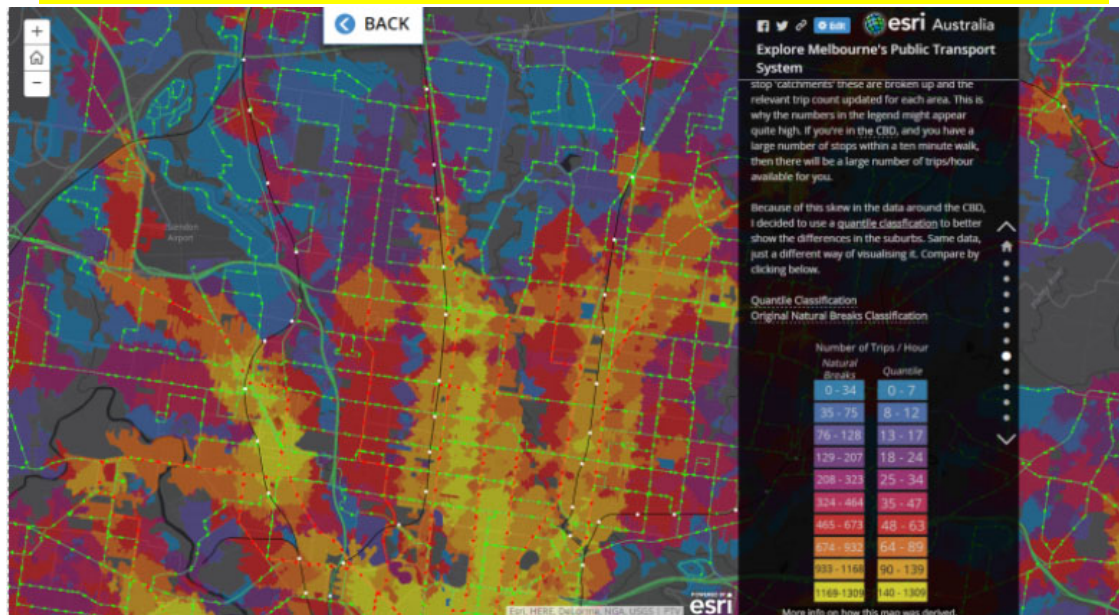# LAA 1330: Site Analysis, Sections (SBE1)

Summer 2023 | 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 &	*Preferred:* Canvas email *Alternative:* O: (352) 294-1425	azzakamal@ufl.edu
Office Hours:	Thursday	10:30 AM – 12:00 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; the Term Project is due on Canvas on Friday 6/23

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

Source: https://esriaustraliatechblog.wordpress.com/2015/09/04/ozri-2015-exploring-public-transport-victoria-data-in-arcgis/

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 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, and user information through various methodologies used by the field of landscape architecture as well as many allied professions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, 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.

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.
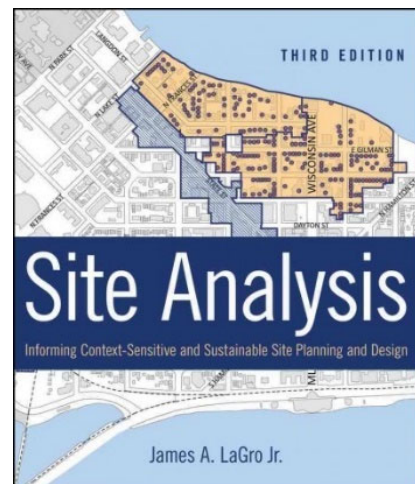
ArcGIS Online

- 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.
- 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.

Textbook Book 1 (Available as e-Book):

LaGro, James A. (2013.) Site Analysis: Informing Context-Sensitive and Sustainable Site Planning and Design, 3rd Edition. John Wiley & Sons. The book is available online at the UF Library; you can access it here

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**: There will be several quizzes given on canvas over the course of the semester.
- **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

According to Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges [SACS] that our university abides by, one credit hour represents "not less than 1 hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of 2 hours out of class student work each week for approximately 15 weeks for one semester". Thus, **students are expected to spend approximately 9 hours every week for this 3-credit hour course**. This time is expected to be spent on the work required per week for completing lectures, videos, readings, quizzes, discussions, assignments, and semester project for this course. Please be sure to schedule the appropriate amount of time each week to devote to this class and the various assignments.

- 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 PLAN *(Recommended)*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Lecture available online [on Canvas] and start of the new assignment.			My office hours		▪ Submit quiz and discussion (Sunday, 11:59 PM). ▪ Submit assignment (Sunday, 11:59 PM), when applicable. ▪ Submit Project phases (teams), as announced.	

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

Assignment	Points	Percent
Participation + Collaboration	100	10%
8 Discussions (8X20 each)	200	20%
8 Quizzes (8X 20 each)	200	20%
Cumulative Term Project: Site Analysis (teams)	350	35%
Final Project: Final Analysis + Synthesis of Attributes (teams)	150	15%
Total	**1000**	**100%**

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Numeric Grade	93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	0-59
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

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 10% for each day it is late. No work will be accepted after 5 days 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 is 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 (20% 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 (20% 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) **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.

5) **Participation + Collaboration (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. Peer-review guidelines will be provided with each assignment to ensure constructive feedback and effective and fair distribution and completion of tasks pertaining to the commutative term project and the final projects.

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), 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
- Student Conduct Code

- 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

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
- *Career Connections Center*, Reitz Union, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. https://career.ufl.edu/
- *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/
- *Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall,* 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/
- *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 throughput the semester.

	Week/Topic	Assignment	Due on Canvas
Week 1	**Week 1:** Course Introduction ■ Site Planning Process ■ Introduce Assign 1	Discussion 00 Quiz 01 Discussion 01	Sunday, May 21 @11:59pm
Week 2	**Week 3** ■ Base Mapping + Site Selection ■ Introduce Assign 2 ■ Physical Inventory + Analysis: Topography + Geomorphology	Quiz 02 Discussion 02 Quiz 03 Discussion 03 **Cumulative Term Project (1. Site Selection/ Scoping)**	Sunday, May 28 @11:59pm
Week 3	**Week 5** ■ Physical Inventory + Analysis: Hydrology + Soils Ecological Inventory: Climate + Ecology	Quiz 04 Discussion 04 Work on Physical Attributes **Cumulative Term Project (2. Physical Attributes)**	Sunday, June 4 @11:59pm
Week 4	**Week 7** ■ Ecological Inventory: Fieldwork ■ Introduce Assign 3 ■ Human Systems: Land Use + Regulatory Context	Quiz 05 Discussion 05 Quiz 06 Discussion 06 Work on Climate + Ecology **Cumulative Term Project (3. Climate + Ecology)**	Sunday, June 11 @11:59pm
Week 5	**Week 10** ■ Human Systems: Infrastructure ■ Introduce Assign 4 ■ Human Systems: History + Culture	Quiz 07 Discussion 07 Quiz 8 Discussion 08 Work on Human Systems **Cumulative Term Project (4. Human Systems)**	Sunday, June 18 @11:59pm
Week 6	**Week 12** ■ (Final Analysis + Site Synthesis) ■ Emerging Technologies and Applications: (Introduce Assign 5) ■ Exploring Precedents	Work on Draft Final Analysis + Site Synthesis Review (Draft Final Analysis + Site Synthesis) **Cumulative Term Project (5. Final Analysis) + Final Project (Site Synthesis)** Peer Review Forms	Friday, June 23 @11:59pm

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.