LAA 6656c: Advanced Landscape Architectural Design 2
UF Department of Landscape Architecture
FALL 2025

SYLLABUS

I. General Information

CLASS MEETINGS: 100% In-Person unless noted otherwise on the course schedule,
                                 Tuesday: Period 2 - 5 (8:30 AM - 12:35 PM)
                                 Thursday: Period 2 - 6 (8:30 AM - 1:40 PM)
LOCATION: 320 Antevy Hall
CREDITS: 6 Credits
INSTRUCTOR: Alpa Nawre
                                 Office Location: 456 Antevy Hall
                                 Office Hours: Friday, 8-9am please sign up at
                                 https://calendly.com/nawre/office-hours or also by appointment
                                 alpa.nawre@ufl.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An advanced design studio investigating how environmental responsibility and social well-being shape the built environment.

Through the lens of landscape architecture, students will analyze disparities in access to quality public spaces, developing design solutions that promote resilient, sustainable, and culturally meaningful landscapes. The studio emphasizes creating places that address a range of community needs, considering ecological, economic, and historical contexts to foster long-term environmental and social resilience.

Upon completion, students will have developed advanced expertise in designing within the framework of environmental and social systems. They will cultivate their abilities to critically analyze challenges, engage with communities, and communicate design solutions that ensure access to sustainable, resilient, and culturally relevant landscapes.

PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

No course prerequisite.

REQUIRED READINGS AND WORKS

No required textbook or readings.

COURSE FEES

n/a

II. Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) and Course Learning Objectives (CLOs)

Each student in the LA program is expected to understand and apply the design process and continuously develop:

- a range of approaches (creative, cultural, and/or historic) to create spatial and temporal landscape compositions, and
- multiple design alternatives before synthesizing ideas into a defensible plan.

Students taking design studios are also expected to demonstrate diligence, independence, and curiosity as part of an ongoing practice of learning and transformation.

The **course learning objectives** (CLOs) below align with the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) standards and UF's MLA Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) are used to guide the assessment of student learning throughout their engagement in the program.

At the end of this course, students will be expected to have achieved an appropriate developmental level of the following CLOs numbered in the chart below (each with an individual name):

KNOWLEDGE
SLO 1 – Integrate concepts from the general body of knowledge of the profession of landscape architecture in design decision-making.
1. **Historical Context:** Summarize and explain broad concepts related to the history of place, and landscape architecture, that impact the built and natural environment.
2. **Theoretical Frameworks:** Demonstrate an understanding of the various critical approaches and theoretical frameworks relevant to landscape architecture.
ETHICS
SLO 3 – Apply ethical understanding to design decision-making.
3. **User-centered Design:** Analyze and respond to people's and communities' diverse needs by considering the diverse abilities, perspectives, socio-cultural contexts, and histories when deriving design solutions.
4. **Professionalism:** Demonstrate ethical behaviors and professional conduct in the context of landscape architecture, including respect, honesty, empathy, integrity, and responsibility.
5. **Research Ethics:** Identify and explain the ethical considerations involved in conducting research
CRITICAL THINKING
SLO 4 – Combine and analyze information from multiple sources to support design decision-making.
6. **Design Synthesis:** Conduct a comprehensive analysis and synthesis of objective and subjective information to inform the organization of space and forms within the landscape (all studios).
7. **Design Values:** Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of landscape architecture projects in reaching diverse goals such as spatial organization, user experience, ecological sustainability, social equity, resilience, and cultural significance.
RESEARCH
SLO6 - Devise research methodologies and conclusions appropriate to individual area of interest.
8. **Research Design:** Articulate a clear research theory, question, and method for a project or proposal.

III. Graded Work

Grading policies in the course are consistent with the <u>university's graduate school grades and grading policies</u>. Deadlines for assignments are listed in the Annotated Weekly Schedule and on Canvas. Students should submit work on the dates indicated except where university policy provides an exemption.

DESCRIPTION OF GRADED WORK

The course consists of two equally weighted inter-linked assignments that will be complementary to each other and will further the development of the project for the semester:

Assignment 1- Research (50% of total grade)
The goal of conducting research in the first assignment is to gain knowledge and establish a creative origin or catalyst for design. The first goal is concerned with developing a deep understanding of the social and environmental justice issues at stake so that you may make design decisions that are responsive to local and regional conditions and yet in perspective of global issues and context.

Assignment 2 - Design (50% of total grade)
A fundamental responsibility of landscape architects is designing systems and spaces according to the problem definition. The bulk of assignment 2 is focused on designing unique site(s) with the special focus and application of the knowledge gained in the first assignment.

All Rubrics for assignments, projects, and engagement are found on CANVAS

The graded work assesses the course learning objectives as follows:

Assessment	LAAXXXC – Course Learning Objectives (CLOs)							
	SLO1		SLO3			SLO4		SLO6
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Assignment 1: Research	X	X		X	X			X
Assignment 2: Design			X	X		X	X	

In addition to the program CLOs, this course will emphasize developing skills in professional design communication: visual, verbal and written.

GRADING SCALE

For information on how UF assigns grade points, visit: https://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/ under *GRADES*.

A	93 – 100%		C	73 – 76%

A-	90 – 92%		C-	70 – 72%
B+	87 – 89%		D+	67 – 69%
B	83 – 86%		D	63 – 66%
B-	80 – 82%		D-	60 – 62%
C+	77 – 79%		E	<60

The Department acknowledges that the student retains ownership of their documents; however, it is a necessity for the Department to retain the right to use the documents for professional accreditation purposes. Furthermore, other course specific work, such as service-learning opportunities may require the Department to ultimately provide work created by students to an outside organization.

Digital copies of student work for this course must be turned in at the completion of each assignment. Please follow the directions given by the instructor as to how they will be submitted (e.g., Canvas, CD, PDF, word file, etc.).

IV. Annotated Weekly Schedule

Week	Topics, Activities, and Assignments
Week 1	• **Topic:** Course & Project Introduction • **Activity:** Library Visit & Class Discussion • **Assignment 1**
Week 2	• **Topic** Global Learning: Introduction to Landscape Architecture in India • **Activity:** Lecture & Student Presentations
Week 3	• **Topic:** Accessibility & Inaccessibility of Public Spaces • **Activity:** Discussion & Research Progress Critique
Week 4	• **Topic:** Global Learning: Intercultural Competency • **Activity:** Workshop & Research Progress Critique
Week 5	• **Topic:** Ethics and World-views, Underserved Communities • **Activity:** Discussion & Research Progress Critique
Week 6	• **Topic:** Visual & Written Communication • **Activity:** Visit the writing center for written project summary review
Week 7	• **Topic:** Designed & Vernacular • **Activity:** Virtual Exchange with BNCA & Student Presentations • **October 2: Assignment 1 Review & Submission**
Week 8	• **Topic:** Designed & Vernacular • **Activity:** Virtual Exchange with BNCA
Week 9	• **Topic:** Designed & Vernacular • **Activity:** Virtual Exchange with BNCA
Week 10	• **Topic:** Design Progress

	• **Activity:** Desk Crits
Week 11	• **Topic:** Design Progress • **Activity:** Desk Crits
Week 12	• **Topic:** Design Progress • **Activity:** Desk Crits
Week 13	• **Topic:** Design Progress • **Activity:** Desk Crits
Week 13	• **Topic:** Visual & Written Communication • **Activity:** Visit the writing center for written project summary review
Week 14-16	• Topic: Course wrap-up and review • Activity: Conclude the studio project & prepare for final submission • **December 2: Assignment 2 Review & Submission**

VI. Required Policies – https://go.ufl.edu/syllabuspolicies

Please use this link (https://go.ufl.edu/syllabuspolicies) to UF's academic policies and campus resources, including information on:

- Class Attendance

- Make-up Exams

- Assignments

- Accommodations/Disability Resources Center

- Grading Policies

- Course Evaluations

- Guidance on how to Provide Constructive Feedback

- UF's Honesty Policy

- In-Class Recording

As well as academic resources, including:

- E-learning technical support

- Career Connections Center

- Library Support

- Academic Resources: ex. General study skills and tutoring.

- Writing Studio: ex. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

- Academic Complaints: Office of the Ombuds

- Enrollment Management Complaints (Registrar, Financial Aid, Admissions)

- UF Student Success Initiative: for resources that support your success as a UF student, and

Campus Health and Wellness Resources:

- UF Whole Gator Resources: for resources that are designed to help you thrive physically, mentally, and emotionally at UF.