions. Students are expected to turn on video and audio during online class activities. To protect the privacy of all course participants, class sessions may not be audio visually recorded.

However, some of our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Submission of Student Work

The Department of Landscape Architecture is required to maintain current archives of student-submitted work. 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 (PDF, word file, etc.). All files must follow the file naming protocol as follows:

course#/ course name / assignment number/ student name / file type <dot> (dwg/pdf/jpg)

Example: 4353UrbanDesAssig7Jagger

4ch 8ch 8ch 6ch

Use caps for separation
No spaces, hyphens, or underscoring

In cases of models and other 3-D work, high-quality (resolution, lighting, composition, etc) digital JPG photographs should be submitted

Late Submissions

Late submissions are not accepted. Late submissions will receive a full letter grade deduction for each 24 hour period past the deadline. If a student suffers undue hardship and is not able to meet a submission deadline, they may make a formal request for an extension to the course instructor prior to the deadline. The student must email the course instructor informing the instructor of the situation that warrants consideration for an exception (death in the family, serious illness documented as required by the University, etc.) and get permission from instructor to submit work late. Late submissions do not excuse missed presentations.

Grading Policies

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.

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 welcome to meet with the course instructor to discuss their performance and success in the course at any time.

We expect that all students should be able to accomplish a "B" grade, but will mark lower when a student does not show adequate understanding. "A" grades require exceptional quality, depth, synthesis of ideas, or creativity. Final letter grades will convert from numeric grade as follows:

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

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>.

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>

Course Evaluation

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/>.

Disclaimer

This syllabus represents our current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, these plans may need to change to enhance individual and group learning. Such changes are not unusual and should be expected.

GETTING HELP

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.

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#)

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.

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.](#)

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#)