

# Planting Design Studio

**Credits:** 5

**Times:** MWF 7th-9th period, 1:55-4:55pm

**Location:** ARCH 322

**Instructors:**

*Dr. Jiayang Li*

Assistant Professor

456 ARCH, Email: [jiayangli@ufl.edu](mailto:jiayangli@ufl.edu)

Office hours: Friday 11:40am-1:40 pm, or by appointment

*Dr. Gail Hansen*

Professor

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Office hours: Fridays, by appointment

## Course Description

Planting design is one of the foundational skills in the profession of landscape architecture, a combination of art, science, and technology, with unique spatial and temporal qualities. This course introduces the planting design process and communication, its relationship to the site planning, existing site conditions, local climate and ecosystems, and intended human uses. In this studio, we will explore the art and science of plants through various types and scales of sites, and with consideration for both human experiences and sustainable landscape management practices. We will seek a foundation in the art elements and their compositions. We will learn the process of species selection that responds to the specific project locale (ecosystem, soil, water and microclimate). We will explore strategies to evoke appreciation and sensory engagement over time.

## Course Objectives

The goal of this course is for students to develop an understanding of planting design that can synthesize human experiences and ecological suitability. Objectives are:

- To gain an understanding of aesthetic, ecological and functional value of plants in design
- To select suitable plants that meet specific environmental and aesthetic goals
- To apply principles of art and design to create engaging spatial configurations using plants
- To expand the knowledge of native species, water and maintenance in planting design in Florida
- To produce accurate and professional quality planting plans

## Course Policies

**Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills:**

LAA 2360C and ORH 3513C with minimum grades of C.

**Fees:**

Potential fees include expenses for site visits for studio projects, and a fee for submission to the Florida Association of Native Nurseries Annual Design Competition. If payment of these expenses is problematic, students should speak to the instructor immediately.

**Attendance and Participation:**

Attendance is mandatory in all class sessions unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. Absences due to health problems, emergency or mandatory participating activities approved by university policies might be excused. The photocopy of a written verification should be submitted to the instructor digitally prior to the event if it is planned. If it is an emergency, a written verification should be submitted to the instructor within one week of absence. Two (2) unexcused absences are permitted. Each additional absence will lower the student's grade by 2%. Students are required to contact the instructor via e-mail, prior to the class they will be missing, with supporting documentation.

This is a studio-based course which means verbal participation is also required. Course instruction is primarily based on lectures, group discussions, assigned readings and exercises, individual/team projects, and formal presentations. We have found great success in interactive teaching, where students are highly engaged and assist in teaching each other using a collaborative approach within the studio. Students are responsible for learning that is guided by the instructor through desk-critiques, pin-ups, presentations, site visits, and in-studio working sessions which allow ample time for progression and production activities.

**Class Demeanor:**

- Studios are public places. The studio doors are locked; however, it is also suggested that you store any valuables under lock and key or bring them home with you.
- Please respect other students' work. Due to the tight quarters in the studios, it is especially important to keep spaces and common spaces clean. Also be mindful and respectful of playing music and other audio.
- Be prepared for desk critiques. It is expected that your desk be orderly, and you will have a scale, a roll of trace, and your work/drawings/models available when the instructor arrives at your desk.

**Course Technology:**

All course content will be available through UF's e-learning Canvas site unless otherwise specified. Students may access this site at <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/> by logging in with their UF credentials. All assignments are to be submitted to Canvas unless otherwise indicated.

**Course Communications:**

Students are expected to maintain a fully functioning email account for the entirety of the semester as this will be a critical form of communication. Regular check on Canvas updates is also expected since the Announcement feature will be used for delivering messages to the class. Questions regarding this course may be submitted via email or during class sessions.

**Assignments:**

Timely completion of all assignments and required readings is expected. Late work will be penalized 5% per day (including weekends) unless there is an acceptable excuse with a written verification due to health problems, emergency or mandatory participating activities. It is each students' responsibility to be diligent in regularly backing up their computer files to a hard drive or cloud storage. Failing to do so is

not considered an acceptable excuse to warrant an extension on a project deadline. Work submitted more than one week late will not be accepted, unless there is prior agreement with the instructor for exceptional circumstances.

**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 via Canvas. Please follow the directions given by the instructor as to how they will be submitted (Canvas etc.). However, all files must be named as follows:

(Course#Name)(Project+Description)(Student-Lastname).(file format, dwg/pdf/jpg/)

Example: 2631PlantDesAssig1Smith.pdf

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.

**Grading Policies**

**Primary Tasks and Evaluation:**

Evaluation will be based on a combination of attendance, participation and performance in in-class activities and exercises, and studio project assessments. A list of primary projects, and weights is provided below:

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Percent of grade</b>
Assignment 1	10%
Assignment 2	12%
Assignment 3	18%
Assignment 4	15%
Assignment 5	30%
Attendance/Participation	5%
Discussions/Readings	10%

**Grading Scale:**

According to Departmental Policy, Landscape Architecture majors must receive a C or better to move forward. 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

## Course Readings, Software and Materials

### Required Course Readings:

There is no required textbook for this course. All required readings will be available via Canvas. Students are expected to complete all assigned readings and be prepared to discuss the readings prior to the class. Other recommended readings may be posted over the course of the semester and students are encouraged to complete these readings as well.

### Other Reference Books and Readings:

#### Planting Design:

- Van Sweden, James (2011). The Artful Garden
- Rainer and West (2015). Planting in a Post-Wild World
- Kingsbury and Oudolf (2016). Planting: A New Perspective
- Reed and Stibolt (2018). Climate-wise Landscape Design

#### Plant ID:

- Odenwald and Turner (2000) Identification and Use of Southern Plants for Landscape Design, 3rd edition
- Gilman (2000) Betrock's Florida Plant Guide
- Nelson (2008) Florida's Best Native Landscape Plants
- Watkins, Sheehan, and Black (2014) Florida Landscape Plants: Native and Exotic

#### Florida-Friendly Landscaping Publications by IFAS (on Canvas):

- The Florida-Friendly Landscaping Guide to Plant Selection and Landscape Design
- The Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Handbook
- The Florida Friendly Landscaping Pattern Book (North Florida & North Central Florida)
- Adopting a Florida Friendly Landscape: Steps for Converting a Traditional Development Landscape to a Florida Friendly Landscape

### Materials:

Hand drafting materials as utilized in prior studios will be necessary for hand exercises including but not necessarily limited to 12-, 18- or 24-inch roll of tracing paper, colored pencils, markers, straight edges and triangles, and drafting dots.

### Software Programs:

- AutoCAD (the current release within the past 2 years)
- LandFX
- MS Office (Word, Excel and PowerPoint)
- Adobe Acrobat or Reader
- Adobe CC
- SketchUp Pro

## UF Policies

### Student Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### 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. For more information, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/#religiousholidaystext>

### 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/>.

### 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. The faculty of Landscape Architecture 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, images, 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 <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/> and the Department of Landscape Architecture Academic Honesty Policy.

### **In-Class Recording**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. For more information, see <https://aa.ufl.edu/policies/in-class-recording/>.

## **Getting Help**

### Health and Wellness

- *U Matter, We Care*: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto: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.
- *GatorWell Health Promotion Services*: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website or call 352-273-4450.

### Academic Resources

- E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto: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.
- 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.

## Tentative Course Schedule

A detailed course schedule will be provided at the start of the semester. The instructors reserve the right to adjust and change the syllabus and schedule to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

Week	Day	Date	Lecture	In-class Activity	Assignment Due	Session
1	M	1/9	Introduction + Planting Design Principles	Assignment 1		1
	W	1/11		Reading discussion + Assignment 1	Reading set 1	
	F	1/13	Aesthetic quality and sensory engagement	Assignment 1 pinup		
2	M	1/16	Holiday			1
	W	1/18		Assignment 1		
	F	1/20		Assignment 1 presentation	Assignment 1	
3	M	1/23	Plant Profiles & Ecological Traits	Assignment 2		1
	W	1/25		Assignment 2		
	F	1/27	Communicating Planting Design	Assignment 2		
4	M	1/30		Assignment 2 pinup		1
	W	2/1		Assignment 2		
	F	2/3		Assignment 2 presentation	Assignment 2	
5	M	2/6	Different design styles	Assignment 3		1
	W	2/8		Assignment 3		
	F	2/10		Reading discussion + Assignment 3	Reading set 2	
6	M	2/13	Plant Palettes	Work on Assignment 3		1
	W	2/15		Assignment 3 pinup		
	F	2/17		Assignment 3		
7	M	2/20		Assignment 3		1
	W	2/22		Assignment 3 Presentation	Assignment 3	
	F	2/24	Emerging topics in planting design	Reading discussion + Reflection	Reading set 3	
8	M	2/27				2
	W	3/1				
	F	3/3				
9	M	3/6	Introduction to Assignment #4- University of North Florida FFL Demonstration Garden	Develop Demonstration Garden theme		2

LAA 2361C Spring 2023

			FFL Landscape Design Principles			
	W	3/8	Design Considerations for Demonstration Gardens	Conceptual Design Development		
	F	3/10				
10	M	3/13	Spring Break			2
	W	3/15	Spring Break			
	F	3/17	Spring Break			
11	M	3/20	Selecting a plant palette – Preferences and Perceptions	Create plant list and Planting Plan theme		2
	W	3/22	Site layouts	2 concepts- Desk critiques		
	F	3/24	Site Visit to UNF	Site visit		
12	M	3/27	Final Site layout for UNF Garden	Final Plan Desk Critiques		2
	W	3/29	Introduction to Assignment #5 Community Landscapes	Review site plans and maps	Assignment 4	
	F	3/31	Community Landscape Considerations	Develop theme for Community Landscape		
13	M	4/3	Ecological Landscape Design- Native and Ornamental Plants	Develop Native Plant Palette- plant data base		2
	W	4/5	Biodiversity in Urban Landscapes	Concept #1- Incorporate biodiversity principles in planting plan – Desk Critiques		
	F	4/7	Wildlife Gardens	Concept #2- layer in wildlife considerations – Desk Critiques		
14	M	4/10	Perceptions of FFL and HOA boards	Final Concepts- Desk Critiques		2
	W	4/12		Final concepts- Desk Critiques		
	F	4/14	Why Landscapes Fail	Final concepts- Desk Critiques		
15	M	4/17	Creating Landscape Pattern Books	Page Layout and organization. Written content		2
	W	4/19		Desk Critiques		
	F	4/21		Desk Critiques		
16	M	4/24				2
	W	4/26			Assignment 5	