

Course: Landscape Architecture Studio

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Class: Monday - Friday 1pm - 6pm

OVERVIEW

This course introduces visual vocabulary essential to describe, analyze, and operate within the built environment. A series of three design exercises explore ways of organizing space using vertical elements, horizontal surfaces, and dynamic materials that change over time. Together, they cover the fundamentals of landscape design including: canopy and spatial enclosure; ground and topography; hydrology and circulation; texture; view and time. Design proposals will be developed and presented with two-dimensional drawings (plan, section, axonometric, perspective, diagram) and three-dimensional models.

COURSE FORMAT + CONTENT

The course takes place in an open studio environment, meeting daily for five hours. Each session will vary, potentially including: individual work-time; one-on-one instruction and critique; group demonstrations and tutorials; lectures; field trips; group discussions and pin-ups; and reviews with invited critics. One day per week, either Monday or Tuesday depending on the section, will be devoted to representation. After week one, all assignments will be introduced on Mondays from 1pm-2pm. Attendance is mandatory at all studio sessions.

The course content is divided into three exercises.

EXERCISE 1: assigned Tuesday June 05 + due Friday June 08

This exercise introduces **canopy and vertical spatial enclosure** through the analysis and transformation of precedent projects. Plan, section, model and diagram will be used.

EXERCISE 2: assigned Monday June 11 + due Thursday June 21

Working back and forth between drawing and model, this exercise explores **surface, depth and topography** using landforms extracted and manipulated from precedent projects. Contour plan, contour model, axonometric and perspective will be introduced.

EXERCISE 3: assigned Friday June 22 + due Wednesday July 11

This exercise builds on the previous two exercises to re-envision a portion of the Fens, park of Frederick Law Olmsted's Emerald Necklace. In addition, to the previously introduced topics of canopy, spatial enclosure, ground and topography, **issues of hydrology, circulation, program, material, time and prospect** will be covered. All drawing, modelling and communication skills will be called upon to articulate the design work.

REFERENCES (A SELECTION FROM THE READING LIST)

General Interest, History, Theory + Urbanism

Allen, Stan, *Points + Lines: Diagrams for the City* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999).

Benites, Cecilia, Clare Lyster, Emily Abruzzo, Alexander Briseno and Jonathan D. Solomon eds. *306090 09: Regarding Public Space*. Princeton Architectural Press. 2005.

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Hunt, John Dixon. *Greater Perfections: The Practice of Garden Theory* (Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2000).

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Monographs + Compilations

Amidon, Jane and Kathryn Gustafson. *Radical Landscapes: Reinventing Outdoor Space*. (London: Thames & Hudson, 2004).

Berrizbeitia, Anita and Linda Pollak. *Inside Outside: Between Architecture and Landscape*. (Rockport Publishers, 2003).

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Desvigne & Dalnoky. *The Return of Landscape*. (New York: Whitney Library of Design, 1997).

Blerck and Jorg Dettmar, *Nine + One: Young Dutch Landscape Architects* (Rotterdam: NAI Publishers, 1999).

Collin, Catherine ed. *Sketch Landscape* (Barcelona: Loft Publications, 2009).

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Ojeda, Oscar Riera, ed. *Sasaki: Intersection and Convergence* (California: ORO editions, 2008).

Reed, Peter. *Groundswell: Constructing the Contemporary Landscape*. (New York: Museum of Modern Art, 2005).

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Dirr, Michael A. *Dirr's Hardy Trees and Shrubs: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*. Timber Press, 1997.

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Boston

Haglund, Karl. *Inventing the Charles River* (Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2002).

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Seasholes, Nancy. *Gaining Ground: A History of Landmaking in Boston*. (Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2003).

Zaitzevsky, Cynthia. *Frederick Law Olmsted and the Boston Park System*. (Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press, 1992).

Journals

Harvard Design Magazine - <http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/research/publications/hdm>

Praxis - <http://www.praxisjournal.net/home.htm>

Topos: The International Review of Landscape Architecture & Urban Design - <http://www.topos.de> (especially 65, 69, 71)

On-line Resources

http://via.lib.harvard.edu/via/deliver/advancedsearch?_collection=via

<http://www.artstor.org.ezp-prod1.hul.harvard.edu/index.shtml>