

Drawing the Landscape

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LA 410/510

CRN 34413 / 34141

MW 10-11:50 am

Lawrence 222

and out in the landscape



Greg Betza, 2010

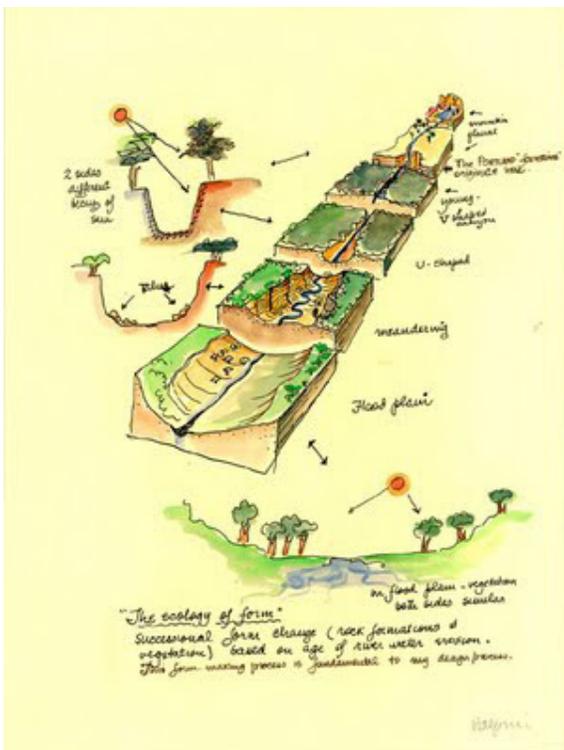
Description:

This course explores the diverse ways we use drawing to represent the landscape. Our local landscapes will serve as the classroom for drawing and creative looking. These landscapes will include natural, preserved, urban, and human influenced. Our subject matter will range from dynamic native habitats, to contemporary and historic urban spaces, to human events in place.

Each drawing topic will be joined by a larger discussion about the natural and social systems that produce the functionality and appearance of the places we will visit. These topics will range from native plant species and stream systems to urban patterns and socioeconomic impacts on place making.

Techniques presented include field drawing, reportage, visual note taking, transects, mapping, automatic drawing and non-representational imaginative drawing. An ongoing outside of class assignment will allow each student to focus on a unique topic of interest within this larger subject matter.

This course is appropriate for many skill levels: students new to drawing who enjoy exploring real places are welcome; students with drawing experience will be given new challenges in working "in the field" (instead of in a static and controlled studio environment).



Lawrence Halprin

This course is suitable for students in Art, the sciences, ecology, planning, landscape architecture, architecture and basically anyone who is up for the unique challenge of learning outdoors in dynamic places.

Class structure:

Most classes will meet in the field at one of the many diverse natural and/or urban systems in the Eugene/Springfield area. Class time will consist of a tour and lecture about that day's site, drawing lessons

and one-on-one discussion and critique with the instructor. All levels of drawing ability are welcome in the course.

Logistics in regards to the field trips will be coordinated during the first week of the course.

Drawing from a diverse set of methodology from the arts, ecology and landscape architecture, lectures and discussions will allow students to experiment and learn how to document landscape places. Techniques in observational drawing will be combined with the use of diagramming, plan drawing, section drawing, note taking and measurement, giving students a set of drawing types that will allow them to more completely tell the story about a landscape place and its history.

Students are invited to use all kinds of media, from graphite and pen to watercolor, pastel or any other media one is interested in.

The Instructor teaches practices in Landscape Architecture, Art and Photography, thus applying methods from all of these fields as a way to critically and clearly represent landscape systems. This course is interdisciplinary in nature and is meant to appeal to a diversity of students.

