



## **LAND 6020 : Gardens**

**Spring 2011**

College of Environment and Design  
University of Georgia

Professor Judith Wasserman,

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday afternoons by appointment

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### **Course Description:**

LAND 6020 : Gardens. 4 hours, 8 hours lab per week.

*The garden as the central image and metaphor in landscape architecture. Studio projects selected to explore the image and the metaphor in a variety of social and environmental contexts.*

### **Course Intent:**

*Gardens are the place where the human position in the world of ecological order is determined. Gardens were created for protection, food production, climate mitigation and sensory delight. Landscape architects create gardens of all scales in professional practice - from the small residential environment to ecological garden corridors tracing natural paths through urban environments.*

*LAND 6020 uses the idea of garden as a point of departure to engage design practice into the landscape through focusing on differing ideas of garden, landscape, placemaking and human needs. This studio builds on the technical tools developed in LAND 6010 by placing form and movement into actual landscape places. Tools of site assessment and site analysis will be developed as methods to both understand uniqueness of place and as tools for creating places responding to existing natural and cultural systems. Additionally methods for drawing inspiration and creativity from place will be explored. Technical skills will be built on materiality of design, earth forms as design tools, and living systems and materials as design elements. Critical thinking about design process and product will be encouraged as part of the process in developing a design sensibility.*

*Within this context, the intent of the studio is to develop skills in landscape spatial manipulation, a further understanding of the design process, and additional insight into a how design materials can support design form and intent. The studio projects are intended to explore an appropriate balance between landscape manipulation, ecological sensitivity, and cultural connectivity (design, ecology, place).*

**Knowledge:**

- *Design process*
- *Process of analysis of site and context for design purposes*
- *Historic and theoretical inspiration in design process*
- *Contemporary designers and current trends in landscape architecture*
- *The role of precedent and analysis in landscape architecture and design*
- *Discerning and assessing quality in design process and product*
- *Importance of drawing, modeling and other design process tools in design production*
- *Effect of materiality in influencing quality and feel of design product*
- *Use of plants in the landscape*

**Skills:**

- *Manipulation of landscape form and materials*
- *Integration of site engineering as a design tool*
- *Use of design process to enhance creativity*
- *Creation of a planting plan as an integral part of construction documentation*
- *Site analysis*
- *Process for client input*
- *Drawing on unique regional qualities for design inspiration*

**Values:**

- *Historic and metaphoric relationship between people and nature.*
- *Design principles as a creative response to landscape design*
- *Ecological principles as a foundation of garden design.*
- *Regional and cultural context as an inspiration for physical design*

**Teaching Methodology**

*The course will be taught in an integrated studio/lecture/discussion format. Attendance during the scheduled studio hours is essential.*

*The semester will start with a number of short projects to engage specific ideas of form, form-making, site analysis and understanding. Two larger project will follow which give you the opportunity to develop the ideas into complex projects. We will also spend time during the semester discussing preparing your work for your portfolio.*

*Keeping a sketchbook and developing your ability to sketch will also be considered a key component in the studio class.*

*Reading and discussing relevant articles on topics related to the project and intent of the course will be included as a way to enlarge and fuel design development.*

**Feedback**

*I will provide regular meetings for feedback as well as written comments. If at any point you want further clarification as to your grade or progress in the class please do not hesitate to set up a meeting with me.*

**Recommended Books**

*Drawing the Landscape. Chip Sullivan*

*The Meaning of Gardens: Idea, Place and Action. Edited by Mark Francis and Randolph T. Hester, Jr.*

*Basic Elements of Landscape Architectural Design. Booth*

*Architecture: Form, Space and Order. Francis Ching*

*Additional readings will be recommended throughout the semester.*

**Required Materials**

*Design tools from last semester as well as project specific materials purchased as necessary.*

## **Grading System and Policy**

*Grading and evaluation of projects include the design process, product, and ability to critically evaluate your own work to assess how close your product met your design vision. Evaluation of design work also is determined by the ability to develop a concept, carry it out and develop the forms in a consistent and thorough way, provide sufficient level of design detail to understand specific design development ideas, provide material understanding, offer technical drawings to support your intent, and professionally communicate your project through hand graphics, 3D model-making, computer generated images, and your verbal presentation. Specific requirements will be provided with each assignment. Throughout the semester you will be given numeric scores which will then be averaged at the end for your final course grade. The numeric scores indicate the following:*

- *Design process*
- *Design concept*
- *Design development*
- *Design production*
- *Design communication*
- *Design assessment*

### **Superior Work**

*97-100: Superb professional quality work. Goes beyond project assignment in scope and product.*

*93-96: Excellent work, needs minor revisions.*

*90-92: Excellent work, needs some revisions.*

### **Excellent-Very Good**

*87-89: Excellent concept, well developed. Needs work in ability to communicate idea. Needs further development/refinement.*

*83-86: Excellent ideas. Concept needs development, communication not adequate to represent idea. Needs further development/refinement.*

*80-82: Idea and concept very good. Needs further development. Communication ability needs work.*

### **Adequate**

*70-79: Concept, idea and production meet project requirements but execution and level of development are minimal.*

### **Sub-Standard**

*60-69: Incomplete, inadequate and substandard work. Indicates evidence of not comprehending project intent. Design idea lacking, and poorly developed.*

### **Sub-Standard to Non-Existent**

*59 and below: Unacceptable work, incomplete, or non-existent.*

At the end of the semester a letter grade will be assigned based on your semester course average. The numeric grades translate to the letter grades as follows:

93-100+: A

90-93: A-

87-89: B+

83-86: B

80-83: B-

77-79: C+

73-76: C

70-73: C-

60-69: D

0-59: F

## **Studio Culture**

*The studio is an environment for creativity, production and engagement. Learning in a studio environment requires active engagement in the class, a willingness to share thoughts and ideas, and the ability to give and take constructive criticism. Use of the studio environment after scheduled studio hours is encouraged. Please respect your classmates during and after studio hours by maintaining a professional creative working environment.*

*The studio environment is a community asset to be shared. In order to maximize the effectiveness of the studio environment, members of the community must accept the responsibility of maintaining accepted standards of conduct. To that end, the following studio conduct will be expected and violations will not be tolerated.*

- 1. Smoking or use of smoking material or smokeless tobacco products inside Denmark Hall or in the exterior corridors, stairways or hallways is prohibited.*
- 2. The possession or use of alcohol or drugs on University of Georgia property is illegal and will not be allowed in Denmark Hall. Also, persons occupying the studio or building while under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be tolerated.*
- 3. Due to differing tastes in music and radio broadcasts and out of respect for your fellow students, please refrain from playing audible music or radio broadcasts of any kind in the studio or student lounge environment. No music and no headphones will be allowed during scheduled studio hours in order to maximize the opportunity to share design ideas.*

*If you would like to listen to music outside of studio hours, please use personal headphones and keep the headphone volume to a level that cannot be heard by fellow classmates or faculty.*

- 4. Loud or abusive language will not be tolerated in the studio or studio environment.*
- 5. Dogs and other pets are not permitted in any University buildings. Where as you may love your dog they may be frightening to other students and staff, and can cause sanitary problems. Some people have severe allergies to pet hair, and in a pack dogs can also provide a very real threat. Please respect others right to feel safe in Denmark Hall.*
- 6. Consider the studio space and Denmark Hall as a professional office work environment. While we want you to feel comfortable and have a homey feel it is not your personal apartment. Please refrain from sleeping, partying, inviting guests or otherwise occupying the studio / lounge environment to the exclusion of your fellow classmates.*

## **Academic Honesty**

*The University of Georgia has a very clear policy on academic honesty. Each of you are responsible for knowing and understanding that policy. Please see the following website for more information:*

*[http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture\\_honesty.htm](http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm)*

*All faculty members are required to follow clear procedures to insure academic honesty if a violation has incurred. This is a difficult process, and counter to the intent of learning and growing as designers and scholars. Please make yourself aware of this policy so you do not unintentionally violate the rules.*

*In addition, students are advised to read the University of Georgia's Student Code of Conduct which outlines the expectations placed on them as responsible members of the University of Georgia Community.*

*Please report violations of the code or studio rules to the MLA Coordinator or directly to the Office of Judicial Programs, 130 Memorial Hall – Phone 706-542-1131. [www.uga.edu/judicialprograms/](http://www.uga.edu/judicialprograms/)*

*Please report suspicious persons or activities in the building to the University Police- 706-542-2200 (enter into your cell phones)*

## **Disabilities:**

*Students with special needs due to learning or physical disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services.*