LAA 1330: Site Analysis *for Geodesign*, Sections (SBE1 & 3H18)

Fall 2022 | 3 Credits [100% Online]

*Adopted from Landscape Architecture Site Analysis LAA 1330 Course

Instructor: Azza Kamal, PhD, LEED AP ND | Program in Sustainability and the Built Environment (SBE), and Department of Urban and Regional Planning College of Design, Construction and Planning (DCP) | University of Florida.

Instructor’s Office: ARCH 132 | UF Building #0268

Instructor’s Contacts & Office Hours: Preferred: Canvas email

Alternative: O: (352) 294-1425 | azzakamal@ufl.edu

Wednesday & Thursday | 11:45 AM – 12:35 PM | or by appointment

Course Time & Location: 100% Online (no physical attendance)

Co/Prerequisite: None

General Education Credit: None

Final Exam Schedule: No final exam in this course; a final project is due on Canvas on Sunday 12/4

IT IS IMPORTANT TO READ THIS ENTIRE SYLLABUS ON YOUR FIRST DAY OF CLASS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Inventory, analysis, and evaluation of site development procedures; emphasis on landscape ecology.

COURSE OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

This is an introduction to the process of inventory, analysis, and synthesis of information about a site (at various scales) and its context. Our purpose is to expand your knowledge of natural and cultural resources and user needs that directly affect planning, design, and landscape management decisions. Through the semester, assignments will help develop and refine your ability to selectively inventory appropriate natural and cultural resources on site, as well as analyze the selected inventory data relative to key issues and program requirements, thus providing the wherewithal to organize and locate the proposed program elements and, often, to suggest additional program elements. Additionally, this course will examine site synthesis which will enable you to synthesize natural, cultural, built environment, and user information through various Geodesign tools used by the fields of urban and regional planning, landscape architecture, geography, urban design as well as many allied professions.
COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe a context and scale of the site for your project
- Understand the relationship between the six-step models of Geodesign
- Explain the Geodesign Representation, Process, and Evaluation models
- Analyze different site attributes of a specific site
- Apply GIS technology using ArcGIS Online on the site analysis and evaluation processes

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO)
Upon completion of this course, successful students will be able to:

- **Content Knowledge**: Integrate concepts from the general body of knowledge of the profession of Landscape Architecture in design decision-making; Apply core professional landscape architecture skills in design decision-making; Apply ethical understanding to design decision-making.
- **Critical Thinking**: Combine and analyze information from multiple sources to support design decision-making.

COURSE MATERIALS
All course materials and resources, such as lectures, videos, and other pertinent readings, will be posted online to the CANVAS website.

**ArcGIS Online**

- ArcGIS Online is an intuitive geographic information systems (GIS) platform providing mapping and analysis tools. As part of the course assignments, students will use this platform to develop some of the site analysis course assignments. Access is available for free using UF GatorLink ID credentials.

**Textbook Book 1 (Available as e-Book):**

**Textbook 2 (optional):**

- In addition to these two books, various free publications identified for class assignments will be supplied via the UF Canvas e-Learning portal. Readings will be comprised of online articles, book chapters, online media materials, or videos. Students are expected to complete readings and review of these materials as advance preparation for assignments and project submissions.

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES
Not applicable.
INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS & EXPECTATIONS

This online asynchronous course will introduce you to the extensive process of analyzing sites for planning. Coursework will focus on introducing the tools, principles, and methods to conduct the first three models of Geodesign Scoping Framework. Instructional methods will include:

- **Online instructional content**: Lectures, online videos, readings, and other course materials posted online will provide unique perspectives on subject matter. This combination of multimedia information and recorded lectures will create an engaging atmosphere for active learning.

- **Discussions**: Students will engage in a discourse about the course content material through weekly online discussions.

- **Quizzes + Mid Term Exam**: There will be several quizzes given over the course of the semester, as well as a mid-term exam, which will be given online.

- **Assignments**: Several iterative assignments will enable students to apply the site analysis techniques learned in coursework to a location of their choosing. To conduct the site analysis, students will collect information online (using digital data and ArcGIS Online) and may need to collect data in-person through site visits and observations. Please note that the final term project serves as the final exam for the course.

EXPECTATIONS

- **Student expectations of instructor**: clear explanations of site analysis and Geodesign principles, application of knowledge through assignments; easy to access course materials; clear guidance and assessment rubric; openness and encouragement of critical thoughts and new ideas; constructive feedback, and reasonable flexibility to meet with students outside of class.

- **Instructor expectations of students**: compassionate curiosity; positive attention and intention; enthusiasm about learning new ideas and contribution to the learning environment, active participation in all online participation and group activities; advance-reading and note preparation; on-time completion/submission of all assignments; proper citation management; professional attitude and communications, adherence to proper netiquette and all University rules and regulations.

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS AND E-LEARNING PORTAL

This class will follow a 100% Online instructional modality. The instructor will utilize the UF Canvas e-Learning portal as the primary medium to communicate with students, send announcements and to distribute course information, assignments, readings materials, resources, and grading. Students are responsible for checking Canvas portal regularly for all course materials and to submit assignments and projects. Readings and any changes to the syllabus will also be posted on Canvas Portal. Below are additional communications guidelines:

- **Canvas email is my preferred method of communication.** Please don’t email me on my campus email, rather on Canvas email system. I will answer your email on the same system. Please allow up to 24 hours for a reply. Proper email etiquette is expected. It is your responsibility to ensure that you either login to Canvas to retrieve instructor’s emails or have them set to be forwarded to your university’s email account. To login to Canvas, provide your GatorLink username and password. If you are new to Canvas or have any problems with it, please contact the Help Desk at 392-HELP.
• It is your responsibility to submit assignments on time on Canvas using the designated tabs for each assignment. If you are having problems uploading your assignment to Canvas, you must immediately contact the Help Desk [392-HELP (4357) or helpdesk@ufl.edu] to report the problem and receive a ticket to document the problem. I can only extend the submission deadline if you have contacted the Help Desk ahead of the deadline and received a ticket (which you need to attach to the request for extension). The Help Desk is available by phone and email 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

WEEKLY STUDY PLAN  (Recommended)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review course materials and online resources</td>
<td>Review course materials and online resources</td>
<td>Lecture available online and start of the new assignment</td>
<td>Reading/ review lecture and work on assignment (team)</td>
<td>▪ Continue to work on the assignment (team)</td>
<td>▪ Submit quiz and discussion (Sunday, 11:59 PM)</td>
<td>▪ Submit assignment (Sunday, 11:59 PM), when applicable</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Review course materials</td>
<td>▪ Submit Project phases (teams), when applicable</td>
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ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

All grades will be posted in the Canvas gradebook. Any discrepancies with points displayed in the gradebook should be addressed directly to the instructor. Course grades will neither be curved, nor rounded up. Any requests for extra credit or special exceptions to these grading policies will be interpreted as an honor code violation (i.e., asking for preferential treatment) and will be handled accordingly.

Assignments Points and Weights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Discussions (8X20)</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Quizzes (8X 15 each)</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative Term Project: Site Analysis (teams)</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project: Synthesis of Attributes (teams)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Grading Scale

<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>
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<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>
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Final student grades will follow University of Florida grades and grading policies.
• Undergraduate Students grading policy

Assignments and Evaluation of Performance

Assignments will be opened on Canvas in advance of their due dates and must be submitted by their posted deadlines. It is your responsibility to ensure that each assignment has been successfully uploaded to Canvas for instructor grading. If you anticipate being unable to submit an assignment on time for an excusable reason, you must submit the assignment early or notify the instructor as early as possible. Extensions are not automatically granted without documentation and must be arranged in advance. Otherwise, late work will be marked down by 2.5% for each day it is late. No work will be accepted after one week of its original deadline without accepted excuse. The following is a summary of the expected coursework.

Detailed guidance and assessment rubric for each will be available on Canvas throughout the semester:
1) **Cumulative Term Project (35% of final grade):** This is a team project (teams range from 3-4 students). You will apply the information that you are learning in class in several assignments, each will be built on the knowledge and skills gained in previous week and comprising a cumulative term project comprised of several site analysis assignments that explore a location of your choosing. To conduct the site analysis, you will collect information both online (using digital data and ArcGIS Online), as well as other tools.

2) **Eight (8) Discussions (16% of final grade):** Discussion forums on Canvas will provide students with the opportunity to reflect on the topics presented during the week or other resources provided, as well as engage with other students enrolled in the course by commenting on their reflections.

3) **Eight (8) Quizzes (12% of final grade):** To ensure student engagement in the online instructional materials, these 8 quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Please note that quizzes are due at the end of each week and may not be submitted late unless previous accommodations have been made.

4) **Mid-Term Exam (12% of final grade):** A mid-term exam will be assigned online and will include questions from each topic covered to date.
   a. The mid-term exam is tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 21, 2022.

5) **Final Project (15% of final grade):** Working with the same team of your cumulative term project, a final project will be based on the results of the Cumulative Term Project assignments and will focus on the synthesis of site characteristics.

6) **Participation (10% of final grade):** Students will be able to engage with their classmates and earn participation points through two required assignments. First, they will be required to post comments on peer’s reflections on the discussion forum, and second, they must complete peer-evaluation for each member of their project team. reviews of their classmates’ project assignments.

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**CLASS POLICY**

**Asynchronous Online Work**
This online course has been constructed similarly to a regular 3-credit hour in-person class that would meet for ~3 hours per week and have homework. In this case, all the lectures have been recorded and posted online to be reviewed at students’ convenience. However, assignments (such as quizzes, discussions, etc.) are expected to be turned in weekly.

**Netiquette – Communication Courtesy**
All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats. A guide for online courses provided by the University of Florida can be found [here](#).

**Personal Conduct Policies**
Treat this course as you would a new job. Above all else, the online class environment is a place of respect for people and ideas. You are expected to treat your fellow classmates, the instructor, guests, and others with respect, honesty, professionalism, and politeness. Please be prepared to share your informed questions, impressions, and interpretations of the current week’s materials.

**Make-Up Policies**
There is no make-up policy for assignments, quizzes, exams, or projects missed due to unexcused absences. If you are sick or have an emergency that prevents you from taking an exam at the scheduled time, you need to contact the instructor as soon as possible. Documentation of the illness, emergency, etc. will be required. If you need to schedule a make-up exam, please email the instructor with a detailed explanation, and attach documentation. Make-up exams will be given at the instructor’s discretion. Scheduling make-up exams is the responsibility of the student and should be done before the scheduled exam time. If you have a serious emergency or life event, please contact the Dean of Students Office ([www.dso.ufl.edu](http://www.dso.ufl.edu)), and they will contact all of your instructors so that you do not have to provide documentation of the emergency/death in order to make-up exams and coursework. You and your instructor may work together to create a schedule for make-up coursework upon your return. See other sections of Class Policy and Expectations for more information.

**Getting Technical Help**
For issues with technical difficulties for e-Learning on CANVAS, please contact the UF Help Desk5 at:
- On campus at HUB 132
- helpdesk@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP (4357) → select option 2

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.
UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Student Responsibilities
As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following responsibilities as delineated at https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/student-responsibilities/.

- Academic Honesty
  - Preamble
  - The Honor Pledge
  - Student Responsibility
  - Faculty Responsibility
  - Administration Responsibility
- Alcohol and Drugs
  - What the University Community Can Do to Prevent Alcohol Abuse and Drug Abuse
  - Relations Between People and Groups
  - Service to Others
- Standard of Ethical Conduct
- Student Conduct Code

Software Use
All faculty, staff and students at the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. As such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

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/.

Students with Disabilities
Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services, and mediating faculty-student disability related issues.

Upon registering, the DRC 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. The DRC may be contacted by visiting 001 Reid Hall, calling 352-392-8565, or viewing www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/.

Religious Observances
Please inform the instructor of any religious holidays or other days of special religious significance that may interfere with your participation in this class so that appropriate accommodations can be made.

Sexual Harassment
Sexual harassment is reprehensible and will not be tolerated by the University. It subverts our academic mission and threatens the careers, educational experience, and well-being of students, faculty, and staff. The University will not tolerate behavior between, nor among, members of this community that creates an unacceptable working environment.

Special Consideration
The principle of equal treatment of all students is a fundamental guide in responding to requests for special consideration. No student shall be given an opportunity to improve a grade that is not made available to all members of the class. This policy is not intended to exclude reasonable accommodation of verified student disability or the completion of work missed due to religious observance, verified illness, or absence due to circumstances beyond your control. Reconsideration of subjective judgments of an individual student’s work will be done only if all students in the class can be and are given the same consideration.

Campus Accessibility Considerations
When driving onto campus, be aware of parking decal restrictions and visit http://www.parking.ufl.edu/. When riding transit or using other available commuting methods, visit http://parking.ufl.edu/transit-commuting/.
HELPFUL CAMPUS RESOURCES

Academic and Professional
- E-Learning Technical Support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. https://elearning.ufl.edu/student-help-faqs/
- Library Support. Provides various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources. http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask
- Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/
- UF Information Technology / Computing Help Desk, 352-392-HELP (4357) or e-mail to helpdesk@ufl.edu http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/

Health and Safety
- Dean of Students Office, 202 Peabody Hall, 352-392-1261. Among other services, the DSO assists students who are experiencing situations that compromises their ability to attend classes. This includes family emergencies and medical issues (including mental health crises). https://www.dso.ufl.edu/care
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 352-392-1161. Sexual assault counseling.
- Student Health Care Center. Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 health care information. https://shcc.ufl.edu/
- UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center, 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608, 352-733-0111. For immediate medical care call or go to the emergency room. https://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center
- U Matter, We Care, U Matter, multiple locations, 352-392-1575. If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or visit the website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress. https://umatter.ufl.edu/
- University Counseling Center & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Rd., 392-1575. Personal and career counseling, as well as therapy for anxiety, stress, and mental health issues. http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/
- University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). http://www.police.ufl.edu/
**LAA 1330: COURSE MODULES AND TOPICS**

Detailed weekly plan, readings, quizzes, and course content will be available on Canvas throughout the semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due on Canvas</th>
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| **Week 1:** Course Introduction (Introduce Assign 1) | Quiz 01  
Discussion 01 | Sunday, Aug 28 @11:59pm |
| **Week 2:** Site Planning Process | Work on Site Selection/ Scoping | Sunday, Sept 4 @11:59pm |
| **Week 3:** Base Mapping + Site Selection | Quiz 02  
Discussion 02  
**Cumulative Term Project (1. Site Selection/ Scoping)** | Sunday, Sept 11 @11:59pm |
| **Week 4:** Physical Inventory + Analysis: Topography + Geomorphology (Introduce Assign 2) | Quiz 03  
Discussion 03 | Sunday, Sept 18 @11:59pm |
| **Week 5:** Physical Inventory + Analysis: Hydrology + Soils | Quiz 04  
Discussion 04  
Work on Physical Attributes | Sunday, Sept 25 @11:59pm |
| **Week 6:** Ecological Inventory: Climate + Ecology | **Cumulative Term Project (2. Physical Attributes)** | Sunday, Oct 2 @11:59pm |
| **Week 7:** Ecological Inventory: Fieldwork (Introduce Assign 3) | Quiz 05  
Discussion 05 | Sunday, Oct 9 @11:59pm |
| **Week 8:** Human Systems: Land Use + Regulatory Context | Quiz 06  
Discussion 06  
Work on Climate + Ecology | Sunday, Oct 16 @11:59pm |
| **Week 9:** Midterm Exam Week | **Mid-Term Exam**  
**Cumulative Term Project (3. Climate + Ecology)** | Friday, Oct 21 @9:00pm  
Sunday, Oct 23 @11:59pm |
| **Week 10:** Human Systems: Infrastructure (Introduce Assign 4) | Quiz 07  
Discussion 07 | Sunday, Oct 30 @11:59pm |
| **Week 11:** Human Systems: History + Culture | Quiz 08  
Discussion 08  
Work on Human Systems | Sunday, Nov 6 @11:59pm |
| **Week 12:** Final Analysis + Site Synthesis | **Cumulative Term Project (4. Human Systems)** | Sunday, Nov 13 @11:59pm |
| **Week 13:** Emerging Technologies and Applications: (Introduce Assign 5) | Team scheduled meetings with the course instructor [on Zoom] to discuss project progress, and  
Work on Final Analysis + Site Synthesis | Sunday, Nov 20 @11:59pm |
| **Week 14:** **THANKSGIVING (NO CLASSES), Nov 23-27** | | |
| **Week 15:** Exploring Precedents | **Cumulative Term Project (5. Final Analysis) + Final Project (Site Synthesis)** | Sunday, Dec 4 @11:59pm |
| **Week 16:** Conclusions | Peer Review Forms [Cumulative Term Project & Final Project] | Sunday, Dec 11 @11:59pm  
*Note: grades will be finalized by Dec 18* |

*Disclaimer: This schedule represents the basic and prospective plans and objectives for this course. 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.

Reading Days (No Classes): Thursday and Friday, December 8 and 9.