LARCH 2000: Introduction to Landscape Architecture
Hilbert

Introduction to the profession of Landscape Architecture and the breadth of Landscape Architectural projects and practice.

This course is graded S/U.

1 credit hour

LARCH 2367/E: Making and Meaning of the American Landscape
Boswell

Look around. The built environment that we experience on a daily basis, from our sprawling cities to the houses that we grew up in, didn’t come about by chance. It isn’t luck, good or bad, that our cities and towns and farms and suburbs take the forms that they do. Rather, those forms have result from the collective and layered actions of people both great and small over many generations. The resulting landscape, whether we’re talking about a national park or a suburban strip mall can be read and understood both as an artifact of the technology and design practices of its time and also as a signifier of the cultural ideas, political movements, and economic forces that drove its creation. In this course we will explore the breadth of ideas that have shaped the built landscapes of the United States. This course counts as both a Culture and Ideas General Elective and a second Writing in the Curriculum General Elective. Because the course fulfills two General Electives its structure is divided in order to honor both sets of requirements. The lecture portion of the course fulfills the Culture and Ideas General Elective. Lectures, visual presentations, films and documentaries shown in class will explore three core ideas: 1) That every element of the built environment reflects not only its specific location, but also the socio-cultural, technological, political and economic context of its time; 2) That understanding these forces can enable an observer to more fully read and appreciate the built environment around them; and, 3) That in understanding how to read embedded meaning in the landscape around them students will be better prepared to engage that landscape in sophisticated and critical ways. Writing assignments and verbal presentations in the recitation sections are intended to fulfill the requirements of the second writing course. Writing assignments focus on critical readings of visual landscapes and landscape elements. Recitations will be devoted to discussing and workshopping the organization, tone, content, style and argument of selected academic essays and student work.

Prerequisites: English 1110 (111) or 110, or equiv.

GE writing and communication: level 2 and cultures and ideas course.

3 credit hours
LARCH 2600/E: Outlines of Landscape Architecture: Visual Literacy in the Built Environment
Kentner

Outlines in Landscape Architecture surveys landscape design as cultural artifact of historic and contemporary times. The course considers how landscapes, large and small, reflect cultural rituals, arts, technologies, and economies toward establishing each student's visual landscape literacy. The course culminates in a review of the contemporary role of landscape in cities as it relates to green infrastructure and sustainable urban futures.

GE VPA course.
3 credit hours

LARCH 2780/CRPLAN 4430: Humanizing Streets – Exploring Approaches To Complete And Sustainable Streets Across The Urban Transect
Instructors: Andrew Overbeck and Justin Goodwin

Streets are the framework for our urban systems – enabling commerce, moving people, and providing spaces for human interaction. Too long tilted in favor of the automobile, cities define streets based on their ability to handle traffic ("collectors," "arterials," "distributors"). Cold, antiseptic and uninviting spaces, they are designed with the sole purpose of moving the greatest number of vehicles at the greatest possible speed.

In the last decade this has started to change. The balance is shifting in favor of an approach to designing streets to serve multiple users – cars, pedestrians, bikes, and transit. Cities have also started to utilize street edges to integrate green infrastructure solutions. These more "complete" streets maximize the potential of the public right-of-way by recognizing the need to accommodate all types of mobility and aspects of sustainability, but how do they function in reality? What else needs to change in order to truly humanize and right-size our streets? Can or should every street accommodate these additional levels of infrastructure?

This seminar course will:

Explore existing complete street and green streets case studies, best practices and solutions locally, nationally and internationally
Develop new ideas for improving the urban realm and humanizing streets, while still accommodating the need for urban infrastructure
Examine the trade-offs and benefits to implementing these changes
Identify local problem areas across the urban transect from Downtown to suburban locations
Explore the relationship between the public realm of the street and adjacent development forms through context-sensitive design
Apply existing and new solutions to these study areas
Collaborate with local communities to refine design solutions and create mechanisms for change
Demonstrate these solutions on-site using tactical urbanism techniques to build temporary installations to prove effectiveness

3 credit hours
LARCH 4410/7410: Advanced Landscape Technologies  
Cartwright

Introduction and development of skills in advanced landscape technologies, including design, communication, modeling, fabrication, implementation and information technologies.

Full description coming soon.

2 credit hours

LARCH 4410/7410: Advanced Landscape Technologies  
Malmstrom

Roughly structured around the introductory level Grasshopper Workshop offered at the ACADIA 2009: reform Conference in Chicago, students will obtain a working level of Grasshopper through a series of assignments and exercises. Topics covered will include: the interface, persistent vs. volatile data, data matching algorithms, functions & booleans, data trees, list and data management, vectors, attractor patterns, and much more.

Utilizing the Grasshopper interface within Rhino 4.0, students will begin by replicating a series of contemporary case-study projects employing the parametric design software. These projects range in scale from large topographies such as Eisenman's Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe to facade studies such as Herzog & De Meuron's Signal Box and more. After understanding each case-study, students will then take the project further as they propose their own modification to the parametric definition resulting in an altered version of the original project. The course will culminate in the fabrication of one these modified systems utilizing the school's various prototyping and fabrication equipment.

This course is eligible for architecture elective credit.

3 credit hours

LARCH 5610/E: History & Theory: Gardens  
Imbert

Title: Landscape Architecture 1850-1970

This course presents the history of landscape architecture from 1850 to 1970 with a particular emphasis on the Western world. By studying the projects and writings that defined the modern landscape architecture discipline and by exploring connections to urbanism and architecture, students will be able to situate their own design investigations in a historical context. A series of lectures and discussions will highlight themes that are of continued relevance, including professional identity, regionalism and nationalism, gender and design, and social and ecological responsibility. Projects will range from the garden to the city and from garden city to highway. The scope of investigations will integrate marginalized and less known figures of landscape architecture to critically assess the role and image of the profession. Students are expected to actively participate in class, respond to readings in writing, and establish parallels between historical and contemporary examples.
ARCH/LARCH/CRPLAN 5690: Design Competition
Kentner

Do you envision a more innovative built environment? Put your skills and ideas to the test and compete to win. Successful real estate development and design in the 21st century requires intensive collaboration across disciplines and sectors. In the Hines Competition, you will have the chance to form a multidisciplinary team with four other graduate students in the United States or Canada and tackle a real land use challenge in a U.S. city.

If you are interested in being a part of this student design competition next term, sign up for 5960 Design Competition for Spring. The class will run for the months of January and February. The competition will ask students to work in multi-disciplinary design teams on a large scale urban design project. Teams will be formed for both GRAD and UGRAD students.

This is an ideas competition with no expectation that any of the submitted schemes will be applied to any site. The winning team will receive $50,000 and the finalist teams $10,000 each. For more information, visit the Web site: udcompetition.org.

If you are interested in the course please plan to attend our first informational meeting next Tuesday at 5:30 in rm 178 of Knowlton Hall. Pizza and refreshments will be provided. More information on the design competition can be found on the ULI page linked above.

Prereq: Jr, Sr, or Grad standing. Repeatable to a maximum of 9 cr hrs or 3 completions.

2 credit hours