

# LA 227: Introduction to Landscape Architecture

Wednesdays  
10-11.50am  
Lawrence 222

2 credits  
CRN 37163

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Across the centuries the practice of Landscape Architecture has influenced every public and private environment we experience. City patterns, public parks, neighborhood plans, residential design, protected and preserved lands, historic sites, and culturally significant places are all proposed and designed by practitioners in the field of Landscape Architecture.

Landscape Architecture combines the creative with the analytical, the visionary with the pragmatic, the human landscape with the larger ecological landscape. Landscape Architecture is a constant interplay of left-brain and right-brain thinking. Both the visible and tangible, as well as the invisible and perceived, influence how places are made by Landscape Architects.

Students will learn about the diversity and breadth of the field from the Landscape Architecture faculty and practicing Landscape Architects. The course will combine lecture with hands on workshops and projects allowing students to “try on” some of the ideas and methodologies presented in the lectures.

Included will be wandering, looking, learning and making about one’s own landscape experience as a way to connect the larger lecture topics with each student’s own landscape values and experiences.

The topics covered will reveal the deeper relationship between design process and the process of building and making landscapes. Issues regarding ecology and sustainability will be emphasized, as well as the social implications of making landscape spaces.

## Class Structure

This course meets weekly for 1hr 50mins and will usually consist of a lecture by a guest Landscape Architecture Faculty in the first half of class and a combination of lectures, discussions, and trips for the remainder of the class period. Lectures and in class activities will be supplemented with readings and assignments. You are required to keep a notebook for all lectures, trips, and readings.

10-10:50 (Guest Lecture)

10:50-11 (Break)

11-11:50 (Workshop/Discussion/Trip)

## Grading

25% Attendance, class participation, questions, field trips

40% Assignments (10 points x 4 assignments)

35% Course Notebook

## Readings and Recommended Texts

Readings are assigned each week from a variety of sources and will be provided on Canvas. You are required to keep a notebook entry for each reading to keep track of your comprehension and any ideas that emerge. A complete notebook has one entry per reading with the date and title of the article clearly visible.

There is no required text for purchase for this course, instead a collection of readings will be filed on the course Canvas page. This collection of readings is a survey of contemporary landscape scholarship and is intended to provide a window into the multitude of ways that Landscape Architects think about landscape related studies.

## TERM PROJECT: Course Notebook/Journal

This course requires that you keep an extensive notebook of the lectures, readings, trips, and conferences you attend. The notebook tracks your participation in the class and is equivalent to 35% of your grade.

Create a journal or notebook entry for each lecture, assigned reading, and trip during the course. Journal entries should be a combination of thoughts, key points, references, sketches, times, dates, and names, that document your experience in the course. Your notebook will be collected and is considered your "final project" for the course.

Each Journal Entry should include:

- » date
- » name of speaker
- » lecture title, event name, location
- » approximately 200-300 words per entry
- » sketches
- » diagrams
- » your thoughts
- » key references
- » key points
- » main concept relating to landscape architecture

## Policy Statement on Academic Honesty

All work submitted in this course must be your own and originally produced for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly acknowledged and documented. Students are encouraged to work together and assist one another, but unless an assignment is specifically assigned as a team project, each student is expected to complete their own work individually. For the consequences of academic dishonesty, refer to the Schedule of Classes published quarterly. Violations will be taken seriously and are noted on student disciplinary records. If you are in doubt as to the requirements or the nature of specific projects in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the instructors before you complete the project/activity in question.

## Information for Students with Disabilities

The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. If there are learning or health considerations that may affect your ability to participate fully in this course, please meet with the instructor as soon as possible to discuss possible accommodations. If this is a documented disability, please request that the Counselor for Students with Disabilities send a letter verifying your disability.

*Adapted syllabus from Anne Godfrey.*