

Landscape Media: Drawing as Seeing, Thinking, and Learning

LA 350
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T/Th
4 credits

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This Media course acts as the complement to the introductory Studio for undergraduate students in Landscape Architecture.

The primary **Goals** of this course are to learn how to more effectively, intuitively, and deeply use drawing for:

- Exploration and expression of ideas
- Problem solving and testing
- Investigating and documenting places and experiences
- Representing and communication of design ideas

The course focuses on core drawing explorations, complementing the focus on conventional drawing presented in studio. The media class is a place for students to experiment with multiple ways of expressing and thinking with drawing as well as “get better” at drawing. The use of drawing within this course expands far beyond its traditional core definitions and uses within landscape architecture.

This approach allows and encourages students to create a personal style that helps them gain success in drawing through ways that go beyond the narrower and more specific rules of representation required in landscape architecture and architecture.

Therefore Studio and Media will often meld into one cohesive learning experience in which students will become familiar with both the drawing conventions necessary for communication in the field, while also developing personal style and expression that will eventually help them stand out as professionals.

Expectations and Assessment:

Each student will be expected to put considerable effort towards improving his or her drawing skills, no matter at what level the student starts. Students with little or no drawing experience will be asked to gain facility with the basic drawing issues. Students with more experience in drawing will be asked to push themselves to new levels of facility, develop multiple styles, and explore using drawing as an investigatory tool. Students' media will not be assessed compared to others, each student will be assessed based on individual growth and development.

Requirements:

Keep a daily journal of drawings
Complete all in class and out of class work
Participate in all pin ups, desk critiques, and peer critiques
Give constructive feedback to peers
Practice developing skills and vocabulary in talking about drawing
Attend class on time – 2 absences only
Always have all drawing supplies and required books available every class

Journal:

The journal will be the primary place you do almost all of your work for class.

For the journal:

Date each page
Give a title to each exploration/project/place
Think about how each page is composed

Attendance:

Full attendance is required to gain the full benefit of the class, in that all lessons are cumulative. Only 2 absences will be accepted – certain exceptions apply. Please email me if you will not be attending class. You are required to get that days lesson and assignment from a classmate. Please communicate with me if you have any questions or concerns.

Readings:

These books will be used both in Studio and the Media course.

Required:

One Drawing A Day: A 6-Week Course Exploring Creativity with Illustration and Mixed Media, by Veronica Lawlor

Artist's Journal Workshop: Creating Your Life in Words and Pictures, by Cathy Johnson

Landscape Graphics by Grant W. Reid

Freehand Drawing by Paul Laseau

Suggested:

Listed in order of recommendation

The Art of Urban Sketching: Drawing On Location Around The World by Gabriel Campanario

Drawing for Landscape Architecture: Sketch to

Screen to Site by Edward Hutchison

Pencil Sketching, 2nd Edition by Thomas C. Wang

Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain by Betty Edwards

Keeping a Nature Journal: Discover a Whole New Way of Seeing the World Around You by Clare Walker Leslie

Design Drawing 2nd (second) edition by Francis D. K. Ching

Drawing the Landscape by Chip Sullivan

Professionalism:

Upon the acceptance to this professional program you are preparing to enter a professional work environment. In this environment respect for your peers and faculty is key to fostering a healthy and creative environment. I expect each of you to strive to maintain this professional atmosphere within the studio.

Tools:

You will make a significant investment in drawing tools this term. All of the tools on the supply list will be used during the term. All of these tools will be necessary for the rest of your career both here and elsewhere. Think of it as a long-term investment in yourself.

Trips:

We will often meet on site at the beginning of class. I will always let you know where we will be meeting the media class or studio before that class. I find it best to have two or more people “travel” together to the sites so you don’t get lost or left behind. Sites will be in walking or bussing distance from campus.

Calendar:

The calendar will change. This is for the benefit of making the most out of the time we have together. I always determine how we proceed based on where the class at any moment or day.

Accommodation for Differently Abled persons:

Please let me know if you need special accommodation for a documented physical or learning “disability“. I think of it not as a “dis” but a different and will do everything I can to accommodate your needs. I can also point you towards helpful University resources.

Adapted from syllabus by Anne Godfrey