

Ron Lovinger

Monday 6:00 to 8:50 P.M.

Room 231 Lawrence Hall, 2 to 4 credits



This course is intended for those students going to Kyoto the summer of 2014 and serves as a preparatory ensemble of cultural insights, philosophical concepts and landscape architectural design principles intended to assist you in understanding the Japanese Garden. Our focus is to ensure your awareness of the subtleties of Japanese culture and the sophisticated sensibilities intrinsic to the art of Japanese garden and landscape design.

Requirements:

You are required to make a presentation of a specific garden, temple or landscape we will visit during our study program. Variable credit is dependent on the depth and detail of these presentations. 2 hours of credit require a 20 minute presentation, 3 hours of credit require the presentation and paper of a minimum of 8 pages describing how the 12 principles of Japanese Garden Design influenced your case study, 4 hours of credit include all the above plus a watercolor rendering of your case study and individual tutorials in the preparation of this rendering. (Please see watercolor renderings outside Room 218 Lawrence Hall).

Slides, drawings, paintings, and text will assist us in our analysis and description of these specific landscapes as I would appreciate your advice regarding the subject of your case study as soon as possible. I would be happy to advise you if, perchance, you are not explicitly in mind of a garden for your presentation.

Schedule:

- March 31: Introduction: Walled City of Xian/Chang-An, KYOTO
Physical hierarchy and separation of secular/sacred space, Landscape as stage set. Spatial extensions of garden and building geometries, structural landscape patterning of vernacular building traditions. Landscape of the Literati: Classical gardens of China, Suzcho. 12 principles of Japanese garden design.
- April 7: Language lesson and basic instructions regarding etiquette and specific customs governing our behavior in Japan. Essential garden types: Strolling, Meditation, Tea, Tsuboniwa, etc. Watercolor tutorials.
- April 14 : **1st Presentation:** Ise Shrine: Shintoism and the Heian Period. Kyokusui and the floating tea and sake ceremony. Purity rituals and the principle of Kami, classical gardens of the Heian Period, Byodo-in (Phoenix Hall): the Shinden-Zukuri organizational structure: City, Neighborhood, Townhouse architectural patterns. Watercolor tutorials.
- April 21: **2nd Presentation:** Myoshinji, Daitokuji and the emergence of the Zen Temple, Karesansui dry garden.
- April 28: Principles of Rakuchu, Rakugai, temples on the ecotone/gateway/threshold: Kiyomizudera, Kinkakuji, Ginkakuji, Ninnaji, Nansenji, Ryoanji, Tenryuji, Shisendo.etc. The garden as source of transcendence, serenity and tranquility. Watercolor tutorials.
- May 5: **3rd Presentation:** Imperial Villas

Katsura Imperial Palace: Skia style as exquisitely refined wabi/sabi sensibility. Prince Gengi, Prince Toshihito and the literary illusion.

Shugakuin Imperial Garden: Agricultural structure of rice terrace as ordering pattern of garden elements, sleeping dragon pond/unfolding living landscape scenery...Shakkei: borrowed landscape

Sento Gosho: Lush waterfalling..herons grazing in the moss: Wisteria bridge connecting the cobbled river bed/Cherry blossoms scattered: opposites juxtaposed in space...tea room in the middle.
- May 12: **4th Presentation:** Saiho-ji/Muso Soseki, the turmoil of warring clans and the garden in landscape time.
- May 19: **5th Presentation:** The canals and waterways of Kyoto
- May 26: Memorial Day
- June 2: Introduction to design studio in Kyoto: Images of site and site analysis, presentation of research and study from Summer 2013 Students. Project definition and design studio orientation. **POTLUCK**
- June 9: Watercolor presentation of garden renderings and review of individual projects.

Recommended Readings:

- Keane, Marc; Japanese Garden Design
Kuck, Lorraine; The Japanese Garden
Kuitert, Wybe; Themes in the History of Japanese Garden Art
Nitschke, Gunter; Japanese Gardens
Slawson, David; Secret Teachings in the Art of Japanese Gardens
Yoshida, Tetsuro; The Japanese House and Garden