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# Landscape Architecture 70

Basic Landscape Design Studio  
University of California, Davis

Winter Quarter 2009, David de la Peña, Instructor

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Mondays and Wednesdays 9 am – 12:50 pm  
Location: Hunt Hall 178  
CRN #: 39539

Office: Hunt 113  
Office Hours: W 1-2 pm, & by appointment  
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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This introductory studio will explore basic landscape design processes. While there are many ways to approach a design problem, this course will provide a foundation from which each student can build her or his own method. We will discuss the role of the landscape architect, development of a problem statement [program], site analysis, use of ordering mechanisms, design of infrastructure, and community building. We will design with natural, cultural, and experiential criteria in mind. Working individually and in teams, we will look at two different scenarios – one existing urban space and one brownfield site. These projects will allow us to advance our skills in creating base maps, analysis drawings, conceptual sketches and diagrams, 2d and 3d schematic drawings, and models.

## READINGS

Required:

LDA 70 Reader, available at Classical Notes [in the M.U.]

Textbook: Introduction to Landscape Design, by John Motloch, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Wiley, New York, 2001.

Recommended:

Catherine Dee, "Form and Fabric in Landscape Architecture," Spon Press, London, 2001.

Italo Calvino, "Invisible Cities," Harvest, New York, 1972

Jane Jacobs, "The Uses of Sidewalks – Safety," *excerpt from The City Reader*, Routledge, New York, 2000.

Donald Apleyard, excerpts from *Livable Streets*, Berkeley, University of California Press, 1981.

## STUDIO POLICIES

The development of professional skills and work habits is an integral part of this course and a critical goal for LDA's professionally accredited degree program in Landscape Architecture. Students must develop effective project planning and time management methods. Toward those ends the following course policies will be in effect throughout the semester:

1. All studio submissions, including interim materials, are to be submitted on the due dates indicated for that project. Products that are not complete at the deadline must still be submitted and will be graded as is. Exceptions to this policy will only be granted in cases of extreme extenuating circumstances (life threatening illness, etc.) where appropriate documentation is provided. Requests should be made as far in advance of the due date as possible.
2. The class period is an active working period. Students are required to be in studio and actively advancing their projects throughout the class period. Students may not leave the studio except with the instructors' permission. Students are not permitted to passively await the instructor's desk side critique. Nor are they permitted to work on projects for other courses. The level of effort during studio hours will be a component of each project evaluation.
3. Students must be equipped with the required materials and supplies at every class meeting (see below).

4. Students must be prepared to demonstrate substantial progress on their projects at each class meeting. Such progress indicates the level of effort outside of class periods each student expends upon his or her project and will compose part of their grade.
5. Consultation with fellow students is encouraged. Students often learn most from one another.

## MATERIALS & SUPPLIES

Every student must be equipped with the following materials and supplies necessary for active effort during class periods:

Drafting tools:

T-square, triangles, rolling parallel rulers, and templates.

Both engineer's and architect's scales.

Pencils - both soft sketching and harder drafting types and erasers.

Markers, color pencils, pastels and pens for rendering.

Tracing paper (not vellum) on 12" and/or 18" wide rolls (white or yellow).

Sketchbook

Model-making equipment:

Xacto knives and blades (#11), metal ruler/cutting edge with cork or rubber base, miter box and saw (optional), cutting mat, Tacky glue, perforating wheel, various sizes and thicknesses of chipboard, basswood (please no balsawood), various dried plant material for trees, landscape.

## EVALUATION

Attendance in studio is mandatory. Final grades for the course will be determined by the quality of your design projects, attendance, and engagement in course exercises and discussions.

It is expected that assignments will be completed in a timely manner and meet the expectations outlined in each exercise handout. The studio is a five-credit course. You will be evaluated on the following criteria:

10%	Project One – Site Analysis - Individual
20%	Project One – Final Drawings and Model - Group
20%	Project Two – Site Analysis - Group
35%	Project Two – Final Plans & Model - Group
15%	Class participation & improvement – Individual

<i>A</i>	Excellent
<i>B</i>	Good
<i>C</i>	Fair
<i>D</i>	barely passing
<i>F</i>	not passing (work so poor that it must be repeated to receive recognition)

The grades A, B, C and D may be modified by a plus (+) or minus (-).

**COURSE SCHEDULE**  
**LDA 70 – Winter, 2009**

WEEK	DAY	TOPIC	ACTIVITY	DUE
1	Jan 5	Introductions / Project 1 Intro	na	na
	Jan 7	Behavior Traces & Mapping	Site Visit	Reader: Zeisel 4x4 cards
2	Jan 12	Design Concepts	Pinup	Reading: Calvino Maps and Statement
	Jan 14	Concept Development	Desk Crits	Reader: Lynch Precedent Images
3	Jan 19	<b>NO CLASS – MLK DAY</b>	na	na
	Jan 21	Communicating the Concept	Desk Crits	Motloch, Ch. 1 & 2
4	Jan 26	Making Models	Desk Crits	na
	Jan 28	3 <sup>rd</sup> Street Review / Project 2 Intro	Review	Final Drawings & Models
	<i>Jan 30</i>	<i>Field Trip San Francisco</i>	<i>Field Trip</i>	<i>na</i>
5	Feb 2	Mapping (ECCO)	Site Visit	Reader: Simonds
	Feb 4	Maps Due	Pin-up	ECCO maps
6	Feb 9	Design Influences / Approaches	Lecture, Crits	Textbook: Ch 8-10
	Feb 11	Precedents	Pin-up, Crits	Precedent Images
7	Feb 16	<b>NO CLASS – PRES. DAY</b>	na	na
	Feb 18	Natural Systems	Lecture, Crits	Textbook: Ch 4-5
8	Feb 23	Land Use / Built Form	Lecture, Crits	Reader: Cullen
	Feb 25	Cultural Factors	Mid Review	Reader: Marcus
9	Mar 2	Drawings	Crits	na
	Mar 4	Drawings	Crits	na
10	Mar 9	In-class Presentation	Pin-up	Final Drawings
	Mar 11	Work	Crits	na
11	Mar 16	Work	Crits	na
	Mar 20	FINAL REVIEW, 10:30 AM	Review	Final Model & Drawings