LAND 486 Landscape Architecture Design IV
Spring 2016
School of Architecture  University of Nevada Las Vegas
6 Credits Pre-requisite LAND 484 and admission to upper-division studies

Associate Professor:
phone: email:
office:


Syllabus
Course Description
This studio course focuses on the successful completion of a capstone design project. An emphasis will be placed on the integration of design theory, principles, and applications at a level that demonstrates a synthesized understanding of research and design methodologies in landscape architecture.

Course Structure
This course is a 6 credit hour studio. The structure includes lectures, discussions, group exercises, charettes, and studio critiques. This course will rely heavily on the desk and group critique as an opportunity for feedback and instruction. Students will also be required to keep a project review log that documents their progress throughout the semester. An emphasis will be placed on developing an individualized perspective as a designer. That individualized perspective will be rooted in the ability to critically analyze and articulate design precedence into one’s own body of work.
Student Learning Objectives
Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to gain appropriate insight through the analysis of given site conditions,

- Demonstrate the ability to identify, select, analyze, and interpret appropriate design case studies in order to inform the design process,

- Use fundamental modes of communication to synthesize the required components related to site design. (eg: site grading and drainage, pedestrian and vehicular circulation, and sustainable systems)

- Identify opportunities and challenges associated with the socio-economic and environmental conditions of a given context,

- Use fundamental modes of communication to develop design responses that utilize appropriate components of the built environment in response to the insight gained through the analysis of a given socio-economic and environmental context.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course students will document the skill and ability to:

- to conduct analysis using the conventions of diagraming at an advanced level.

- to communicate design proposals through the conventions of diagraming at an advanced level.

- to conduct analysis using the conventions of orthographic drawing at an advanced level.

- to communicate design proposals through the conventions of orthographic drawing at an advanced level.

- to conduct analysis using the conventions of three dimensional drawing (axonometric and perspectival) at an advanced level.

- to communicate design proposals through the conventions of three dimensional drawing (axonometric and perspectival) at an advanced level.

- to communicate design proposal intentions and outcomes through the conventions of written communication at an advanced level.

- to conduct analysis using the conventions of physical modeling at an advanced level.

- to communicate design proposals through the conventions of physical modeling at an advanced level.
- to investigate project and design scenarios at appropriate scale (eg: conceptual, contextual, site, and detail) at an advanced level.

- to graphically communicate the intellectual content of design research, analysis and proposals through the conventional use of presentation boards at an advanced level.

**Course Deliverables**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will produce a capstone project that will be entered into the National ASLA student design competition. All entries must be formatted to competition requirements. Please reference individual assignment sheets for due dates and requirements.

**Course Format**

This course studio will be delivered in a hybrid on-line/on-site design studio format. Each student is required to log a minimum of thirty minutes per week with the on-line critic.

**Recommended Books***


* These are books that every student and practitioner of Landscape Architecture should own. If we have to repeatedly refer you to one or both of these books, and you do not already own them, we reserve the right to make these titles required.

**Additional Required Readings**

Additional reading will be posted in your LAND 486 Dropbox account.

**Semester Schedule **

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>19 January</td>
<td>Class Introduction and Expectations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Action Plan Assigned &amp; Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>No Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Discuss Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propose Storyboard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Action Plan Workshop &amp; Revisions Assigned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Workshop: Storyboarding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Dispose Analysis | 3 | 2 February | Present Storyboards  
Workshop: Analysis Modeling & Assignment  
Review & Desk Crits |
| 4 | 9 | Present Models  
Workshop: Applied Digital Analysis & Assignment  
Review & Desk Crits |
| 5 | 16 | Present Applied Analysis  
Workshop: Schematic Scenario Builder  
Review & Desk Crits |
| Propose Design Response | 6 | 23 | Present Schematics  
Workshop: Design Response  
Review & Desk Crits |
| 7 | 1 March | Present Design Response  
Workshop: TBD as specific project elements may require further exploration.  
Review & Desk Crits |
| 8 | 10 | Workshop: TBD  
Review & Desk Crits |
| 9 | 15 | Workshop: TBD as specific project elements may require further exploration.  
Review & Desk Crits |
| 10 | 22 | Spring Break: No Class |
| Dispose Synthesis | 11 | 29 | Workshop: Proof of Concept & Feedback Loop  
Review & Desk Crits |
| 12 | 5 April | Present New Analysis & Design Iterations  
Workshop: Opportunities & Constraints  
Review & Desk Crits |
| Propose Final Design Iterations | 13 | 12 | Final Design Iterations will be determined on an individual basis concurrent with the expectations of a design capstone project. |
| 14 |
*Schedule may change during the course of the semester.

**Attendance and Participation**
This course will adhere to the SOA Attendance Policy:

"Attendance at classes, laboratories, studios and seminars is required. If excessive absences are noted in a particular course, the student will be notified in person and by letter that he or she will be administratively withdrawn if further unexcused absences are noted. If further absences occur after notification, the student will be withdrawn from the course and the program.” (p.152, undergraduate catalog).

An excused absence, as defined by the School of Architecture is not “I have to be at work so I can’t be in class”, rather documented illness is an excused absence, or representing the school in a sponsored event, or other similar activity, event, or family emergency. Attendance may be taken at any time during the scheduled class period. If you are going to be absent or late, for any reason, you must let me know in writing 24 hours prior to the class period. If you miss class for any reason, contact me as soon as possible with documentation and make arrangements for the continuation of your work. Class discussions and in-class assignments will not be repeated. Three unexcused absences will result in lowering your grade up to one full letter grade, at my discretion. More than three unexcused absences are grounds for dropping you from the course, as outlined in the SOA Policy.

This course is an important step in developing a plan for completing your landscape architecture degree. In order to accomplish this, your time and commitment are necessary. It is important to be on time for all class meetings and to produce work regularly for input and review. YOU ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALL CLASSES unless other arrangements have been agreed to. Please let me know ahead of time if any anticipated absences or attendance difficulties arise. In the case of scheduling conflicts, individuals are responsible for obtaining information missed.

YOU ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE ON TIME. Professional conduct requires that manage your time in such a way that is not disrespectful to others.
Please inform us if any anticipated absences or attendance difficulties arise. In the case of an absence, individuals are responsible for obtaining information missed.

Participation in class discussions is required and part of your grade. On days that are scheduled for critiques, bring drafts and personal notes for discussion and review with the instructors.

**Grade Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Storyboards</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design Response</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthesis</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Design Iterations</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Review</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Final Review</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Review</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission of Project Portfolio</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Participation</td>
<td>200</td>
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</tbody>
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This category includes but is not limited to:

- Project Submission to the National ASLA Student Design Competition,
- Attendance and active participation during group discussions,
- Active participation in any activities that arise out of group discussions, including but not limited to the application
  - of techniques covered in digital/graphic work sessions,
  - Attendance and active participation of your peer’s project critiques during formal pin-ups,
- Studio clean up.

**2000 points total**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points to Letter Grade Conversion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1698</td>
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<td>1398</td>
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<td>1098</td>
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<tr>
<td>798</td>
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**Grading Structure**

The following standards supplement the Grading System for Undergraduate Students as listed in the current Undergraduate Catalog.
Letter Grade Description

A  Superior: Represents comprehensive excellence. Not only does the work fulfill all requirements in an excellent and professional manner but goes beyond the given requirements aiming at standards higher than requested. The student is an active and engaged participant in all class activities and intellectual progress and development have been demonstrated by the timely preparation of thoughtful work on a regular basis. This work is of a quality that is instructive to the teacher and exemplary to the rest of the class.

B  Above Average: Represents work that can be distinguished as being of truly “good” quality. This work is of a quality that has been instructive to the rest of the class. The work is free of significant flaws, is comprehensive in scope, and is recognizable as coherent architecture. The student is an active and engaged participant in all class activities and intellectual progress and development have been demonstrated by the timely preparation of work on a regular basis.

C  Average: Represents satisfactory and average performance. The work is free of major design flaws and is recognizable as coherent architecture. Intellectual progress and development have been demonstrated by the timely preparation of work on a regular basis. The student and instructor can take “satisfaction” in the average resolution of the design exercise.

Students of Architecture, Interior Architecture and Design, and Landscape Architecture must attain a minimum grade of “C-” in all coursework taken within the School of Architecture as a part of the completion of their major course requirements. Students who attain any grade below a “C-” in any course within their major must retake that course and attain a minimum grade of “C-” in order to advance towards graduation.

D-F  Failing: Represents substandard work that is not passable. Work has not fulfilled requirements, or has not been completed on time, or does not appropriately address the design exercise, and is unacceptable.

I  Incomplete Grades - The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed all course work up to the withdrawal date of that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. A student who receives an I is responsible for making up whatever work was lacking at the end of the semester. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade. As per the UNLV Office of the Vice President and Provost Spring 2013
Instructors are permitted to assign + or – to grades. However, there is no grade of “A+” within these guidelines.

UNLV Landscape Architecture Program Incomplete/Late Work Policy

Late Work
Late work will not be accepted. If appropriate, i.e. in the case of an excused absence, the decision to accept make up work will be handled by the studio critics on a case-by-case basis.

Incomplete Work
Incomplete work will not be accepted. The submission of incomplete work will result in the issuance a zero mark for that assignment.

Evaluations
Student Evaluation of Faculty Member(s)
Students have the opportunity to formally evaluate the faculty at the end of term. You are also encouraged to speak to us at any time with responses, suggestions or feedback - positive or negative. It is important to keep up with good communications. Please bring up any concerns privately, or, if necessary, publicly, with the whole class.

Class evaluations will be available for students to complete during the last two weeks of class. All evaluations are confidential; instructors will never know how any one student responded to any question, and students will never know the ratings for any particular instructors.

Faculty Evaluation of Student Progress
Feedback from the instructor(s) will occur in the following ways:
• on request from you
• assignment marks and comments

Jury Week
Jury Week is scheduled for the last week of April, during which our design studio as well as the other landscape architecture design studios will hold final presentations of their term projects. The exact date and time for our final presentations will be determined and announced at a later date. The opportunity to present our work to a diverse jury is a great honor and experience; nonetheless the opportunity to see and hear about other’s projects is also invaluable to your education. You are highly encouraged to attend other class presentations during Jury Week.

Documentation and Retention of Student Work
The Program may keep final presentation material at the end of semester for each project. The materials serve several functions to the Program and the University. They are used to document student outcomes during accreditation and to demonstrate the value of our Program to the University community. Nevertheless, please take photographs, digital images or copies of your projects to use in your portfolio. All students in all classes are required to submit a complete set of work digitally in .pdf format on a CD at the end of the semester to the course instructor.
Portfolio/Submission of Work Policy
At the end of each course all students will submit copies of his or her work in the form of hardcopy and digital portfolios. Submission of the course portfolio is mandatory – NO EXCEPTIONS. Please adhere to the following submission guidelines:

DIGITAL PORTFOLIO

Format
• Create your portfolio using the guidelines set forth in class in conjunction with the portfolio design textbook
• Submit your portfolio as a .pdf
• Submit your ASLA submission as a .pdf
• Submit all works in their native file format, eg. Ai, Psd., etc.,
• You must burn each file (total of two, .pdf and native) to a CD and submit it to your studio/lecture class instructor. It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that his or her files are properly burnt and can be opened. *(No exceptions)*

Content
• The portfolio must document **ALL** of the work that you completed during the semester. This includes, but is not limited to process work, sketches, photos of models, final presentation images, written assignments, quizzes, exams, etc.

The portfolio must be clearly organized and in chronological order starting at the beginning of the semester and tracing your progress throughout the remainder of the semester. Each course instructor will set the grade weighting for the portfolio at his or her discretion.

Studio Etiquette
This studio will adhere to all the policies in the School of Architecture Handbook. Your grade may be lowered for repeated violations of studio etiquette or any other policy in the Handbook. Please use common courtesy in all your studio doings. Space – if you make a mess clean it up and if you need to use others space, politely ask. Music – please keep music at a level for your personal listening only, headphones are preferred. Please turn music off during all class discussions. Spray materials – please use the spray booths in the simulation lab to spray all adhesives, paints or other materials. Cell Phones – please do not disrupt class or critiques. End of Semester Clean up - the studio must be left clean and orderly at the end of the semester. Please remove all work that is not to be kept by the program. All other work materials and personal items must be removed by the last day of the semester. No one will be issued a passing grade until the area around his or her desk is clean and ordered.

University Policies

Academic Misconduct—Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students
accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (approved December 9, 2005) located at: https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct.

Copyright—The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)—The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, http://drc.unlv.edu/, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Religious Holidays Policy—Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses, or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531.

Transparency in Learning and Teaching—The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information: https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency

Incomplete Grades—The grade of I—Incomplete—can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it.
The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

Tutoring and Coaching—The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit http://www.unlv.edu/asc or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

UNLV Writing Center—One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student’s Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/.

Rebelmail—By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.

Final Examinations—The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars.

Students may consult with a Librarian on research needs. For this class, the subject librarian is http://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject . UNLV libraries provides resources to support students access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at http://www.library.unlv.edu/.