

# SYLLABUS

DCP 1003 | 1 CR | Spring 2025

## COURSE OVERVIEW

### INSTRUCTOR

Genesis Okken

E-mail: [gokken@dcp.ufl.edu](mailto:gokken@dcp.ufl.edu) Office: AH 346

Virtual Office Link: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/7169838934>

Office Hours: MW 1:30-3:00pm (or virtually by appointment on Fridays)

### Student Aid:

**Jianna Thomas**

Contact via Canvas messages with information regarding excused absences or concerns about the attendance record.

### MEETING

Tuesdays at 9:35am in Turlington Loos

### DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the planning, design and construction of the built environment. Includes consideration of professional practice in architecture, construction management, historic preservation, interior design, landscape architecture, sustainability and the built environment, and urban and regional planning.

### Prerequisite knowledge and skills:

Admission to one of the College of Design, Construction and Planning (DCP) disciplines.

### Material and Supply Fees:

N/A

### PURPOSE

The built environment is a vast and complex system with a number of related fields working together to develop a functional final solution. The College of Design, Construction, and Planning brings together many of these disciplines. This introductory course provides DCP students an opportunity to learn about the different disciplines within the college and how they are related to one another.

### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Upon completion of the course students will have demonstrated their ability to:
- Understand the processes of education and professional practice for the DCP disciplines
- Understand the tools and techniques associated with the DCP disciplines.
- Recognize the interrelationship of allied professions/disciplines/cultures of architecture, construction management, historic preservation, interior design, landscape architecture, sustainability and the built environment, and urban and regional planning.
- Participate in multidisciplinary teams to prepare group presentations.

### INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

This is primarily a lecture-based course. It also includes discussion of assigned readings, viewing of multi-media materials, activities during and outside of class, and student collaboration outside of class.

Class format will combine discussions, lectures, multi-media activities, practice-based activities, and electronic communications and assignments. We will host many guest lecturers.

Students should listen actively and take notes during lectures, guest speakers' presentations, and during videos, as this material will also be included on the quizzes and synthesized for the final presentation. Regarding note taking: many studies indicate that knowledge retention is more effective when notes are taken by hand rather than on a digital device as one is forced to synthesize information in order to record it rather than copying words verbatim. Please consider this in your note-taking and study strategy here and in your other classes.

## COURSE POLICIES

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is mandatory and is factored into your grade for the course. The attendance grade will be computed in proportion to the number of "presents" on the days the rolls were taken. Requirements for class attendance and make-up quizzes, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. [See UF Academic Regulations and Policies for more information regarding the University Attendance Policies.](#)

Absences for reasons of illness, religious holiday, emergency, or official university business, as described in the Undergraduate Catalog are excused. Please inform your instructor of any excused absences and be prepared to provide appropriate documentation. You are responsible for contacting a classmate to obtain notes on the materials covered in class, but you may also visit office hours for help reviewing content. If you encounter an emergency or illness that requires an extended absence, you may wish to contact the Dean of Students Office (202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261) for assistance in providing support and documentation.

### PERSONAL CONDUCT

The classroom is a place of respect for people and their ideas. You are expected to be both physically and intellectually present and to treat your classmates, instructors, guest speakers, and individuals in the classroom and in places you visit for the class with courtesy and respect.

Be on time and prepared for class. If you need to leave class early or arrive late, please let me know ahead of time and sit nearer to the door so as not to disrupt class. Please do not allow the door to slam upon your early exit or late entry. Students engaging in disruptive behavior may be asked to leave the class and/or will be marked absent for the day.

**Cell Phones & Connected/Related Devices:** Cell phones and other electronic devices including smart watches must be muted and/or set to theater mode during class (not vibrate). Earbuds and similar must be removed. Cell phones must be put away during class time unless instructed to use them for participation. Students who receive or make calls, text, etc. during class may be asked to leave and/or will be marked absent for the day. This applies to all activities occurring during class time.

**Tablets & Laptops:** You may use tablets or laptops to take notes and access course materials. If you are observed using your electronic devices for social media, shopping, email, messaging, or other non-class uses, you may be asked to leave and/or marked absent for the day. This applies to all activities occurring during class time.

**Regarding Note Taking:** Many studies indicate that knowledge retention is more effective when notes are taken by hand rather than on a digital device as one is forced to synthesize information in order to record it rather

than copying words verbatim. Please consider this in your note-taking and study strategy here and in your other classes.

## ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Assignments will be posted on Canvas well in advance of their due dates. ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE BY THE POSTED DUE DATES IN CANVAS. Completed assignments must be submitted on Canvas. *Late work cannot be accepted.* It is your responsibility to ensure that your assignments have been successfully uploaded to Canvas. If you know you will not be able to turn in the assignment on time, please notify your instructor ahead of time. Extensions are not granted lightly and must be arranged in advance.

**A NOTE ON GROUP WORK:** Design professions have a long history of collaborative, group-based work, and rely on individual work completed within the group setting. There is one group assignment in this course. You are expected to contribute your best to your group and observe the following behaviors:

- Be a good team member. Be on time, be respectful.
- Be responsive with group communication.
- Everyone is expected to participate and contribute equally in each assignment. If there are problems with group dynamics or participation/effort levels, please come and talk to me. Team members will be evaluating one another at the end of the project.

## COURSE EVALUATIONS

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/>.

## COURSE CONTENT

Each week, students will be presented with information about the disciplines, opportunities, and programs within the College of Design, Construction and Planning (DCP). Information will be presented in lecture format, discussions (via chat), and activities with faculty and industry professionals.

Readings and materials are posted to the course's Canvas webpage. Students should complete all readings in preparation for each class meeting. Students should take notes for lectures, panels, readings, and other resources, as this material will also be included on the quizzes.

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be taken each class. If you are more than 10 minutes late or you depart early without an approved excuse, you will be marked absent for the day.

## QUIZZES

Three quizzes will be given over the course of the semester. The quizzes will consist of 10 multiple-choice questions and are administered through Canvas. Quizzes may be cumulative in nature, meaning that all material (lectures, discussions, readings, videos) since the previous quiz is eligible. This will require that you prepare in advance, are present for class both physically and intellectually, take notes and review course materials over the course of the semester. If you miss a quiz, you will receive a zero.

## DCP EVENT

The college hosts different events related to DCP disciplines throughout the year. You will be required to attend at least one event and submit evidence of attendance via Canvas. **It should be clear from your submission that the event you attended and that it was YOU there.** Make sure you also sign-in at the event. If there is another event outside of DCP that you feel would support professional development and is related to our allied disciplines, please request approval from the instructor to confirm if attendance will satisfy this requirement.

## FINAL GROUP PRESENTATION

You will be divided into multidisciplinary teams. As a team, you will be provided with instruction for reflecting upon the lessons learned over the course of the semester. Your final presentation will synthesize and provide a means to evaluate your understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of DCP disciplines (at UF and professionally) and serve as a reflection and evaluation of DCP 1003. Instructions for the final group presentation will be posted in the Assignments section of our Canvas page. Submissions are made via canvas.

## GRADING POLICES

| Assignment                         | Percent     |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 3 Quizzes @ 10% each               | 30%         |
| DCP Event                          | 10%         |
| Final Project - Group Presentation | 25%         |
| Attendance/Participation           | 35%         |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>100%</b> |

## GRADING SCALE

Final grades will be computed according to the following scale:

A=93-100; A- =90-92.9; B+ =87-89.9; B=83-86.9; B- =80-82.9; C+ = 77-79.9; C=73-76.9; C- =70-72.9; D+ =67-69.9; D=63-66.9; D- =60-62.9; E<60.

Information regarding UF's grading policy can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

## UF POLICIES

### UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office – Disability Resource Center (DRC) (<https://disability.ufl.edu>). 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 the 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.

### UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. 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 Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. See the UF Conduct Code website for more information. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### STUDENTS IN DISTRESS:

Your well-being is important to your instructor, DCP, and the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of awareness and care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu> so that the U Matter, We Care Team can assist or reach out to the student in distress. Night time and weekend crisis counselors are available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength.

Alternatively, Crisis Text Line is a national service accessible via text 24/7 in the United States. Text 741741 when in crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds quickly. The Crisis Counselor helps you move from a hot moment to a cool calm to stay safe and healthy using effective active listening and suggested referrals - all through text message, using Crisis Text Line's secure platform. For more information on this service, which is free and private with some mobile carriers, visit [www.crisistextline.org](http://www.crisistextline.org)

In case of emergency, call 9-1-1

### SCHEDULE *[Subject to changed based on speaker availability]*

#### WK01 (01/14): INTRODUCTION & THE COLLABORATIVE PROCESS

Welcome and introduction session; Developing questions for the next guest speaker

**Readings:** Review the Syllabus and Canvas page

#### WK02 (01/21): URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

Lecture: **Dr. Laura Dedenbach, AICP**

Instructional Assistant Professor, Graduate and Undergraduate Coordinator

Department of Urban and Regional Planning

**Required readings:**

- <https://www.planning.org/plannerprofile/>

#### WK03 (01/28): LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Lecture: **Dr. Jules Bruck, RLA**

Chair and Professor, Landscape Architecture

**Recommended readings:**

1. About Landscape Architecture <https://www.asla.org/aboutlandscapearchitecture.aspx>
2. What is Landscape Architecture? <https://www.asla.org/> Top red button on left
  - Landscape Architecture Improves Our Health <https://www.asla.org/healthbenefitsofnature.aspx>
  - ASLA Award-winning Works of Landscape Architecture <https://www.asla.org/2016awards/index.html>

#### WK04 (02/04): CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Lecture: **Dr. Robert Cox**

Associate Professor; Ph.D. Program Director  
M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Construction Management

**WK05 (02/11): DISCUSSION SESSION / DCP ADVISING TEAM**

Meet your DCP Advising Team and learn how they can support you during your time in our college. Group discussion in class to reflect on previous speakers and overview on developing professional interviewing skills.

**DCP Industry Expo: 11 Feb - Design & Planning 12-4 pm;  
12 Feb Construction Management 10 am – 2 pm**

**WK06 (02/18): ARCHITECTURE**

Lecture: **TBD**

**Recommended readings:**

1. <https://brooklynrail.org/2013/09/criticspage/what-is-architecture-art>
2. <https://www.ncarb.org/become-architect/basics>.

**WK07 (02/25): INTERIOR DESIGN**

Lecture: **Genesis Okken, NCIDQ, ASID Educator**

Undergraduate Coordinator, Instructional Assistant Professor  
Department of Interior Design

**Recommended media:**

CIDQ Advocacy Resources: <https://www.cidq.org/hsw>

**WK08 (03/04): AI IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Recorded Lecture: **Karla Saldaña Ochoa - Dr.Sc MAS LA ETHZ Arch**  
Assistant Professor, School of Architecture

**WK09 (03/11): DISCUSSION SESSION/DCP AMBASSADORS**

Group discussion in class to reflect on previous speakers and develop questions for upcoming sessions

**WK10 (03/18): SPRING BREAK (NO CLASS)**

**WK11 (03/25): REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT**

Lecture: **Tim Becker**

Director – Master of Science in Real Estate Development (UF's Warrington College of Business)

**WK12 (04/01): SUSTAINABILITY AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Lecture: **Bahar Armaghani, LEED Fellow**

Director, Sustainability and the Built Environment, and Lecturer  
Director, UF Green Building Learning Collaborative

**Recommended reading:**

Hawken, P. (1994). The Ecology of Commerce. Chapter 1.

Hawken, P. (1994). The Ecology of Commerce. Chapters 2 – 12.

**WK13 (04/08): HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Lecture: **Dr. Linda Stevenson**

Adjunct Professor, Department of Historic Preservation

**Recommended reading:**

Fitch, J.M. (1982). Historic Preservation: Curatorial Management of the Built World. Chapters 2 and 4

**WK14 (04/15): DISCUSSION SESSION/ GROUP COORDINATION**

Group discussion in class to reflect on previous speakers and group collaboration.

**WK15 (04/22): GROUP COORDINATION/FINAL PROJECTS DUE**

Meet with collaborative groups to discuss final project

Professor to address questions as needed

**Disclaimer:** This syllabus represents the course objectives and current plan. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected – the course canvas page will be updated to reflect the most current schedule.