

Geodesign Practicum I (DCP4945, 5 Credit Hours)

Section 1. Course Basics

Class Meets: Tuesday and Thursday (Periods 5-7) 11:45-2:45

Delivery Method: In-Person (100%)

Class Room: FAC 202

Instructors

Dr. Ruth Steiner, rsteiner@ufl.edu

Dr. Emre Tepe, emretepe@ufl.edu

Office Hours

Dr. Ruth Steiner: Mondays from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm or by appointment

Dr. Emre Tepe: Tuesdays from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm or appointment

Meetings will be administered virtually through Zoom or in-person.

Required Text

Davarian L. Baldwin (2021) *In the Shadow of the Ivory Tower: How Universities Are Plundering Our Cities*, Bold Type Books, ISBN: 9781568588919.

Additional Reference

Steinitz, C. (2012). *A Framework for Geodesign: Changing Geography by Design*. Esri Press, Redlands, CA. 224 pp. ISBN: 9781589483330.

<https://esripress.esri.com/display/index.cfm?fuseaction=display&websiteID=218&moduleID=0>

Course Description

The main goal of the Geodesign Practicum is to provide a project-based approach to geodesign, a collaborative, decision-support discipline serving a diversity of public and private sector stakeholders in the planning, design, construction, occupation, and management of built environments across the natural-to-urban transect.

Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills

There are no prerequisites for this course. Experience in data collection and analysis, technical writing, visualization and modeling, and collaboration are considered valuable knowledge and skills for this course.

Course Goals and/or Objectives

Course assignments explore the geography of land use change and the role of the design process in considering alternative future scenarios and their potential outcomes and impacts in strategic social-ecological systems.

- Learn the rationale for, and skillfully apply, geodesign in support of more sustainable built environments.

- Explore geodesign assessment and intervention methods applicable to temporal and spatial problem solving.
- Apply geodesign principles to a challenge in the Gainesville community.
- Illustrate the use of geodesign in a practical context.

How This Course Relates to the Student Learning Outcomes

As a course in the Sustainability and the Built Environment (SBE) program, the Geodesign Practicum allows students to apply knowledge and skills in the field, typically with existing projects and relates to all student learning outcomes. These are:

- Learn the fundamentals of resilience (and systems) thinking and practice.
- Better understand temporal and spatial relationships of an urban phenomenon.
- Explore the role of equity and social impact in the application of urban planning.
- Critically think about the role of urban planning in the sustainability and resilience of strategic social-ecological systems.
- Develop the professional skills necessary for collaboration, workload distribution, and decision-making under uncertainty within individual and team settings.
- Demonstrate an understanding of human settlement, historical and contemporary practice, and policy and processes relevant to community resilience concepts and theories.
- Demonstrate oral, written, and critical thinking skills required of SBE students within their area of specialization.
- Display ethical behaviors, cultural sensitivity, teamwork, professional conduct and communication.

Section 2. Course Policies

Attendance Policy: Mandatory, on time.

Make-up Policy: On time submissions are extremely critical for this course. Therefore, there is no predefined make-up policy for the late submissions. Please contact instructors in case of any missed or late submissions (preferably in advance).

Course Technology: There is no specific software selected for this course. However, students may need to consider using some or all of the following software: ArcGIS, QGIS, and Powerpoint. All submissions must be prepared electronically.

Section 3. Course Details

Assignments

Grades will be based on the four assignments:

Assignment 1. Class Participation (20%)

Assignment 2. Proposal for Final Project (10%)

Assignment 3. Draft Story Map (25%)

Assignment 4. Final Story Map and Presentation (45%)

Grading Scale: The instructors expect that all students should be able to accomplish the basic requirements for the course—a “B” grade, but do not hesitate to mark lower when the student does not meet a minimal standard for graduate-level work. “A” grades require performance beyond the minimum or average—e.g., quality, depth, synthesis of ideas, originality or creativity. Meeting deadlines matters too! The University of Florida allows instructors to give the following grades: A, A-, B+, B, B-, etc. A grade of “A-” on a specific assignment may indicate that the work is close to an “A” but the “A-” will be averaged with other grades to determine the final grade. An “A-” means that a student almost, but not quite, achieved “A” work. The following UF grading scale will be used to determine your final letter grade:

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E	WF	I	NG	S-U
% Range	>93	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	<60				
Grade Point	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0	0	0	0	0

Section 4: Course Schedule

1. Draft version of video (or a story map)
 - a. Drafting a first version of a final project outcome
 - b. Presenting the outcome to external reviewers
2. Final version of video (or a story map) and presentation
 - a. Finalizing the final project outcome
 - b. Presenting the outcome to audience.

In this course, students will participate URP6341 weekly meetings. Tentative weekly course plan will be posted on Canvas. Students will be added to URP6341 Canvas Course page. As the weeks pass, the instructors will update this schedule based upon recommendations about people who would help us to understand how to think about this project. In addition, guest speakers and the instructors will occasionally present lectures throughout the semester relevant to the work of the studio. Thus, the schedule will become more specific as we proceed through the semester.

UF Policies:

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Policy on Academic Conduct: The university's honesty policy regarding cheating, plagiarism, etc. Suggested wording: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." [The Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Netiquette: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Refer to [Netiquette Guidelines](#) for more details.

Student 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. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner.](#) 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 ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.](#)

Add/Drop policy: University policies on such matters as add/drop, incomplete, academic probation, termination of enrollment, reinstatement, and other expectations or procedures can be found in the graduate student handbook and at the Dean of Students website.

COVID related practices: We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
- This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated

seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.

- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms](#).
 - Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies](#).
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The university's honesty policy regarding cheating and plagiarism: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Honor Code](#). Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Getting Help:

For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>
- (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk 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.

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

- *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](#).

Academic Resource

- *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](#).