



*Is estuary English the gentle echo of older speech or the raw edge of a new tongue?  
Now that aircraft fly the oceans, the edge of the land receives little attention.* (Stilgoe)

Premise 03: Florida as in-between: Florida is an environment of edges and betweenness, a place that is constantly reckoning with land and water, inside and outside, nature and human intervention. This betweenness is the context for practice in the Anthropocene.

#### OBJECTIVE / OUTCOME

This seminar seeks to discover and to understand placial and spatial interfaces between nature and the built environment. The resulting documentation and critical commentary will serve as a resource for 21<sup>st</sup> century practices of place-making, with a particular focus on Florida. Central to this objective and its outcomes is a Glossary of terms (language and structures)—a vocabulary of place, which records the enchantments and the responsibilities of occupying the peninsula in particular and the world's changing environment more broadly.

#### METHODS

Methods will include archival and field research, site visits, case study research, glossary construction (outlined by Lopez and Macfarlane), collaging, drawing, and writing.

#### RESOURCES

In addition to the places themselves, this seminar will access the following resources: maps, field guides, archives, literature (narrative nonfiction, poetry, and novels), scientific documents, journals, conservation guidelines, environmental impact statements and reports, engineering documents, travelogues and tourist and travel guides, Florida promotional literature (past and present), resource management documents.

#### THEMES

Problem statement: Are we as architects equipped with the language and precedents to work with nature now and in the future? I have long wondered what a *Shallow Water Dictionary* for Florida would look like. Unavoidably, such work engages Anthropocene exchanges between land and structure, between environment and building, between climate and change. I'd like to delve deeply into the natural substrate of this place to understand how we learn in, with, and from it as architects.

Salvage Operation: We might also understand this seminar as a kind of "salvage operation," to excavate, recover, and renew the language of land and words and structures that help us understand nature and navigate the Anthropocene. Our abilities to write about these places—and by extension our skills of design—are as fragile as the ecosystems themselves, as delicate a balance as the spaces we make between nature and architecture, between outside and inside. One objective will be to compile the language necessary not only to describe but to appreciate and engage with these tenuous, liminal places. As John Stilgoe writes: "The dictionary, a sort of salvage operation of words drifting from dictionary language, may serve to moor the terminology of estuary English. It is, however, mostly a cruise through an archipelago of half-sunken dictionaries, reference works touched with the drop-line of summer inquiry by a scholar intrigued with the death of topographical curiosity among the young, the young so absent from the marshes." (8-9)

Instruments: Stilgoe's vehicle was a small boat, and we will find additional vessels for navigating these linguistic waters and saturated lands of Florida.

Zones: Stilgoe's account focuses on the estuary. We will work there and in other ecosystems across the state of Florida, between the Atlantic and the Gulf. We will identify the environmental problems facing each zone: sea level rise along the coast, saltwater intrusion in the marsh, water loss in the interior, etc. How do these changes frame the urgency of language? Its necessary precision? Its newly minted terminology? And how do all of these questions necessarily connect with architectural work and, again, urgently confronted with projects, particularly in the way we might rethink "between" spaces, along edges where architecture meets nature. Within each zone, we will also seek out implicit and explicit architectures, whether designed, engineered, or conceived without architects or engineers, as responses to nature and to environmental change.

Overall Organization:

- Part 1: Land
- Part 2: Structure
- Part 3: Story

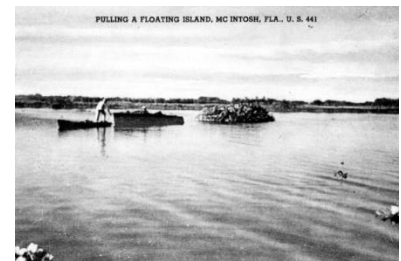
## Preliminary Glossaries”

Land: wrack, ghost trap, rampike, haulover, skinny water, ditch, hammock/hummock, littoral, salubrious, spoil, tombolos, trailing spit, key, karst, gin clear, hyacinth drift, dead river, green desert, diaphanous, sink, brackish, welaka (ylacco), Stick Marsh, south moon under, kettle

[Note: we’re using ‘land’ not as distinct from ‘water’ or ‘sea’ but broadly as ‘the surface of the earth and all its natural resources,’ and in its verb form, as in a boat landing to ‘go ashore,’ catching and ‘landing’ a fish, and, more broadly, ‘to alight on a surface’ whether land, water, or something in between. Further back, to its origins, we’re talking about ‘breaking ground’.]

Structure: bird rack, boat ramp, breakwater, icehouse, gutter, refuge house, skiff, porch, cut, jetty, sea-wall, midden, gypstack, pier, Fish Bowl, boom sidewalk, pine plantation, pontoon, glass bottom boat, floating dock, launch, landing, shipwreck, cabana, fulgurite

[Note: structures include all aspects of the built environment, whether engineered, designed, purpose-built. Structures can be as simple as a post planted in the saturated ground of an estuary or as complex as a floating nuclear power plant, like the one proposed on Blount Island in Jacksonville and modeled here at UF in the 1970s.]



## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

01: August 24: Introduction to seminar: Wading into skinny water and gathering maps

02: August 31: Language and place

Reading(s): John Stilgoe, *Shallow Water Dictionary*

03: September 7: Florida, Nature and the Anthropocene: Radical Reflection and Fugitive environmentalism

Readings: Daegan Miller, Reading in the Anthropocene; Kathryn Schulz essay in *The New Yorker* (5 July 2021); Wendell Berry, “Nature as Measure”; Bill McKibben, excerpt from *The End of Nature*; Barbara Kingsolver, *Introduction to Sand County Almanac*

04: September 14: Land: Glossaries and place

Readings: Selections from Casey; Macfarlane, “Guide to Glossaries” (381-2); Lopez, “Bibliographic Note” (499-503)

05: September 21: Land: Field work: From Broad to Specific: From Dictionaries to Florida context

Readings: selected readings from landscape dictionaries and encyclopedias; continued map research

06: September 28: Land: Field work

Reading(s): tbd

Work: Glossary (draft)

07: October 5: Structure: Architectures of the in-between

Cedar Key field trip

08: October 12: Structure: Field work

09: October 19: Structure: Field work

Work: Index of structures

10: October 26: Story: Narratives of Land and Structure

11: November 9: Story: Field work  
Atlantic Center for the Arts field trip

12: November 9: Story: Field work  
Work: Narratives

13: November 16: Florida Transect and discussion

14: November 23: NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)

15: November 30: Final presentations of work

16: December 7: NO CLASS (Final Reviews)

December 15: Final project due: Combines Glossary, Index, and Narratives with a 2,500-word commentary and bibliography.

#### GRADING and ATTENDANCE

The following breakdown will be used for final assessment and grading:

Contribution to class discussion	20
Weekly updates	20
Three short projects	30
Final project	30

Attendance is required for all seminars. Each unexcused absence will result in a reduction of the final grade by one letter point.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Absalonsen and Dean. *Atlas of Florida shoreline change since the 1800s* (2010)
- Arendt, Hannah. "Preface," *Between Past and Future*
- Bartram, William. *Travels*
- Bassett, Shannon. *Restitch Tampa* (Pallasmaa's essay on the "Sensuous City")
- Basso, Wisdom Sits in Places (particularly first and last part of last chapter)
- Belleville, Bill. *River of Lakes*
- Berry, Wendell. "Nature as Measure"
- Bierce, Ambrose. *The Cynic's Word Book*
- Bird, Eric. "Land and Sea Level Changes," Chapter 3, in *Coastal Geomorphology*
- Burton, Robert. *Anatomy of Melancholy*
- Casey, Edward. *The World on Edge*
- Christopherson, Robert. *Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography* (2006)
- Clay, Grady. *Real Places: An Unconventional Guide to America's Generic Landscapes* (1994)
- Dana, Richard Henry. *The Seaman's Friend*
- Desimini and Waldheim. *Cartographic Grounds: Projecting the Landscape Imaginary*
- Emerson, Ralph Waldo. *Books* ("Neither is a dictionary...a bad book to read. There is no can't in it, no excess of explanation, and it is full of suggestion, the raw material of possible poems and histories.")
- Emerson, Ralph Waldo. *Nature* ("words are signs of natural facts")
- ETH Studio Basel, *Territory: On the Development of Landscape and City*, chapter on Florida: "On the Development of Landscape and City"
- Faulkner, Glen L. *Geohydrology of the Cross-Florida Barge Canal*
- Haraway, Donna. "Carrier Bags for Critical Zones"
- Harrison, Stephan and Steve Pile, Nigel Thrift. *Patterned Ground: Entanglements of Nature and Culture* (2004)
- Howard, Luke. *Essay on the Modification of Clouds*
- Hufford, Mary. *One Space, Many Places: Folklife and Land Use in New Jersey's Pinelands National Reserve* (1986)
- Jamie, Kathleen. *Sightlines*
- Keller, Lynn. *Recomposing Ecopoetics: North American Poetry of the Self-Conscious Anthropocene*
- Kennedy, Stetson. *Palmetto Country*
- Kimmerer, Robin Wall. *Braiding Sweetgrass*
- Kingsolver, Barbara. *Introduction to Sand County Almanac*
- Kohak, Erazim. *The Embers and the Stars*

Kroker, Arthur and Marilouise. *Panic Encyclopedia*  
 Latour, Bruno. *Critical Zones: The Science and Politics of Landing on Earth*  
 Lopez, Barry. *Home Ground*  
 Macfarlane, Robert. *Landmarks*  
 Maracle, Lee. *Memory Serves*  
 Mathur, Anuradha. *Soak: Mumbai in an Estuary*  
 McKibben, Bill. *The End of Nature*  
 McPhee, John. "Atlantic Generating Station"  
 McPhee, John. *Basin and Range*  
 Meinig, Donald. *The Shaping of America*  
 Nute, Kevin. *This Here Now*  
 Rawlings, Marjorie Kinnan. *Cross Creek*  
 Rawlings, Marjorie Kinnan. *South Moon Under*  
 Reed, Chris and Nina-Marie Lister. *Projective Ecologies: Ecology, Research, and Design in the Climate Age*  
 Russo, Linda. *Counter-Deseccration: A Glossary for Writing Within the Anthropocene*  
 Schama, Simon. *Landscape and Memory*  
 Schulz, Kathryn. Essay in *The New Yorker* (5 July 2021)  
 Smailbegović, Ada. Poetic research texts <https://news.brown.edu/new-faculty/humanities/ada-smailbegovi>  
 Solnit, Rebecca. *Spirits of San Francisco*  
 Stewart, George. *Names on the Land* (1945)  
 Stilgoe, John. *Shallow Water Dictionary*  
 Thybony, Scott. *Dry Rivers and Standing Rocks* (2000)  
 Tolbert, Margaret. *Aquiferious*  
 Tuan, Yi-Fu. *Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience* (1977)  
 Varnum, John P. Florida, Its Climate, Productions, and Characteristics: A Handbook of Important and Reliable Information for the Use of the Tourist, Settler and Investor (Historic byways of Florida series)  
 Watts, May. *Reading the Landscape of America* (1975)  
 Wilson, E. O. *Biophilia*

#### DICTIONARIES

A Word Geography of the Eastern United States (Hans Kurath)  
 American Democrat (James Fenimore Cooper)  
 American Dictionary of the English Language (Webster)  
 American Encyclopedic Dictionary  
 Century Dictionary: An Encyclopedic Lexicon of the English Language  
 Dictionary of Sea Terms (Richard Henry Dana)  
 Dictionary of the English Language (Johnson)  
 Dictionary of the English Language (Worcester)  
 Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary of the English Language  
 Key into the Language of American (Williams)  
 New English Dictionary (Kersey)  
 New Standard Dictionary  
 Noah Webster's American Dictionary of the English Language (Chauncey A Goodrich)  
 Origins of Sea Terms (John G. Rogers)  
 Random House Dictionary of the English Language  
 Seaman's Friend: A Dictionary of Sea Terms (Dana)  
 The Dictionary of American Regional English (1985)  
 Thorndike-Century Junior Dictionary  
 Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language  
 Winston Dictionary: The Advanced Edition

David Thomas and Andrew Goudie, *The Dictionary of Physical Geography* (2000)  
 Robert L. Bates and Julia Jackson, *Glossary of Geology* (1997)  
 Walter Fraser McCulloch, *Woods Words: A Comprehensive Dictionary of Loggers Terms* (1959)  
 Terence Armstrong, *Illustrated Glossary of Snow and Ice* (1973)  
 Ruben Cobos, *A Dictionary of New Mexico and Southern Colorado Spanish* (2003)

ILLUSTRATIONS (page one, left to right) Margaret Ross Tolbert, *Entering the Springs*, Oil and mixed media on canvas, 90 x 90 inches, 2006; Cross section through Florida Barge Canal from Gulf of Mexico to Atlantic Ocean; Bird Rack in Gulf of Mexico, 1900; Wallace Stevens, *Nomad Exquisite*, 19. (page 4) "Pulling a Floating Island in McIntosh, Florida," ca. 1930, Florida Memory Collection.

## 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 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, Zoom Conferences, Miro Boards Canvas discussions and online chats. Please refer to the UF Netiquette guide for additional information:

[https://www.cise.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/CISE\\_Netiquette\\_Guide.pdf](https://www.cise.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/CISE_Netiquette_Guide.pdf)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

#### GETTING HELP

2. For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in CANVAS, please contact the UF Help Desk:
  - Email: [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu)
  - (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
  - Online: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Note: Any requests for make-ups or deadline extensions 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 or deadline extension.

### Counseling + Emergency Contacts

- University Police Department (UPD): 352.392.1111
- Gainesville Police Department: 352.334.2400
- Alachua County Sheriff's Office: 352.955.2500
- UF Counseling and Wellness Center (3190 Radio Road): 352.392.1575 or <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>
- Alachua County Victim Services and Rape Crisis Center (24hrs/day): 352.264.6760 or 866.252.5439
- Center for Sexual Assault / Abuse Recovery Education (CARE), Infirmary Room 245: 352.392.1161 x.4231
- Alachua County Crisis Center + Suicide Intervention Counseling (24 hrs/day): 352.264.6789
- Student Nighttime Auxiliary Patrol (SNAP) free transportation: 352.392.SNAP

### Our Commitment to Diversity

The University of Florida is committed to creating a community that reflects the rich racial, cultural, and ethnic diversity of the state and nation. No challenge that exists in higher education has greater importance than the challenge of enrolling students and hiring faculty and staff who are members of our country's diverse groups. This pluralism enriches the university community, offers robust academic dialogues, and contributes to better teaching and research. The University benefits from the richness of a multicultural student body, faculty, and staff who can learn from and support one another. Diversity and inclusion empower and inspire respect and understanding among us. Importantly, the University does not tolerate the actions of anyone who violates the rights of another person. Through policy and practice, the university strives to embody a diverse and inclusive community, creating a university that truly reflects the greatness of our state and nation.

## GRADING POLICIES

### Grading Scale

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

The current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found at

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

An incomplete grade may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor as an interim grade only in cases of extreme extenuating circumstances. Note that the incomplete grade must be resolved prior to enrolling in Architectural Design Six.