LAA 6656 Advanced Landscape Architectural Design Studio: Landscape Planning and Design in the Orlando metropolitan area
Department of Landscape Architecture
University of Florida
Arc 316 Studio and via Zoom, T/Th 8:30a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Murtha/Chen
Spring Semester 2022
6 credits, Prerequisite – LAA 6382 or permission of instructors

Course Syllabus

Purpose
this complex project design investigates the relationship between settlement pattern, land and water management decision making processes and the ecological conditions of a 28 square mile (18,000 acre) area in the greater Orlando metropolitan area centered on the town of Apopka. The studio will be organized around teams of 3-5 students, each team exploring, at a range of scales, different possible futures for the study area and the influence of these futures on the physical structure, ecological functions and social dynamics of a community of people making their homes and earning their livelihoods in the central portion of Florida.

Goals
emphasizing user issues, ecological concerns and regional and cultural issues, to demonstrate that real choices are made everyday that effect the long term viability of human settlements and the biotic and abiotic systems on which these depend; to clarify the opportunities for definition of desirable future landscape conditions and to set out ways to achieve these conditions; to articulate the effects of different landscape patterns and management practices on key ecological and cultural functions.

Objectives at the conclusion of the course the student will be familiar with the following:

working to envision possible future metropolitan form and conditions at the scale of a parcel, a neighborhood, and a landscape;
ways to gauge the effect of various settlement pattern forms and management practices on ecological and cultural processes;
the role of change, disturbance and adaptability in influencing landscape dynamics;
how to sift through and synthesize relevant, expert-based information in the making of well-informed alternative landscape plans

Techniques the course will employ fieldtrips, digital tools, as well as faculty and guest lectures to support team and individual student design and planning projects
the studio will use studio space in the Architecture Building and Zoom.

Facilities

Expectations and Grading

Unlike many other courses, *most of the work for this studio will be done in teams of 3-5 students. Please be advised that we will expect you to have formed teams of this size, in which you will remain for the duration of the term, by Tuesday January 12. Unless otherwise stated, you will conduct all work requested in these teams.* Also, as a studio student at this curricular level, you are expected to take increasing responsibility for your own education. This bears on our expectations, which are set forth below.

All students are expected to **attend studio** from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. T/Th, and to conduct the substantial portion of their work for this course in the studio environment. In that regular team/studio meetings will be an indispensable part of studio operations, attendance is critical to studio success. Exceptions to this policy will be rare.

All students are expected to complete work as described in written problem statements on time and in toto. Late work will have an effect on a student's evaluation, as noted* below. Emergencies and other compelling circumstances will, of course, alter this policy.

All students are expected to attend and present at all mid-term and final reviews, as well as all studio pin-ups and desk crits.

A final note: There are, particularly in the early phases of the studio, two tracks we will pursue. The first is to help us "tool up" on relevant issues in the study area, with special emphasis on understanding the issues of the place and communities who make their lives here. The second is using the information we glean from this and other sources to develop visions for future land use that meets human needs and maintains ecological functions. This dual track circumstance may lead to an occasionally schizophrenic quality to the studio. We acknowledge the need to coordinate these two tracks, and welcome your suggestions for improving coordination.

Technical Support

All students are required to sign up for a UF Dropbox account, and we strongly recommend a minimum 64 bit computer and require that each student have a 3TB external disk.

**Schedule and Basis for Grades**

Assignments will be produced through a combination of group and individual work. There are 4 distinct assignments plus a peer evaluation that comprise the studio:
ASSIGNMENTS | ESTIMATED DATES | PERCENT OF GRADE
--- | --- | ---
Assignment One – Characterizing the Study Area | January 6 - 18 | 5%
Assignment Two – Study Area and Sub-Area Plans | January 18 – March 1 | 40%
Assignment Three – Plan Evaluation Modeling | March 3 – March 29 | 40%
Assignment Four – Project Synthesis | March 31 – April 20 | 5%
Peer Evaluation | January 6 – April 20 | 10%

**Grading Scale**
The following scale and associated letter grades will be used in this course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>D-</th>
<th>E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Numeric Grade</td>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>0-59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Points</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.33</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For greater detail, see the Registrar’s Grade Policy regulations at [http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html](http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html)

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.

*Every attempt must be made to submit work on the date it is due. A grade reduction of 10% per day will occur unless there is an acceptable excuse for the late submittal presented in advance of the due date.

Attendance at all class meetings is expected. If for some reason you are not able to attend, please be sure to notify both instructors in advance.

All presentations will be assembled using MS Powerpoint. The final presentation is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 20 during what would be our regular class meeting time. Please note this could change.

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 via email. Files are to be named as follows:

course# name project name. dwg/pdf/jpg/
Example: 3352PlantDesAssig10Smith

Use caps for separation
No spaces, hyphens, or underscoring
A few useful references:

Links for Urban Natural Resources Management and Ecological Restoration
*Links are periodically updated but subject to change. Perform web searches as needed for updated links.*

**Stream Restoration Websites**
[http://www.epa.gov/owow/restore/](http://www.epa.gov/owow/restore/)

**Urban Stormwater/Low Impact Development**
Puget Sound Action Team: [http://www.psat.wa.gov/Publications/Pub_Master.htm](http://www.psat.wa.gov/Publications/Pub_Master.htm)
Follow link to Stormwater Runoff/Low Impact Development and download the publication: Low Impact Development: Technical guidance manual for Puget Sound

**Urban Ecology LTERs (Long-Term Ecological Research Stations)**
Central Arizona - Phoenix LTER: [http://capler.asu.edu/](http://capler.asu.edu/)
Land Stewardship Programs
Forest legacy program national:
http://www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/programs/loa/flp.shtml

Other Websites
The Ecological Cities Project http://www.umass.edu/ecologicalcities/
The Center for Watershed Protection
http://www.cwp.org/Resource_Library/Restoration_and_Watershed_Stewardship/

Resources by urban topic:
DENSITY


TRANSPORTATION


NEIGHBORHOODS


PARKING
STREET DESIGN


WATER


USEFUL INTERNET LINKS SPECIFIC TO FLORIDA
Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project
http://www.fnai.org/clip.cfm
Office of Greenways and Trails Florida Ecological Network website
http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/about/ecological.htm
Conservation Trust for Florida Greenways Program website
http://www.conserveflorida.org/index.php/greenways-program.html
1000 Friends of Florida Florida Ecological Network History and Programming Article
1000 Friends of Florida Tools for Protecting Florida’s Working Landscapes Article
Florida Forever Needs Assessment
http://www.fnai.org/FlForever.cfm
Bureau of Economic and Business Research Information
http://www.bebr.ufl.edu/start
Florida Rural Land Stewardship Area Program
http://www.dca.state.fl.us/fdep/dcp/ruralandstewardship/
Florida Forever Coalition website
http://www.supportfloridaforever.org/
Florida 2060 human population projection
http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org/planning/2060.asp
1000 Friends of Florida Working to Sustain Florida’s Rural and Natural Lands Report
http://www.1000friendsofflorida.org/planning/ruralreport.asp
1000 Friends of Florida Wildlife Habitat Planning Strategies Manual
http://www.floridahabitat.org/wildlife-manual
UF Policies

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 (http://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.”

Disabled Students requesting 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.

Counseling Resources
Students experiencing crisis or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx, 392-1575. Please call the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

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.

Online 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, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.