

Fall 2021
LAA 6656

University of Florida Department of Landscape Architecture
Advanced Landscape Architecture Studio

SYLLABUS

Instructor: Alpa Nawre, Assistant Professor
Office: Architecture 442
Office Hours: By appointment, Email at alpa.nawre@ufl.edu

Classroom: 322 (south side), Architecture Building
Class Meeting Days: Mondays (M) & Wednesdays (W)
Class Periods: 2, 3, 4 & 5 (8:30am to 9:20am, 9:35am to 10:25am, 10:40am to 11:30am & 11:45am to 12:35pm)

Purpose:

This course provides the opportunity to explore a comprehensive design problem, seeking solutions that meet aesthetic, cultural, environmental and functional objectives unique to a region.

Objectives:

The objectives of the course are:

- To analyze a project site in the context of a developing country and summarize the findings in a succinct way that supports design conceptualization.
- To gain an understanding of unique factors important to design decision-making in projects that deal with critical public landscapes.
- To clearly communicate design solutions through graphic, written, digital and oral techniques.

Project Description:

Landscape architects have a major role to play in overcoming issues of social equity and challenges that face marginalized communities across the world. The design of public landscapes at both site and system scale is a global concern and India provides a rich venue to experiment and explore relevant design solutions to address this concern. The studio will address the understanding of public landscapes for underserved communities as multi-functional rich venues through lectures/discussions/mappings. Through the studio, students will gain a thorough understanding of design issues in the context of a developing country; ability to work at multiple scales in multi-ethnic context and the design tools for designing flexibility through use and time.

Evaluations:

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 attendance, individual accomplishments, contribution to group projects and active participation and engagement in course activities.

Attendance:

Attendance at all course meetings, discussions, presentations and activities is mandatory. 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 instructor and will be decided on a case-by-case basis. 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.

While this is primarily an on-campus face-to-face class, certain portions of the course may be online or delivered virtually to facilitate critiques and discussions with practitioners and experts in various geographic locations. Since we will be collaborating and working with partners in India, virtual learning will be an integral part of this course. A virtual exchange workshop is planned with MLA students from BNCA, Pune, India. Students are expected to keep their videos on during all virtual class sessions.

Expectations related to COVID:

In response to COVID-19, the following are expected to maintain a safe learning environment:

- Please wear approved face coverings at all times during class. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom. Enforcing these practices is a part of all of our responsibility, especially in the face of increasing cases due to the Delta variant.
- 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.
- 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](#).

For any virtual component of the course, please note that our class sessions may be audio visually recorded, if needed for any reason. Any intentions to record class will be announced prior to commencing. For these sessions, 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 for these sessions, 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 for these sessions. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during these classes, 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.

Studio Projects:

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.

Course Structure:

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 in-studio working sessions to allow ample time for progression and production activities. The Fall semester calendar includes a number of holidays and other scheduling challenges. Any changes in schedule will be announced in class or via the course canvas page.

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 will be evaluated. 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.

Exploring ideas in Design:

There are few absolutes in design problems. "Solving" a problem means exploring options and arriving at a solution that best meets the objectives of the project. But arriving at "the solution" requires exhaustive exploration. The instructor will assist you in your process and challenge you with different perspectives and alternatives. If you are confused or unclear about any direction you receive during desk critiques, please ask for clarification.

Developing Your Process:

Be prepared and organized for your design critiques, whether individual or in group. Be clear and articulate about how you have developed your work over the course of previous design critiques and discussions. Have new work to present at each class meeting. Design critiques are not meant to give you the answers to design problems, but are an opportunity to engage in analytical and problem-solving processes and to challenge yourself to understand and master new approaches and solutions. Instructor is not required to provide feedback to students who are unprepared or have made no progress.

Plagiarism:

This and all LA courses are aware of the problems of plagiarism in general. It is the nature of design to not reinvent the wheel unnecessarily, to creatively build upon successful precedents, and to collaborate. To work in a vacuum and demand strictly original ideas from oneself is highly unlikely to occur in any design field. So what is appropriate "building" and what is plagiarism? From the LA policy:

1. Plagiarism/misrepresentation

There shall be no question of what is your work and what is someone else's. This applies to all aspects of student performance, including but not limited to: CAD drawings and construction details, design guidelines (written and graphic), design, planning, and management projects or portions of projects, class reports and papers (again, both written and graphic information), any assignment where sole authorship is indicated, such as take-home tests, individual projects, etc. Examples of inappropriate activities include: copying graphics for a report without crediting the original source, representing someone else's work as your own (using existing CAD construction details, tracing drawings, etc.), allowing someone else to represent your work as his own.

2. Multiple submissions of the same or similar work without prior approval

If the instructors understand that you are doing a paper associated with your thesis or senior project topic, then doing similar work for two different classes is acceptable - if the instructors agree to it. If a single paper is submitted for one class, then later is submitted for another, and the instructors expect original work, then the multiple submission is inappropriate.

3. Falsifying information

Examples include: misrepresenting reasons why work cannot be done as requested changing or leaving out data, such as manipulating statistics for a research project, or ignoring/hiding inconvenient but vital site information. (However, for educational purposes only, certain aspects of the "real world" may be jointly agreed upon as not being pertinent to the academic goals of the course, such as not dealing with specific project parameters or budget, changing the program, etc.), altering work after it has been submitted; hiding, destroying, or otherwise making materials unavailable (hiding reference materials, not sharing materials with other students, etc.).

For this course, it is important to indicate source(s) for graphics and other information, acknowledge direct quotes and use of information even if it is paraphrased, and indicate if an image or drawing is your work or someone else's.

COURSE POLICIES

Minimum Grade Required:

A minimum grade of C is mandatory. Any grade lower than C means the course must be retaken to achieve a C or higher. A student may only take the course over once. If on the second attempt a C or better is not earned, the student will be dropped from the program. All University procedures for grade petitions still apply.

Materials:

Drafting/Drawing Equipment including a 12, 18 or 24 inch roll of tracing paper, Computer with CAD and other graphic software. Rendering materials.

Submission of Student Work:

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 (Canvas, CD, PDF, word file, etc.). In cases of 3-D models, digital JPG photographs should be submitted.

All files must be named as follows:

(Course#Name)(Project+Description)(Student-Lastname).(jpg)

Example: 2360PrincLADiagPlnWeesner.jpg

4ch 8ch 8ch 6ch (ch = letter characters)

- Use CAPS for Separation
- Save images in JPG format at a maximum 200 resolution
- *No spaces, hyphens, or underscoring*
- Drawings submitted incorrectly or in an incorrect file format will be rejected and you will need to resubmit.

Texts, Software and Other Resources

This course will utilize the UF’s e-learning Canvas site. Announcements, Course Calendar, Grades, Discussions, and Course Resources will be posted to this site. It is expected that you will login into and check-in on the site periodically and to retrieve course resources and required readings. This course has no required textbook and recommended readings will be posted over the course of the semester. It is expected that all assigned readings will be completed and students will be prepared to discuss the readings at the beginning of the class.

UF POLICIES

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
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

For greater detail, see the Registrar’s Grade Policy regulations at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Student Accommodations:

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 accommodations. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Academic Honesty:

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 (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-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: Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. For a description of what is expected and what will occur as a result of improper behavior see <http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>.

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.

University’s Syllabus Policy

The University’s complete Syllabus Policy can be found at:

http://www.aa.ufl.edu/Data/Sites/18/media/policies/syllabi_policy.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/>.

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](#)

