

PLANT SCIENCES 280

FUNDAMENTALS OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Development of awareness and sensitivity to the landscape. Development of basic graphic skills and spatial design with an emphasis on sustainable principles and methods. Introduction to landform, landscape materials, and planting design. Mon. & Wed. 2- two hour labs. 3 hours credit.

INSTRUCTOR:

Garry Menendez, RLA, ASLA
Associate Professor
menendez@utk.edu

103 Environment & Landscape Laboratory Phone: 974-0216

Office Hours: Generally Wed. afternoons but please contact prior to set up appointment.

REFERENCED TEXTS:

Landscape Graphics by Grant W. Reid

MATERIALS:

A basic collection of drafting equipment and graphic supplies is to be provided by the student. The instructor will explain the equipment and supply list.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To heighten the student's sense of awareness of the total landscape including the role of the landscape design in stewarding and enhancing environments.
2. To initiate the development of basic knowledge and skills necessary for the planning of landscape improvements.
3. To introduce design as a creative problem solving process and to apply the concepts of art, design, and sustainable practices to site-specific projects / assignments.
4. To understand the role of allied trades and professions associated with landscape design, and become aware of their interrelationships.

COURSE OUTLINE:

I. Graphic Communication Skills

- A. Material representation
- B. Use of Scales
- D. Reading landscape documents
- E. Adobe Photoshop and InDesign

II. Technical Skills

- A. Introduction to landform, topography, and site hydrology
- B. Utilization of landscape softscape and hardscape materials
- C. Introduction to AutoCAD

III. Design Process and Synthesis

- A. Concept development
- B. Site planning and design
- C. Design document construction and composition

COURSE APPROACH:

PLSC 280 is a course that will advance through a series of exercises designed to develop skills and reinforce course content fundamental to the analysis, design, and development of a variety of scales in the landscape. Reserve readings or website references may be assigned for enrichment and to gain a broader perspective on landscape design. The design projects are intended to measure graphic and design skills, and total synthesis and comprehension of course material.

GRAPHIC EXERCISES:

Exercises will be assigned during the design lab. The exercises are intended for sequential development of skills, and will be assigned a grade on a basis of completeness, craft, and demonstrated effort.

DIGITAL EXERCISE:

One practicum will be given to evaluate progress in building graphic skills. This exercise will serve to evaluate student's comprehension of presented techniques and will combine both hand drawing and Adobe Photoshop and InDesign.

DESIGN PROJECTS:

In addition to the practicum two design projects (one small and a final project that is larger in scale) will be assigned that will be related to sustainable landscape planning and design. Design software will be introduced at this time to enhance learning experience. These assignments will be analytical in nature and will require you to apply knowledge and skills developed during previous units in the course.

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION:

Punctuality, attendance, active participation, and overall effort during the course will factor into determining your final grade. **Students will lose 3 points from semester point total for each unexcused absence.**

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:

Grades will be assigned according to a point accumulation format. The grade scale will be based on the number of points accumulated as a percentage of the total possible. The following breakdown and grade scale will be used as a guide; however, circumstances may dictate slight revisions.

Point Breakdown:

Graphics Communication Exercises	150 pts
Digital Design exercise.....	100 pts
Design I.....	200 pts
Design II (Final project).....	250 pts
Attendance and Effort	50 pts.
TOTAL	750 pts

Final Grade Scale:

93% or greater	.....	A
90 – 92%	.....	A-
87 – 89%	.....	B+
83 – 86%	.....	B
80 – 83%	.....	B-
77 – 80%	.....	C+
73 – 76%	.....	C
70 – 73%	.....	C-
67 – 69%	.....	D+
63 – 68%	.....	D
60 – 62%	.....	D-
59% or lower	.....	F

GENERAL UT POLICY

UNIVERSITY CIVILITY STATEMENT -- <http://civility.utk.edu/>

“Civility is genuine respect and regard for others: politeness, consideration, tact, good manners, graciousness, cordiality, affability, amiability and courteousness. Civility enhances academic freedom and integrity and is a prerequisite to the free exchange of ideas and knowledge in the learning community. Our community consists of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and campus visitors. Community members affect each other’s well-being and have a shared interest in creating and sustaining an environment where all community members and their points of view are valued and respected. Affirming the value of each member of the university community, the campus asks that all its members adhere to the principles of civility and community adopted by the campus.”

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM -- <http://safety.utk.edu/>

The University of Tennessee is committed to providing a safe environment to learn and work. When you are alerted to an emergency, please take appropriate action. Learn more about what to do in an emergency and sign up for [UT Alerts](#). Check the emergency posters near exits and elevators for building specific information. In the event of an emergency, the course schedule and assignments may be subject to change. If changes to graded activities are required, reasonable adjustments will be made, and you will be responsible for meeting revised deadlines.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Each student is responsible for his/her personal integrity in academic life and for adhering to UT’s Honor Statement. The Honor Statement reads: “An essential feature of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville is a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere of intellectual integrity and academic honesty. As a student of the university, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity.”

YOUR ROLE IN IMPROVING THE COURSE THROUGH ASSESSMENT

At UT, it is our collective responsibility to improve the state of teaching and learning. During the semester you may be requested to assess aspects of this course either during class or at the completion of the class. You are encouraged to respond to these various forms of assessment as a means of continuing to improve the quality of the UT learning experience.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES -- <http://sds.utk.edu/>

“Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Student Disability Services (SDS) at 865-974-6087 in 100 Dunford Hall to document their eligibility for services. Student Disability Services will work with students and faculty to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.”

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY AND TRAINING – <http://accessibility.utk.edu>

WELLNESS -- <http://counselingcenter.utk.edu/> and <http://wellness.utk.edu/>

The Student Counseling Center is the university's primary facility for personal counseling, psychotherapy, and psychological outreach and consultation services. **The Center for Health Education and Wellness** manages *974-HELP*, the distressed student protocol, case management, the *Sexual Assault Response Team*, and the *Threat Assessment Task Force*.

SOCIAL DISTANCING & COVID-19 PROCEDURES –

Students are required to wear face masks at all times and maintain social distancing (6 feet between individuals in traditional classrooms, or, in instructional laboratories and similar settings, only a few minutes in closer proximity when absolutely necessary to achieve learning objectives). Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home.

Instructors have the right to ask those who are not complying with these requirements to leave class in the interest of everyone's health and safety. In the event that a student refuses to comply with these requirements, the instructor has the right to cancel class.

Additionally, following other simple practices will promote good health in and out of the classroom, such as frequent and thorough hand washing, wiping down desks and seats with disinfectant wipes whenever possible, not sharing personal items such as pens and cell phones, and avoiding crowded hallways and other enclosed spaces.

The Volunteer Creed reminds us that we bear the torch in order to give light to others. As Volunteers, we commit to caring for one another and for the members of the communities in which we live, work, and learn. This semester, the University asks that we all demonstrate the Volunteer spirit by following these and other health guidelines and requirements.

DRAFTING EQUIPMENT FOR LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS

The following list of equipment should be selected and maintained carefully. This list includes the tools basic for landscape designers. (if you know of someone who has taken this course you may want to see if you can buy or borrow any unused equipment).

- Triangles:** 10" 30°/60°/90° plastic triangle.
8" 45° triangle
(Inking Edge Preferred)
- Circle template:** 1 (or 2 depending on what is available) plastic circle template(s) with circles from 1/16" to 2-1/4". Do not buy a "landscape template".
- Eraser:** Mars Staedler Plastic eraser
- Pencils:** 2H, 4H
- Pens** Pentel Sign Pens, Black
Micron Pens (or Similar), Black, Sizes various sizes
- 12" Scales:** (1) Civil Engineer's scale, 6 sided
(1) Architect's scale, 6 sided