

**University of Oregon**  
**Department of Landscape Architecture**  
**Spring 2021 Course Description:**  
**LA 489/589 Landscape Architecture Tech Studio**  
**MWF 1:00- 4:50 PM • Location TBA • 6 credits • Grading P/NP**  
**Stangeland**



The unique focus of this class is centered on the professional preparation of contractual documents in the form of a construction drawing set. The engagement of this work simultaneously addresses the programmatic expectations of our client, a profound and meaningful response to the environment, public safety, accessibility, and financial affordability. The results of this class will be a compilation of 3D models, materials specifications, calculations, rendered drawings, and construction documents.

The emphasis in this class will be on the integration of your technical and design skills. This studio offers the opportunity to demonstrate your capacity to see the construction of landscapes as a complex ensemble of structural elements, plant materials, theoretical insights, ecological systems, historical influences, etc. We are immensely interested in the physicality of your project and how we can shape your dreams into reality.

Our goal is a set of construction drawings for a new community park located in the Willamette Valley. This new park must support an expanded program of elements and will incorporate design solutions that follow best management practices. The design will need to address new park needs, universal accessibility, bicycle parking, lighting design and storm water best management practices. The final construction drawing set will require you to prepare several different plan drawings including but not limited to site plan, grading plan, dimensioning plan, lighting plan, and planting plan. Sections, elevations, and details, sufficient to bid and construct your design, will also be included in your submission.

The term will commence with a series of site visits to plazas and courtyards which will focus on strategies for grading, materials and construction dimensioning. The first Friday of the term **April 3rd**, students can join in on an optional field trip around Campus. We will review the programmatic intentions for the new park. During the field trip around Campus we will visit a number of landscapes in and around the University of Oregon campus. The students will be required to photograph, sketch, measure key plaza features i.e., paving material, drainage systems, bollard, lights and all other materials to be used in the final design. The goal is to use these sketches and conversations to prepare for the work that will be required in the preparation of your construction drawings.

The first two weeks will focus on defining what landscape construction drawings are, where they fit into the design process and how they are part of the larger construction package. Through a series of lectures, readings, and assignments, students will practice drawing layout plans, grading plans and the detailing of key elements for the community park. In addition to this work, we will use current CAD base drawings to study design options in plan view, 3D models, and section/elevations to assist in our thinking about these structures and landscape elements.

Work sessions on grading, dimensioning, detailing, planting design, lighting and paving design will be held weekly. Students will use their park to study each one of these facets of design development and construction drawings.

Our mid term review will include both instructors and invited professional reviews of your detailed designs for the park. The mid term review will include design development plans, 60% complete set of construction drawings, sketch up model, materials board, furniture and lighting selections, and an illustrative poster showing imagery of the project. The review will focus on critiquing the 60 % completion set of construction drawings.

The remainder of the studio will focus on construction drawing set process and the preparation of the final construction drawings. You will now be able to refine details, construction drawings, printing a draft set, redline and adjust your drawings.

### **Class Prerequisites**

All students are required to have completed and received a passing grade in all prerequisite classes prior to taking the Tech Studio. These include, but are not limited to: All previous studio classes (LA 289/589, LA 439/539), Tech I (LA 363) and Tech II (LA 366). **Students who do not meet these criteria will not be allowed to take this studio.**

### **Grading Policy**

The class is a Pass/No Pass class. At mid term students will be informed whether their work and attendance is deserving of a pass. Attendance, turning in the assignments on time, and completing all of the assignments is a must, accounting for 65% of the grade. Students will be allowed two excused absences. Students working in the computer lab must be present in studio at the beginning and end of each class session. In extenuating circumstances, students needing to take an incomplete will need to get approval from their advisor and studio professor. Students who opt to take an incomplete will be required to use the course work from the term, and will still be expected to complete the design set.

## **Objectives**

Upon completion of the class students will have a firm knowledge of the technical systems, conventions and practices employed during the translation of a schematic design into a professional - contractual style - construction set. A strong emphasis on materiality, graphic representation and construction techniques will introduce students to advanced technical thinking while extensive exploration through drawing, reading, conversation, and arithmetic, combined with lectures, professional engagement and onsite construction visits, will immerse students in the applied technical realities of landscape design. Students will be evaluated by their ability to communicate their design intent through the aforementioned aspects, clarity and completeness of the final construction set, adherence to architectural standards, an understanding of the metrics governing technical design work, as well as their personal growth.

## **Academic Misconduct**

The University Student Conduct Code (available at [conduct.uoregon.edu](http://conduct.uoregon.edu)) defines academic misconduct. Students are prohibited from committing or attempting to commit any act that constitutes academic misconduct. By way of example, students should not give or receive (or attempt to give or receive) unauthorized help on assignments or examinations without express permission from the instructor. Students should properly acknowledge and document all sources of information (e.g. quotations, paraphrases, ideas) and use only the sources and resources authorized by the instructor. If there is any question about whether an act constitutes academic misconduct, it is the students' obligation to clarify the question with the instructor before committing or attempting to commit the act. Additional information about a common form of academic misconduct, plagiarism, is available at [www.libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students](http://www.libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students).

## **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course, which may result in barriers to your participation, please notify the instructor as soon as possible so that accommodations can be made. You may also wish to contact Disability Services in 164 Oregon Hall at 346-1155 or [disabsrv@uoregon.edu](mailto:disabsrv@uoregon.edu)

## **Inclusion Statement**

The School of Architecture and Allied Arts is a community that values inclusion. We are committed to equal opportunities for all faculty, staff and students to develop individually, professionally, and academically regardless of ethnicity, heritage, gender, sexual orientation, ability, socio-economic standing, cultural beliefs and traditions. We are dedicated to an environment that is inclusive and fosters awareness, understanding, and respect for diversity. If you feel excluded or threatened, please contact your instructor and/or department head. The University Bias Response Team is also a resource that can assist you. Find more information at their website at <http://bias.uoregon.edu/index.html> or by phoning 541-346-2037.

## **Suggested Reading Material**

Architectural Graphic Standards, American Institute of Architects  
Time Saver Standards for Landscape Architecture, Harris and Dines  
Constructing Landscape, Zimmermann

Site Engineering, Strom/Nathan and Woland  
Up by Roots, Urban  
Landscape Architecture Construction, Landphair and Klatt  
Landscape Lighting, Moyer  
Landscape Architecture Documentation Standards, Designworkshop

**Construction Drawings**

2017 & 2018 Tech Studio Students Final Drawings, Stangeland/Robertson & Stangeland/  
Duhrkoop - Galas  
Chase Medical Center Construction Drawing Set, Stangeland & Associates  
Ankeny Plaza construction drawings, Walker/Macy  
Directors Park construction drawings, Mayer/Reed  
Mat Knight Arena construction drawing, Walker/Macy  
School of Music Construction Drawings, Lango/Hansen  
College of Education  
The Green

\*all of these are in Cad Tools/ Construction Docs.