

LA 375 Contemporary American Landscapes



Citation: Moon over McDonald's Ralph Papa

Time	Tu 2pm to 4.50 pm	Instructor	Jean Yang Landscape Architecture Jeany@uoregon.edu
Location	231 Lawrence Hall		
Credits	4	Office Hours	Tu 12 to 2pm calendly.com/jeanaliceyang

Seminar Description

The landscape is a manifestation of culture. What are the landscapes of the American Dream? What are American landscape tastes? What is the Middle Landscape? The themes of individualism, mobility and change, technology, and idealism are examined in the context of the contemporary landscape.

This course explores the Contemporary American Landscape. It addresses its evolution, current conditions, and prospects. It's an opportunity to examine ourselves through our landscapes. The emphasis is on the everyday landscape with a humanistic approach toward environmental studies. The goal is for individuals to learn to read the American landscape, understand its evolution, and become responsible landscape critics.

The course examines Ideas, places and experiences of particular contemporary significance, symbolism or iconic value: Disneyworld, suburbia, malls, yards, highways, McDonald's, Main Street, Las Vegas. Landscape as depicted in various media is explored including painting, photography, film, television, and advertising.