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LAR 540a: Contemporary Landscape Architecture: Syllabus

Description
The first five weeks of this 1-credit course begins with an introduction to the profession and an overview of the history of landscape architecture. Throughout the course students are exposed to readings, lectures, and information on 20th and 21st century prominent design figures that have shaped the profession. The UA Desire 2Learn website presents this material in the following categories: design theory and processes, methods of design inquiry, ecological design, cultural heritage, and design communication. The website includes recommended links, for example, to professional firms, American Society of Landscape Architects, Cultural Landscape Foundation, and Projects for Public Places. Students use these and other sources to develop and present case reviews of significant built works including gardens, urban designs, recreational areas, corporate landscapes, restored natural or industrial sites, heritage sites, waterfront projects, resorts, et al. In-class discussion is a key component of the class.

Instructional Objectives: Learning Outcomes

- Write and orally present a working definition of the profession of landscape architecture.
- Write thoughtful responses to reading material; demonstrate appropriate use of landscape architectural design vocabulary and ability to compare readings and draw conclusions.
- Describe and analyze the major contributions made by landscape architects during the past 50 years as these relates to contemporary practice.
- Identify, describe, and compare project types, styles, and movements or periods in the growth and development of landscape architecture.
- Explain the evolution of landscape architecture and suggest new trends within the profession.
- Articulate ethical parameters for the practice of landscape architecture.
- Find, evaluate, and present examples of professional projects created by landscape architects in order to extract design principles, theories, and technical information for application in design.
• Formulate an effective presentation strategy by selecting appropriate content for case reviews, organization of content, and media.

• Find and modify principles of sustainability, aesthetic and artistic value, socio-cultural importance, and functional requirements for analysis, evaluation, and critique of built works.

Note: Attendance is required.

Required Text


Additional Recommended Readings


Steele, Fletcher, “New Pioneering in Garden Design,” *Landscape Architecture* 20, no. 3 (April 1930)


