COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course will focus on select readings, from outside and within the profession, which address issues of importance to the research and practice of landscape architecture. Students will respond critically in writing and in class discussion to questions such as: What is the author’s thesis? What are their research methods and what evidence is provided? How well are terms defined? How do the ideas of one author relate to others we have read?

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Three hours of weekly class meetings, reading assignments, and eleven one-page papers. Papers will be based on the assigned readings for each class and will respond directly to the essay question assigned for each. Essays must be typed, cannot exceed one page and are due at the beginning of each class. There are no correct responses that I am looking for; however, there are responses more thoughtful than others and responses that take better advantage of the readings and ideas we have discussed. While I respect any further reading that you might do, please do not include outside sources in your essay. Stay focused on the reading we share. Be as specific as possible. Do not summarize the article. Make an argument or generate a thesis statement and use brief quotations as necessary to support your argument. Explain quotations in your own words and demonstrate why they were meaningful enough to include. Edit. You may add written comments to your paper during class to illustrate changes in your thinking from our discussion.

SCHEDULE
JAN 7  Course Introduction.

PART 1 – ISSUES FOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE FROM OTHER DISCIPLINES
JAN 15  FROM A CLASSICIST: THE GARDEN
Required Reading:

Essay Question: Take a position that landscape is or is not meaningless based on Ferrari’s discussion of gardens.

JAN 21  FROM AN ANTHROPOLOGIST: A CASE STUDY OF MODERNISM FROM BRASÍLIA
Required Reading:

Essay Questions: Choose one
How does the author characterize CIAM’s use of the machine metaphor.
Discuss and compare the two contradictory ideas of CIAM presented by Holston.
How are the tenants of modern art actualized in architecture through defamiliarization.

JAN 28 FROM A PHILOSOPHER: A QUESTION OF DESIGN
Required Reading:

Essay Question: What specifically is Latour saying about landscape, if you transpose the word “landscape” for “object” in his argument?
FEB 4 FROM A BIOLOGIST and JOURNALIST: THE (AGRICULTURAL) LANDSCAPE

**Required Reading and Watching:**
- Michael Pollan Deep Agriculture/LongNow.org video published 2012: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tnp6cAGSalo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tnp6cAGSalo)

**Essay Question:** Describe the potential landscape change that could be generated from Jackson's and Pollan's discussion of agriculture.

**PART 2 – LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE RESEARCH**

FEB 11 PICTURESQUE TECHNOLOGY

**Required Reading:**

**Essay Question:** Either contrast or compare the interpretation of engineering from the authors in the picturesque of Capability Brown and J.C.A. Alphand.

FEB 18 MODERNIST MANIFESTOS

**Required Reading:**

**Essay Question:** Develop a thesis that addresses one issue discussed in both manifestos, compare and contrast.

FEB 25 RESTORATION OF ECOLOGICAL CORRIDORS

**Required Reading:**

**Essay Question:** Compare the strengths of the written statements to the images proposed by the four competition projects.

MAR 4

**Required Reading:**

**Essay Question:** Develop a thesis that either unites or contrasts the point of view of Hutton and M'Closkey.