LA Design Studio 4425  Fall 2017
Landscape Ecology  Course Syllabus

The OSU LA program mission is to prepare students to become potential leaders in the discipline of landscape architecture by providing one of the premiere landscape architectural educations in the US Midwest. The program engages defining and solving environmental and cultural challenges with ecologically sensitive, economically responsible, socially equitable, and artistically interpreted responses.

MWF 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm
5 CREDIT HOURS
OFFICE: 347 Ag Hall
OFFICE HOURS: T 3:00 -4:00 pm or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
In this studio course we will explore medium to large scale landscape architectural design projects with emphasis on the arrangement and design of landscape elements as they relate to the integration of ecological landscape systems and environmental functions. We will explore the aesthetic qualities that emerge from the application of ecological design principles. Additionally this course introduces the individuals that have inspired the discipline of landscape ecology.

COURSE GOALS
At the end of the course you are expected to demonstrate the following concepts:
1. Knowledge of the principles of landscape ecology
2. Knowledge of programming as a process according to Kevin Lynch
3. Knowledge of natural, cultural, and aesthetic components involved with analyzing existing spaces for design and planning purposes.
4. Knowledge of design as a process and its role in relation to multiple and complex ecological issues.
5. Understanding of user needs and preferences and development strategies to express those needs in design.
6. The ability to communicate design in two and three dimensional graphic forms.

CLASS STRUCTURE / ORGANIZATION
The course is structured with lectures, assigned readings, quizzes, and studio work. Studio work applies directly to the lecture content to develop specific problem solving skills. Class readings will be assigned and you are expected to perform readings before the specified class. Readings will directly relate to the in class assignments, discussions, or lecture material. During the lecture portion of class you are expected to take notes.

REQUIRED TEXT

ADDITIONAL READING REQUIRED
Addition reading will be placed on D2L. All reading is required. You are expected to complete assigned readings simultaneously to studio work as they directly relate to the current problem. We will discuss the assigned reading and you will be called upon to present summary information.

**TALKING POINTS**
Per the course schedule students are to turn in a typed copy of your talking points and have a second copy for your use in class.

Talking points are 3 to 4 written statements, or questions, regarding the reading material and/or material from the previous class session. Talking points may comment on what was learned, what you think, what you question, and/or what is unclear from the text, lecture, and supplemental material.

Talking points are NOT a summary of the assigned readings but rather a reflection on what the student has learned or your thoughts about what is important.

**PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Portfolio-beginning of semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Exercise 3 @ #% each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Quizzes (2 @ 100 points each) 25 multiple choice questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Talking Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>Projects Botanical garden? Stillwater Greenway Park 25 Dolese 25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With each work assignment you will receive a problem statement outlining specific requirements and grading criteria. Work is to be submitted as indicated by the assignment sheet. The work you submit in this course should demonstrate the cumulative understanding and skills you are introduced to in this course to date. The overall level of completion, design quality, hand lettering, and graphic quality are all factors considered when evaluating your work. All assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade in this course.

**OSU LA PROGRAM GRADE INTERPRETATION**

All projects are expected to approach professional standards. The requirements for each project will be discussed in class when the work is assigned. Students are responsible for assuring that their work meets or exceeds the expectations for each project. The grading scale for the projects will reflect the standard university scale and can be interpreted as follows:

**90 – 100% = A Exceptional**

Work that show excellent creativity, thoughtfulness, technical knowledge, communication skill, and logically and effectively presented. These projects go above and beyond the requirements.

**80 - 89.9% = B Very Good**

Work that shows above average creative thought process, technical knowledge, a complete understanding of the problem, and is well presented. These projects push the requirements and may go beyond them, but not consistently.

**70 - 79.9% = C**

Work that show average creative thought and a satisfactory understanding of the course material. These projects meet the requirements.
60 - 69.9% = D
Work that shows poor creative thought, minimal knowledge and poor communications skills. These projects/assignments fail to meet some of the requirements.

0 - 59.9% = F
Work that shows a lack of creativity and a failure to understand and present the subject matter. These projects/assignments fail to meet some or many of the requirements.

Open JOURNAL/Sketchbook
Choose a sketchbook which is big enough to allow drawing freedom – one that will fit in your back pack. Your entire course experience will be recorded in your journal/sketchbook this semester: reading notes, lecture notes, design explorations and idea generation, well as class and field notes.

OSU LA PROGRAM WIDE LATE WORK POLICY
Extensions will only be given to students who have an official university excuse and where arrangements have been made prior the assignment’s due date.

Work is due at the time indicated on the project assignments sheet. Students are expected to turn in and/or present their project on time. Late work will be accepted in the course and will receive a deduction of -10% per hour. After 10 hours the work will receive zero points. When submitting to the course dropbox, this will be done automatically by the online classroom system.

Studio Presentations and Projects: Failure to present a studio project will result in -25% to the project grade. Late work will be accepted and will receive a deduction of -10% per day. When submitting to the course dropbox, this will be done automatically by the online classroom system. To pass a studio course you must complete and turn in all assigned projects. This rule applies even if the project is so late that you receive a zero on it.

ATTENDANCE --OSU LA PROGRAM WIDEA Desk Crits Mean Attendance

On each scheduled desk crit day workday you are required to meet with me individually. No desk crit-no attendance that day-- you will receive a 1% deduction per the course syllabus.

You are required to work in studio. Do not disappear or avoid a desk crit. I will make every effort to visit with each person for a set amount of time, and will come back to you as time permits.

Attendance in landscape architecture courses prepares students for the real world and fosters a work ethic and team attitude that is vital in industry. Attendance is mandatory and students are required to work in class for the entire session. To receive an official university excused absents students must communicate with the professor—in writing—and receive permission prior to the missed course or studio. Professional standards are expected; on the rare occasion that something comes up causing you to be late, an e-mail to the professor is expected.

Each student is allowed one non-excused absence after which the professor will subtract percentage point(s) from your final course grade for each day missed.

If a class meets 3 times a week then the deduction will be -1% for each additional day missed. If a class meets 2 times a week then the deduction will be -1.5% for each additional day missed. If a class meets 1 times a week then the deduction will be -3% for each additional day missed. (In all of these scenarios the deduction is -3% for each week of class missed.) Late arrival or early departure will result in ½ absents per day. Students are responsible for all information presented in class and meeting all due dates regardless of absences. Missed assignments, quizzes, and exercises may not be made up without an official excused absence.
A reasonable accommodation for students who must miss a class or studio due to required participation in sponsored University activity have the responsibility to notify the professor—in writing—as early as possible in the semester and in advance of the absences to request permission and to discuss how the absences will affect his or her ability to meet the course requirements. Neither the absence (nor the notification of an absence) relieves the student from meeting the course requirements.

CELL PHONE USE POLICY    OSU LA PROGRAM WIDE
Lecture rooms are NO Phone ZONES.
Do not have your phone visible in class.
If I see it I will stop class and take it away from you.

Students may not use their phones during instruction time. This means cell phones must be turned off or placed on silent and put away class or studio time.

CREDIT STATEMENT   OSU LA PROGRAM WIDE
Each assignment submitted by the student shall contain the following information which will be included in a title block for models, drawing projects, or a credit page for word processing documents.

- Institution Name: Oklahoma State University
- Program Name: Landscape Architecture and Contracting Program
- Instructor Name: Cheryl Mihalko, Assistant Professor,
- Course Name & Number: Landscape Architecture Design 4: LA 4425
- Semester & Year:
- Student Name:
- Project Due Date:
- Project Title:
- North arrow and graphic scale are required for graphic components

MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE...all the usual stuff
• Triangles: 30/60 & 45 or Adjustable• Architects & Engineers scale• Mechanical Pencils: 0.3mm, 0.5mm & 0.7mm• Felt Tip Pens- Pilot Razor Point, Pentel Sign Pen, Micron or Stadler 005, 01, 02, 03, 05 07 Black Pens• Leads: H & HB• Colored Pencils - Brands of choice: Prismacolor or Derwent Studio• Colored Markers - Brands of choice: Chartpak AD• Canson Marker Paper •12’x50’ & 18’x50’ White Tracing Paper• Templates: Circle, Ellipse, and others as need dictates• Drafting Tape or Dots• Eraser• Drawing Tube• X-Acto Knife and Blades• Glue• Scissors• Tool Box • Sketch Book, click pencils, and 2 jump drives.

Note: These are the basics, and will be carried with you from studio to studio. Other tools, materials and equipment may be required as indicated for the individual projects.
FIELD TRIPS
During the semester we will have the occasion to visit sites that are off campus. You are asked to carpool to and from these sites. Dates and times as well carpooling logistic will be discussed in studio prior to site visits.

FACILITIES
Remember this YOUR lab, take care of it and:
1. Keep the equipment clean. Use paper towels or cleaning rag w/water or mild dish soap or 409.
2. Never use abrasive cleaners such as Ajax, Comet, etc.
3. Take care of the equipment as your own and help us keep it in excellent condition for future students.
4. Report any abuses of equipment, computers, plotters, printers (or maintenance needed) to your instructor.
5. DON'T cut items (paper, cardboard, materials) on the vinyl board cover. You will be charged for its replacement value.
6. DON'T color drawings with felt markers directly on the vinyl board cover – use a sheet of trace tissue beneath your drawing. Felt markers will permanently stain the board cover.

DRAWING RETENTION
Digital representative samples of student projects will be selected and retained for program records. Your work thereby becomes property of the program. The work will be made available to the student in order to make digital copies.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
You are expected to follow the university policy regarding academic integrity as described in your course catalog.

SYLLABUS CHANGES
As the instructor I reserve the right to alter the sequence, scope, and content of the outlined material to permit new/innovative material or when current topics/guests can measurably add to your understanding of relevant issues. As schedule changes occur I will update the schedule and post it on D2L. You will be notified in sufficient time to meet any changes prior to due dates and/or grading.

Student Disabilities
Any student with a disability that affects his or her coursework, or who may require auxiliary aids or services to participate fully in the program is required to provide a description of their needs to the course instructor or Program Director as soon as possible. Every consideration will be given to those needing assistance.

OSU Syllabus attachment— see on-line

Let's have a great semester
If you have any problems, concerns, or questions please do not hesitate to let me know how I can help you. The best way to get in touch with me is by e-mail, I will respond within 24-hours. We can arrange a time to meet in my office, or talk on the phone. Typically I will meet with each of you during studio work days, don’t wait to let me know if there are issues impeding your success in this course.
**Study Hour Formula**

To help you determine if you are allowing enough studio/study time to earn the grade you want, complete the following formula for the courses you are taking this semester. While this is only a guideline it will help you determine how you need to plan your time for success in this course.

Use the following rule of thumb:

- 2 hours outside study per credit hour in class for an easy class.
- 3 hours outside study per credit hour in class for an average class.
- 4 hours outside study per credit hour in class for a difficult class.

**Consider any course that has a studio component a difficult class and plan a minimum of 4 hours for every hour in class as outside class work time.**

Complete this for the classes you are taking this semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Studio credit hours</th>
<th>x</th>
<th>credit hours</th>
<th>=</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL STUDY HOURS**

This formula is a general guideline: remember it is not only the quantity of study time but also its quality.
Memorandum of Understanding

I have read the course syllabus and understand what is expected of me Studio 4 LA 4455 with regard to professionalism, attendance, participation, class policies, and workload.

I have completed the Study Hour Formula Worksheet and know what is expected of me to receive the grade I choose.

_________________________________________________________
Signature

____________________________________________________________
Print your Name

____________________________________________________________
Date

Please detach this signature sheet and return it to me no later than this Friday, the first week of classes. To receive your attendance points.