LARCH 2920 :: Landscape Architectural Design

The Ohio State University | Knowlton School of Architecture
Landscape Architecture Section | Autumn 2013 I SYLLABUS

Site design is the thoughtful arrangement of elements driven by both poetic intentions and functional, ecological and cultural concerns.

Course Description

Site design is the thoughtful arrangement of elements driven by both poetic intentions and functional, ecological and cultural concerns. This course will tackle two projects. The first project, located within the OSU campus is smaller in scale and complexity. In this project you will design a series of reading rooms. Issues of simultaneously creating privacy and visibility within a larger complex will be address. The second project is located in downtown Columbus adjacent to the recently completed Scioto Mile asks you to create a public urban space centered on the interpretation, performance and making of music. In both projects you will be exposed to

You will be introduced to the ideals of sustainable landscapes, which is no small endeavor; for these landscapes are not only ecologically regenerative, well crafted, educational, and conceptually meaningful, but also aesthetically rich.

Instructors

Karla Trott   trott.16@osu.edu   KSA Room 270   292-8397   Office hrs by appt.
David Shimmel   shimmel.4@buckeyemail.osu.edu]   KSA Room 270   Office hrs by appt.

Meeting Time

Lecture: KSA Room 269 – M.W.F.(days TBA) 1:50 – 2:45   Sophomore Studio – M.W.F. 2:45 – 6:15

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Site Planning Approach

Our approach will utilize a systematic, but intuitive, thoughtful and artistic approach to design beginning with precedent case studies to quickly develop an arsenal of built works that can become future design references for you. A critical step in the design process is the understanding the existing site context, opportunities and constraints. A design process which utilizes a concept or design strategy to guide decision process is extremely helpful. In the second project of greater complexity, we will utilize systems diagrams to insure that the project works as an integrated whole. Finally we will incorporate both hand-drawn and computer graphics which communicate your design intentions through character, style and appropriately chosen media.

Pedagogic Objective

The design process is the journey from idea to physical form. Each student is expected to expand their conceptual idea to actual form and the representations required to communicate that form to clients. The design process is iterative and the continual re-checking and evaluation of the design scheme with program, concept is imperative. Students are expected to gain knowledge and understanding of the principles of landscape architectural design development and implementation by:

- Continuing to build upon fundamental design principles of form, space and order in relation to social, cultural and community as well as environmental condition.

- Understanding the landscape architectural design process from site analysis, concept and strategy through schematic design.

- Utilizing precedent studies to glean from examples of built works.

- Utilizing site analysis to identify site-based problems and opportunities.

- Developing an understanding of site ecology as a context for site concept and design.

- Expressing a spatial design language and communicating key design concepts in a professional manner using hand drawings, computer graphics, modeling, verbal presentation and writing abilities to represent design interventions.

- Becoming self-critical and self-motivated towards one's work in order to develop and advance the students ideas.

- Contributing usefully to individual and group efforts in the studio environment in training for an office.

- Engaging with the dynamic qualities of site design, including spatial experience, materiality, micro and macro community and environmental processes.

- Applying basic site grading, planting, water management and environmental processes.

- Ongoing application of earthworks/ plants / water skills and explorations of applicable landscape technologies in coordination with Larch 2910

Information Dissemination

The course material will be delivered through desk critiques, interim pin-ups and reviews, workshops, lectures and presentations, site visits, and the final review. Students are expected to utilize information provided and material research, of both their own production and that of related workshop classes to the fullest extent possible in their design explorations in this studio.

Readings

Readings have been selected from a number of sources and are intended to reinforce particular concepts covered in lecture and/or to broaden the student's thinking of the design project. Readings will be distributed by Carmen or in class.

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Academic Integrity

This studio will abide by University, School, and Section policies and guidelines regarding academic integrity. Please familiarize yourself with them, and ask faculty about any concepts you do not understand. Students will be held responsible for any breach of academic integrity occurring in this course.

Grading Policy

Grades for this course are based on student performance relative to the instructors' expectations and to the performance of other students enrolled in the class. Students are evaluated at the completion of each assignment. Evaluations are based on the following ratings with plus and minus qualifications:

Excellent to Superior Work / Effort   A (/-)
Satisfactory to Quality Work / Effort   B (+/-)
Passing to Acceptable Work / Effort   C (+/-)
Poor to Unacceptable Work / Effort   D (+/-)
Failure E
Incomplete I

The final grade for this course will be as follows:

10%   Individual progress, effort and engagement and participation
30%   Class Exercises
25%   Mid review
35%   Final review

An incomplete can be given only if a student is determined by the instructors to have successfully completed at least half of the studio assignments by the end of the final day of class. To make up the incomplete, all work must be submitted in a manner agreed between the instructors and the student and according to OSU academic guidelines.

Attendance / Late Work Policy

Attendance at all scheduled class times is required. There is a clear correlation between attendance and one's success in the class. Failure to present or submit the work on time without a valid excuse will result in no credit for that portion of the course. Progress must be shown at each class period in order for the student to receive credit for that class period. Excuses will be granted only for serious personal illness, family emergencies, a death in the immediate family or other circumstances by approval of the instructor or section head (doctor's excuses should be presented to the instructor without the need of the instructor to ask). Permission must be received from the instructor prior to missing a class or submitting late work. All assignments must be complete to receive a passing grade. Two unexcused absences results in a lowering of a student's grade by one letter. A student may be warned by email after the first unexcused absence. Late work will be penalized ten percent for first day after missing deadline and five percent for each subsequent day or according to policy of The Ohio State University and/ or The Knowlton School of Architecture whichever is less punitive.

Attendance and participation at all reviews in their entirety are required. Absences from such presentations without a valid excuse will result in a grade reduction. In order to be excused from class or any of the above requirements, a written explanation of the absence must be transmitted to the instructor by hand or email, *prior to the absence.*

Project Archiving

Faculty reserve the right to archive student work for the purposes of accreditation, display, and/or future teaching use. All students are to provide the instructor with a digital record (CD/DVD) of their project(s) at the end of the term. CD /DVDs should be labeled with the students name, course number, and term of course.

Course Expenses

Students are expected to cover cost of all necessary course expenses, including modeling materials and printing costs.

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KSA Studio Conduct

It is crucial that students work in the studio to gain the benefit of the studio critics and comments and also because of the collaborative nature of the projects. The only exception for leaving studio is to perform research or use the computer lab. It is imperative in studio that all students feel they have at least fifty percent use of a shared computer. No one may physically position a computer so another feels uncomfortable using that computer. Students are responsible for keeping their areas clean and floors free from obstructions. Loud noise is forbidden during studio hours.

OSU Student Conduct

Students are required to adhere to all codes and academic policies of The Ohio State University and the Knowlton School of Architecture. In particular, plagiarism (the use of the ideas, words or works of intellectual content of another person as if they are one's own or without crediting the source) is strictly forbidden.

The Student Code of Conduct (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp) defines academic misconduct as: *any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the university, or subvert the educational process*. All students are required to review the code and understand the implications of a code violation. If there is any suspicion of academic misconduct, the faculty member/ instructor will report the alleged violation to the section head and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/home.html) for investigation and any further action.

Sexual Harassment: O.S.U.'s Sexual Harassment policy, which applies to all faculty, staff, and students, includes lewd remarks and inappropriate comments made in the studio environment, classroom, and computer labs as well as the "display of inappropriate sexually oriented materials in a location where others can see it." Students can file a complaint by contacting Student Judicial Affairs at 292-0748. Sanctions include reprimand, suspension, and dismissal from the University.

Students with Disabilities: If a student requires accommodation for a disability, he or she should immediately arrange an appointment with the professors and the Office for Disability Services. At the appointment, the professors, disability counselors, and student can discuss the course format, anticipate needs and decide upon accommodations. Professors rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies.

The following items are prohibited in Knowlton Hall: non-KSA furniture, liquor, weapons, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, pets, spray paints, foam cutter wands, welding devices, heat guns, and any flame or gaseous liquid device. The following safety compliances must be observed: electrical power cords cannot be connected in a series or extend over traffic areas; fire extinguishers must remain accessible and in full view; access to stairwells, corridors, and aisles must maintain a 44" clear width and handrails must be unobstructed. Building surfaces cannot be marked, anchored to, or penetrated. Installations may not occur in any part of the building except by permission of the KSA Building Coordinator. Power tools are restricted to the shop except when permission is granted by the KSA Building Coordinator. Loud noise is forbidden. Graffiti and vandalism are grounds for disciplinary action.

Student Resources

If you need an accommodation related to a disability, you should contact the Office for Disability Services or the ADA Coordinator's Office for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. Your needs and potential accommodations will be considered relative to the course format. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, you are encouraged to do so. ADA Coordinator's Office: http://ada.osu.edu Office for Disability Services: http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu (614) 292-3307 | Fax: (614) 292-4190 | TDD: (614) 292-0901 Other resources for students can be found at: http://studentaffairs.osu.edu.

Syllabus Changes

Faculty reserve the right to modify, alter, delete, add, or otherwise change the contents of this syllabus at any time during the quarter upon proper notification to all students enrolled in the course.