

Department of Landscape Architecture  
College of Design, Construction & Planning  
University of Florida

LAA 2376c - Design Communication 1

4 Credit hours

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Fall 2021

Office: Arch 430

CIRAC Lab, ARC 116

Office Hours: 10am-12pm TH, by appointment

10:40 - 12:35 MWF

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Prerequisites: None, Course is open to all students

# REVEALING LANDSCAPES

## Overview:

The impact of the work we do as landscape architects depends on our ability to visually convey our ideas to others (teammates, clients, consultants, the public). The means we have at our disposal are pens, pencils, paper and computers through which we explore landscapes conceptually and physically.

This course will explore drawing as a way of understanding and shaping what we experience in the landscape. We will explore drawing not only as a way to represent fully formed landscapes or ideas, but as a tool for seeing and understanding space, movement, objects and conditions. Students will be introduced to sketching, perspectival drawing and projective drawing. The primary goal of the course is to train students' eye and hand in representing landscapes and to expose them to multiple media and techniques used to communicate landscape work.

## Objectives:

- To develop the ability to "see" and graphically describe landscapes.
- To develop the ability to recognize spatial relationships and to articulate the physical environment graphically.
- To develop the ability to clearly and effectively convey concepts in both analog and digital format.
- To develop confidence in your graphic skills.

## Format:

On Mondays and Wednesdays, lectures or demonstrations will be held, and assignments will be introduced in class. On Mondays we will also review previous weeks' assignments as a group (pin-up). Feedback will be provided verbally by the instructor and the students. It is critical to attend and take notes. On Fridays we will either hold in-class workshops, or meet outdoors for field-sketching.

Student work should be pinned-up before the beginning of class (10:40). Work not on display by 10:40 will be considered late! If you have to miss class, please ask a classmate to submit your work for you.

Students are required to keep a sketchbook. There will be a weekly sketching exercise alongside the work you do in class which should also be presented at the beginning of each week. The sketchbook will be submitted at the end of the semester for evaluation and will be returned later.

## Content:

All course content will be available through CANVAS, UF's online learning portal. Students may access this site at <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/> by logging in with their UF credentials. Under LAA2376c, links to the course materials will be available on the course website including assignments, tutorials, reference, etc. All assignments are to be submitted to CANVAS unless otherwise indicated.

## Grading:

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	100-93	92-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-67	66-63	62-60	59-0

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 Percentages:

Participation	5%	Assignment #5_Photoshop rendered plan & section	10%
Assignment #1_Sketchbook	15%	Assignment #6_Illustrator diagrams	10%
Assignment #2_Experimental drawings	10%	Exercise 6.1_Illustrator basic	2.5%
Assignment #3_Hand rendering plan & section	10%	Exercise 6.2_Illustrator basic	2.5%
Assignment #4_Photoshop collages	10%	Assignment #7_Hybrid illustration	10%
Exercise 4.1_Photoshop basic	2.5%	Assignment #8_Indesign booklet	10%
Exercise 4.2_Photoshop basic	2.5%		

## Assignment Components:

### Participation

Includes attendance, completion of in-class exercises, positive contributions to class, and ACTIVE involvement in class discussions/critiques/tutorial demonstrations.

### Assignment #1\_Sketchbook

This is a weekly sketching exercise throughout the Fall semester. You are required to keep a sketchbook, to fill 3-5 pages (6"x8") each week with your outdoor space perspectives, book reviews, tree/person/vehicular exercises, and others. The goal is to establish the habit of sketching, to train your eye and hand in representing landscapes, to draw your idea/concept down on a paper. Detail requirements see assignment handout.

### Assignment #2\_Experimental drawings

You will go out and sketch in the field! Students are asked to study a linear park by observing/revealing a series of cross sections along the path, using 6B pencil on 11x14" drawing papers; by compositing site photos into one single

photomontage to holistically present the student's impression of the park. Detail requirements see assignment handout.

### **Assignment #3\_Hand rendering plan & section**

This assignment is to understand basic landscape design graphics(plan and section); to get familiar with color pencils, this most popular-used media in landscape design offices. You will render one landscape plan (11"x17") and one section (11"x17") for a garden/park, using color pencils and a drawing pen (if needed).

### **Assignment #4\_Photoshop collage**

This assignment deals with combining photographic image components to assemble one single perspective, to communicate a clear design message. Detail requirements see assignment handout.

### **Assignment #5\_Photoshop rendered plan & section**

This assignment deals with basic color rendering techniques using Adobe Photoshop, with particular attention to selections, transparency, texture and layer management. Detail requirements see assignment handout.

### **Assignment #6\_Illustrator diagrams**

This assignment deals with basic diagramming and analysis techniques using Adobe Illustrator, with particular attention to line, shape, symbol and layer management. Detail requirements see assignment handout.

### **Assignment #7\_Hybrid illustration**

This assignment focuses on the integration among hand drawing, illustrator and photoshop, to develop digital hybrid drawings. Detail requirements see assignment handout.

### **Assignment #8\_Indesign booklet**

This assignment deals with basic portfolio design using Adobe InDesign. All the work from this semester will be composed together as a final booklet. Detail requirements see assignment handout.

## Assignment Submission

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. 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 (Sakai, CD, PDF, word file, etc.). However, all files must be named as follows:

**course# name project\_student name. dwg/pdf/jpg/ai/indd...**

Example: 2376PlantDesAssig10\_Smith

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.

## Class Attendance:

Attendance is required. In the event that a student is unable to attend class due to extenuating circumstances such as illness, or emergencies, the student shall notify the instructor prior (via email) to the start of class. Students must provide documentation regarding the absence (i.e. doctor's note). Failure to notify the instructor of an intended absence could result in a full letter grade reduction for the final grade in the course. Three or more absences without notification or documentation will result in a failing grade for the course. Tardiness (more than 15 minutes after class begins) will count as a half absence.

All decisions regarding approved or accepted requests for absence from the class shall be at the discretion of the instructor.

Due to the nature of the course, active and engaged participation is expected and contributes to the student's final grade in the course.

Students should not use the computers unless instructed and should never use cell phones during class. The instructor reserves the right to ask disruptive students to leave, which will count as an unexcused absence.

### Class Preparation:

Always make sure you have your work with you so you can participate in the in-class exercises. No accommodations or extensions will be made for students who are not prepared. In addition to having your project work with you, please make sure you are also fully prepared with any other materials needed for class *before* class starts (i.e., print-outs, rolls of trace paper, drawing utensils, etc.).

### Policy For Make-up Exams or Other Miss Work:

Late submissions are strongly discouraged. Late submissions will receive a full letter grade deduction for each day past the deadline. Work submitted more than *two week late will not be accepted.*

All assignments (both in digital and hardcopy form) are due before the start of class unless otherwise noted.

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) with documentation as required by the University.

*IMPORTANT:* Accommodations will NOT be made due to lost data, nor will there be granted any last-minute extensions on account of workload.

### Getting Help:

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Sakai, 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.

### Academic Honesty:

The University requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. When students enroll at UF they commit themselves to honesty and integrity. Your instructor fully expects you to adhere to the academic honesty guidelines you signed when you were admitted to UF. In completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement:

*"I understand the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University."*

Furthermore, on work submitted for credit by all UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied:

*"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

It is to be assumed that all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as a group project by the professor. 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.

The University Honor Code and the Department of Landscape Architecture Academic Honesty Policy are to be followed to the letter. 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.

For more information, see <http://www.chem.ufl.edu/~itl/honor.html> and the Department of Landscape Architecture Academic Honesty Policy.

### Student Accommodations:

Students with disabilities requesting classroom accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://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.

### Counseling Resources:

Students experiencing crisis or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. Both the Counseling Center and Student Mental Health provide confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. The Counseling Center is located at 301 Peabody Hall (next to Criser Hall). Student Mental Health is located on the second floor of the Student Health Services in the Infirmary. For further information on services and how to make an appointment, call the Counseling Center at 392-1575 or Student Mental Health at 392-1171. See the following web sites for additional resources: Counseling Center: [www.counsel.ufl.edu](http://www.counsel.ufl.edu) and Student Mental Health:

<http://www.hsc.ufl.edu/shcc/smhs.htm>

### 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.

### Evaluations:

Students in this class are participating in the pilot evaluation of the new course evaluation system called GatorEvals. The new evaluation system is designed to be more informative to instructors so that teaching effectiveness is enhanced and to be more seamlessly linked to UF's CANVAS learning management system. Students can complete their evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/> . Please note your other classes this semester may be evaluated in the current GatorRater online evaluation system at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu> . Thank you for serving as a partner in this important effort.

### Disclaimer:

This syllabus represents our current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

### Readings:

**LinkedIn Learning Tutorials** are an incredible resource available to UF students and this class will take full advantage of them.

### Books:

Connecting to UF Library Resources from Off Campus <https://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/offcampus>

1. Paul Laseau, *Freehand Sketching: An Introduction*, Wiley, 1999
2. Grant W. Reid, *Landscape Graphics*, Revised edition, Watson-Guption Publications, 2002
3. Norman Crowe, Paul Laseau, *Visual Notes for Architects and Designers*, Wiley, 2012 ([Online](#))\*
4. Francis D.K. Ching, *Architectural Graphics*, VNR
5. Catherine Dee, *Form and Fabric in Landscape Architecture*, Spon Press, 2001([Online](#))
6. Catherine Dee, *To Design Landscape : Art, Nature & Utility*, Taylor and Francis, 2012 ([Online](#))
7. Edward Hutchison, *Drawing for Landscape Architecture*, Thames & Hudson, 2011
8. Allan B. Jacobs, *Great Streets*, The MIT Press, 1996
9. Laurie Olin, *Across the Open field*, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2000 ([Online](#))
10. Chip Sullivan, *Drawing the landscape*, Wiley, 2014 ([Online](#))
11. Tony Bertauski, *Plan Graphics for the Landscape Designer*, 2nd ed. Pearson 2007
12. Trudi Entwistle & Edwin Knighton, *Visual Communication for Landscape Architecture*, AVA 2013
13. Nadia Amoroso, *Representing Landscapes: A Visual Collection of Landscape Architectural Drawings*, Routledge 2012 ([Online](#))\*
14. Nadia Amoroso, *Representing Landscapes: analogue*, Routledge 2019 ([Online](#))
15. Bradley Cantrell & Natalie Yates, *Modeling the Environment: Techniques and Tools for the 3D Illustration of Dynamic Landscapes*, Wiley 2012 ([Online](#))

16. Bradley Cantrell & Wes Michaels, Digital Drawing for Landscape Architecture, Second edition, Wiley 2015(Online)
17. Charles Waldheim & Andrea Hansen, Composite Landscapes: Photomontage and Landscape Architecture, Hatje Cantz Verlag 2014
18. Tim Richardson, Landscape and garden design sketchbooks, Thames & Hudson 2015
19. Daniel Tal, Sketchup for site design : a guide to modeling site plans, terrain and architecture (Online)
20. Elizabeth Boults and Chip Sullivan, Illustrated history of landscape design (Online)
21. Landscape Architecture Documentation Standards : Principles, Guidelines, and Best Practices., Somerset : Wiley, 2016 (Online)
22. James Richards, Freehand drawing and discovery : urban sketching and concept drawing for designers, Wiley, 2013. (Online)

### Computer and Software requirement:

Students' laptops/computers and software should follow the department requirements. The requirements see 'Laptop Requirements' on the bottom of the page <https://dcp.ufl.edu/landscape/academics/>.

Adobe CC is required for this course. Students could EITHER purchase Adobe CC suite subscription installed in their own laptop/computer. See <https://software.ufl.edu/software-listings/adobe-discounted-for-students.html> for UF student discounted subscription of Adobe CC (\$140 for 12-month subscription; \$77 for 6-month subscription). OR students could use Adobe CC in any CIRCA LAB computers.

Adobe Acrobat

Google earth pro

### Schedule:

#### **Hand sketching**

- |            |                                |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| Week 1 & 2 | Introduction + Field sketching |
| Week 3 & 4 | Experimental drawings          |
| Week 5 & 6 | Descriptive drawings           |

#### **Digital drawings**

- |              |                                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Week 7       | Introduction to Adobe CC            |
| Week 8       | Photoshop collages                  |
| Week 9 & 10  | Photoshop rendered plan and section |
| Week 11 & 12 | Illustrator diagram                 |
| Week 13      | Hybrid illustration                 |
| Week 14      | Thanksgiving week                   |
| Week 15 & 16 | InDesign                            |