



Landscape Architecture Works. Clockwise from top right: Sugar Beach by Claude Cormier, Highline by Field Operations, Central Park by Frederick Law Olmsted, and The Australian Garden by Taylor Cullity Lethlean

LA 227: Introduction to Landscape Architecture

Spring 2023

Time: Tuesdays, 4:00pm - 5:40pm

Location: 206 Lawrence Hal

Instructor: David Buckley Borden (he/him/his)
Lawrence Hall, Room 381
dborden4@uoregon.edu

Educational Objects:

1. Develop a fundamental understanding of critical topics and professional practice models in contemporary landscape architecture
2. Understand the role of design thinking and mission-driven creativity with landscape architecture
3. Balance the demands of a rigorous landscape architecture class while simultaneously enjoying the educational process; specifically, have fun while learning about the profession.

Course Prerequisites: None. This course is open to all undergraduate students.

Credits: 2

Course Description:

Landscape Architecture is a rich and ever diversifying creative profession that meaningfully integrates ecological and cultural systems to create and steward the environment for a range of communities. Although the materials of landscape are fundamental (water, soil, plants, etcetera) to rigorously design spaces, both “natural” and urban, the field requires a variety of practitioners with specialties in environmental communication, horticulture, politics, art, graphic design, earth sciences, and social sciences. This ten-week course foregrounds the fundamentals of the profession and the interdisciplinary nature of landscape architecture with a survey of critical topics and professional practice models. The class format revolves around weekly readings, in-class discussions, critical writing, and guest lectures from leading landscape architects from around the country and the College of Design’s Department of Landscape Architecture.



Highline by Field Operations, NY, NY, 2009

Requirements

1. Attendance to all lectures and discussion sessions. Per mandate of the College of Design this course can not be taken as an asynchronous class. No exceptions.
2. Evidence of preparation through assignments, prepared questions, and conversation during class, or by specific reference in the student's individual assignments throughout the term.

This class is graded by traditional letter-grade (A+ through F). Exceptional effort, intellectual growth, participation, and positive contributions will be rewarded in final grade. Minimal effort, tardiness, and a lousy unproductive attitude, not so much.

Grading Breakdown

- 20% Class attendance
- 20% Class participation
- 50% Weekly Critical Reflection Assignments
- 10% Final Project

Assignments

Assignments are to be submitted digitally (PDF), at the beginning of the class session on the due date. Include last name and date in file name. For example *Smith_09292020.pdf*. Late work will be penalized a grade step per day. Digital work must be submitted on the Canvas course website; emailed work will not be accepted.

Expectations

I expect the highest professional standards to be maintained throughout the term. Active in-class participation, open communication, and consistent progress is very important. In addition, class participation also includes respecting the rights and property of others, working cooperatively, and completing assignments satisfactorily and on time.

Attendance, preparation, participation, and all assignments are mandatory. Unexcused absences or failure to submit assignments on time will lower your overall course grade. Students are permitted one grace absence.



Intro to Landscape Architecture, Weekly Topics by Guest Lecturer*

Week 1

Course introduction, David Buckley Borden practice profile

Week 2

Guest Speaker Mark Eischeid; Associate Professor, on Landscape Architecture History

Week 3

Guest Speaker, John Anderson, RLA, Studio Instructor, UO Department of Landscape Architecture, on Corporate Design Practice

Week 4

Guest Speaker, Alyson Fletcher, Nelson\Nygaard, Boston, MA, on Transportation Design

Week 5

Guest Speaker, Ian Vierck and Pete Olson, UO Department of Landscape Architecture on Landscape Architecture, from MLA perspective

Week 6

Guest Speaker, Graham Slandelski, Project Manager, RIOS, Los Angeles, CA, on RIOS practice profile

Week 7

Guest Speaker, Michael Geffel, Professor In Practice, UO Department of Landscape Architecture, on Landscape Maintenance as Critical Practice

Week 8

Guest Speaker, Erin Kelly, RLA, Landscape Architecture Fellow, Detroit, MI on Community Engagement

Week

Guest Speaker, Ignacio Lopez Buson, Visiting Professor, UO Department of Landscape Architecture, on Parametric Design

Week 10

Guest Speaker, Harper Keeler, UO Department of Landscape Architecture on Deep breaths at the Urban Farm in preparation for finals

***Tentative.** *Speakers and dates are subject to change due to scheduling issues.*