LA 281: DESIGN COMMUNICATIONS 2 SYLLABUS

Department of Landscape Architecture, College of Fine and Applied Arts, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Spring 2024
Tues/Thurs 10:30AM-12:20 PM
Mumford Hall Room 200
CRN 35298
Credits: 3

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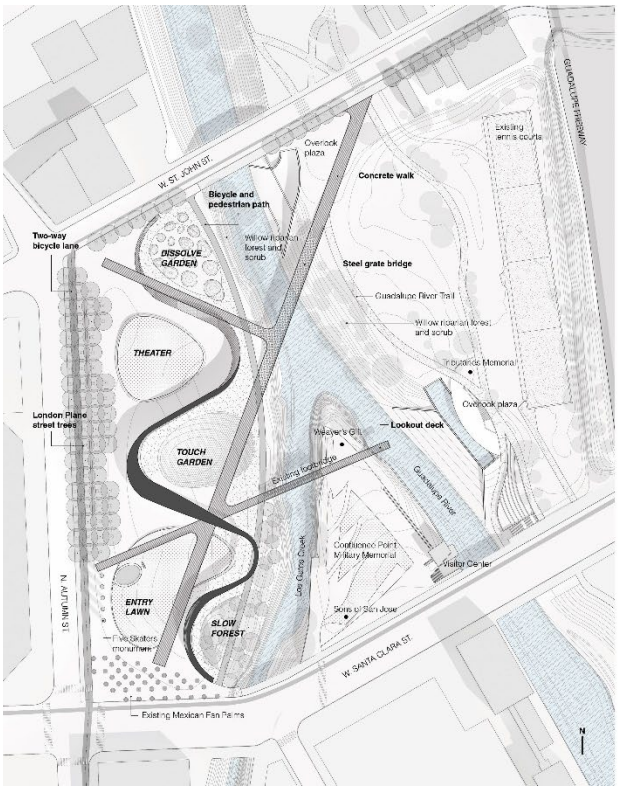
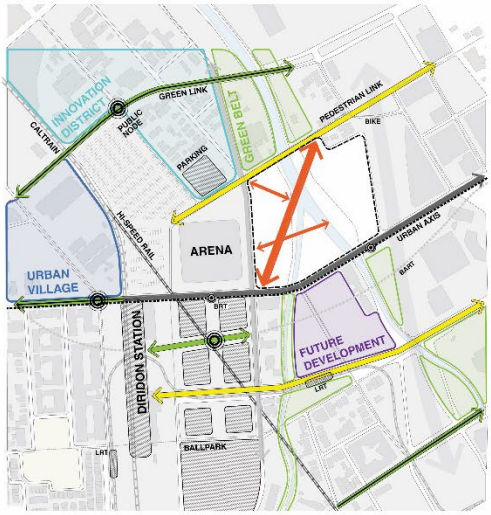
Email: *yingqi3@illinois.edu*
Office Hours: Monday afternoons, by appointment

Course website https://aneeshadharwadker.com/la-281-spring-2024



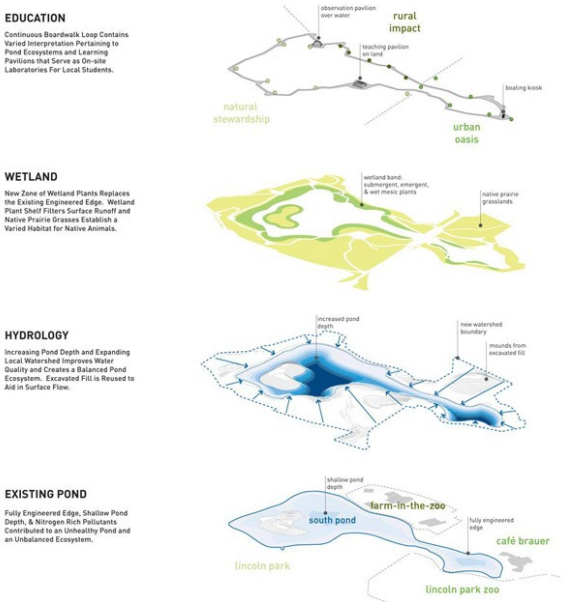


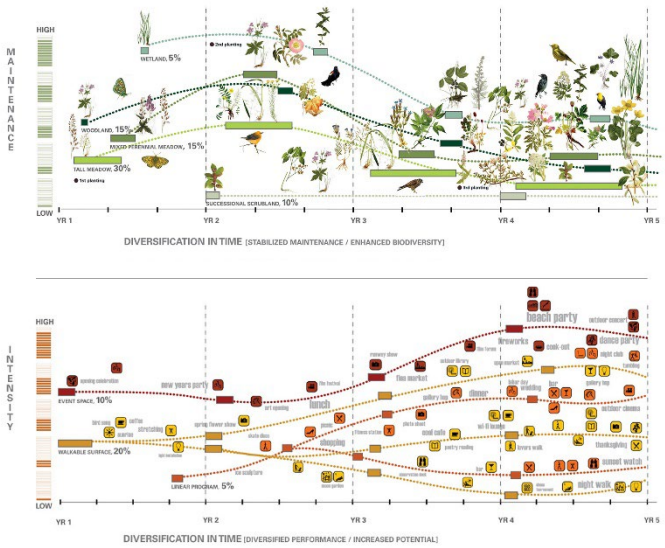
Chicago Design Office + Hinterlands Urbanism and Landscape, Continuum, San Jose CA (2020)

Drawing is a fundamental component of the design disciplines: it is the visual language through which spaces, processes, materials, forms, and time are expressed. It is also a tool of argument and critique, allowing designers to establish positions in relation to their subject matter. As landscape architects, we think through visualization. It is our primary analytical apparatus and avenue of experimentation; it is the way we frame an agenda and express intention. What are you trying to communicate, and how do you convey that message visually?

Your primary goal this semester is to construct effective, compelling narratives using visual and verbal techniques. In this course, we will emphasize digital representation in plan, diagram, 3D projection, and animation.

This course is divided into three units that address different aspects of landscape representation. The varied exercises will introduce you to a wide array of digital drawing methods that will guide you in developing your own graphic identity.





Studio Gang Architects, Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo (2010) *Field Operations, The High Line (2008)*

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To gain an introductory-level understanding of the primary softwares used in landscape architectural practice
- To understand workflow between multiple pieces of software, and each one's advantages in the design process
- To develop an eye for digital graphics, layouts, and visual hierarchies
- To grow skills for visual thinking using digital techniques
- To explore verbal narrative as a fundamental method of design communication

MATERIALS

You'll need a dedicated notebook for this course. A small, un-lined notebook like Moleskine is recommended. These are available on Amazon for under $20. This notebook will be for in-class notes and sketching out assignment ideas.

A mouse is required every day in class for drawing exercises.

You will need the following softwares installed on your computer by Thursday, January 18:

- Google Earth Pro (available for free)
  - https://www.google.com/earth/about/versions/#earth-pro
- AutoCAD (available for free through Autodesk)
  - https://www.autodesk.com/education/edu-software/overview?sorting=featured&filters=individual
- Adobe Creative Cloud (available through the Illinois Webstore)
  - Illustrator
  - Photoshop
  - InDesign
  - AfterEffects
- Rhinoceros (available at a discount to students)
  - https://www.rhino3d.com/for/education/

What to bring to class each day: Laptop, charger, mouse, headphones, notebook, and writing materials.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class every Tuesday and Thursday. Assignments are designed to be completed within the designated class period—if you are on time and focused, you should not have to work outside of class time to complete the submissions.

Excused absences must be provided in writing 24 hours in advance, and absences due to illness must be supplemented with a doctor's note. Three unexcused absences will result in the reduction of one letter grade from the final semester grade. Every two subsequent unexcused absences will result in another letter grade reduction.

Following university policy, all students must engage in appropriate behavior to protect the health and safety of the community. Students are required to follow campus COVID-19 protocols. See more at https://covid19.illinois.edu/.

Students who feel ill must not come to class. Students who test positive for COVID-19 or have exposure that requires testing and/or quarantine must not attend class. These students are judged to have excused absences for the class period(s) missed and should contact the instructors via email about making up work.

POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Academic Integrity

You are expected to complete your own work unless otherwise indicated by the instructor(s). Plagiarism in any form is not tolerated and will result in immediate failure of the course.

See Article 1 of the Student Code at http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1_part4_1-401.html for more information and university policy.

Research, Writing, and English Language Resources

You have access to different services across campus to assist you with synthesizing and processing course materials, as well as with English language comprehension and writing. Visit the following for more information on workshops and one-on-one sessions.

Academic Services Center: http://www.omsa.illinois.edu/academics/tutoring.html
Linguistics Department: http://www.linguistics.illinois.edu/students/esl/academic-conversation-skills.html
Center for Writing Studies: http://www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop/about/

Disability Resources and Educational Services

To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES, you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603, e-mail disability@illinois.edu or go to the DRES website at http://disability.illinois.edu/.

If you are concerned you have a disability-related condition that is impacting your academic progress, there are academic screening appointments available on campus that can help diagnosis a previously undiagnosed disability by visiting the DRES website and selecting "Sign-Up for an Academic Screening" at the bottom of the page.

Counseling and Mental Health Support

Counseling Center

Information: 217-333-3704
Location: Room 206, Student Services Building 610 East John Street, Champaign, IL
Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
Appointment: Scheduled for same day, recommend calling at 7:50 a.m.
Website: https://counselingcenter.illinois.edu/

McKinley Mental Health

Information: 217-333-2705
Location: 3rd Floor McKinley Health Center 1109 South Lincoln, Urbana, IL
Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
Appointment: Scheduled in advance
Website: https://mckinley.illinois.edu/medical-services/mental-health

SCHEDULE

UNIT 1: DESCRIPTIVE PLAN AND DIAGRAMS (100 points)
In this unit we will construct a digital landscape plan of a built project using Google Earth Pro, AutoCAD, and Adobe Illustrator. We will focus on using these softwares to establish scale, set graphic standards for professional-quality drawing, and understand workflow between multiple media and filetypes.

WEEK 1

Tuesday January 16
Warm up exercise / introductions
Syllabus overview

Thursday January 18
Tutorial 1: Intro to Google Earth Pro + AutoCAD
Unit 1 Assignment Launch

WEEK 2

Tuesday January 23
Desk crits / work day

Thursday January 25
Tutorial 2: AutoCAD graphic standards

WEEK 3

Tuesday January 30
Desk crits / work day

Thursday February 1
Tutorial 3: AutoCAD to Illustrator workflow

WEEK 4

Tuesday February 6
Desk crits / work day

Thursday February 8
Tutorial 4: Illustrator Diagrams

WEEK 5

Tuesday February 13
Desk crits / work day

Thursday February 15
Unit 1 Review

UNIT 2: DIGITAL MODELING TECHNIQUES (100 points)
In this unit we will build a layered Rhino landscape model using manual and parametric techniques.

WEEK 6

Tuesday February 20
No class – Landscape Architecture All-Department Charrette

Thursday February 22
Lecture: 3D Modeling: Examples and Techniques
Unit 2 Assignment Launch
Tutorial 5: Modeling Landform and Circulation

WEEK 7

Tuesday February 27
Desk crits / work day

Thursday February 29
Desk crits / work day

WEEK 8

Tuesday March 5
Tutorial 6: Introduction to Grasshopper / Modeling Vegetation

Thursday March 7
Desk crits / work day
3D model due at end of class

WEEK 9

NO CLASS (SPRING BREAK)

UNIT 3: AXONS, ISOMETRICS, AND PERSPECTIVES (100 points)
In this unit we will use your layered Rhino landscape model to produce an array of 3D drawing projections.

WEEK 10
Tuesday March 19
Lecture: 3D Projections
Unit 3 Assignment Launch

Thursday March 21
Tutorial 7: 3D Projection in Rhino and Illustrator

WEEK 11
Tuesday March 26
Desk crits / work day

Thursday March 28
Desk crits / work day

WEEK 12
Tuesday April 2
Desk crits / work day

Thursday April 4
Unit 3 Review

UNIT 4: ANIMATION (100 points)
In this unit we will use your previous drawings to create an animated design narrative.

WEEK 13
Tuesday April 9
Lecture: Animation as Design Narrative
Unit 4 Assignment Launch

Thursday April 11
Tutorial 8: Intro to AfterEffects

WEEK 14
Tuesday April 16
Desk crits / work day

Thursday April 18
Desk crits / work day

WEEK 15
Tuesday April 23
Desk crits / work day

Thursday April 25
Desk crits / work day

WEEK 16
Tuesday April 30
Unit 4 Review
Last day of class

FINAL DOCUMENTATION (100 points)
Submit digital files of all assignments to Box. More information to come.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND EVALUATION

Unit 1:	**100 points**
Unit 2:	**100 points**
Unit 3:	**100 points**
Unit 4 :	**100 points**
Final Documentation:	**100 points**
Total possible:	**500 points**

In compliance with Article 3-102 of the University Student Code, letter grades should be interpreted as follows:

Excellent: A+, A, A-	90% and above
Good: B+, B, B-	80%-89%
Fair: C+, C, C-	70%-79%
Poor: D+, D, D-	60%-69%
Failure: F	Below 60%, not acceptable for degree credit
Incomplete: I	Only allowed in extenuating circumstances, with instructor approval

See the student code at http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3_part1_3-102.html for more information.