

PLSC 350

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Understanding the relationship between the designed environment and the built environment and how to get from the other is critical in the field of landscape design. This course examines the 'how to' and the 'whys' of design as they apply to the taking of a design from an idea to the ground.

It is critical that designers know the basics of landscape construction in order to properly design landscapes that are functional, usable, and desirable. Knowing how and why something works and is 'put together and/or constructed' will make for a better designer. Student knowledge base will be expanded to include more detailed and professional and environmental design considerations. Successful completion of this course and mastery of its subjects will serve to prepare the student for the next design courses in sequence.

INSTRUCTOR:

Garry Menendez, ASLA, Registered Landscape Architect, Associate Professor

E-mail: menendez@utk.edu

103 Environment & Landscape Laboratory Phone: 974-0216

REFERENCES:

Sustainable Landscape Construction by Kim Sorvig and J. William Thompson

Landscaping Principles & Practices by Jack Ingels

Landscape Construction by David Sauter

Site Design and Construction Detailing by Theodore Walker

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives:

1. To develop an understanding of the bidding and estimating process.
2. To acquire basic knowledge in the design, use, manipulation and installation of materials commonly found used in landscape construction.
3. To further build upon the ability to take a design from thought to paper.
4. To introduce students to professional practices as they relate to landscape contracting and design.

COURSE OUTLINE:

- I. BIDDING & ESTIMATING
 - A. Sustainable Landscape Principles and Practices
 - B. Plant Communities and Habitat Types
- II. CONVENTIONAL FEATURES OF LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION
 - A. Planting
 - B. Paving & Circulation
 - C. Walls
 - D. Structures
 - E. Rockscaping

- F. Water Features
- G. Lighting
- H. Irrigation

III. SUSTAINBLE APPROACHES AND CONCEPTS

- A. Rain Gardens
- B. Wetlands & Bioswales
- C. Meadow development

IV. PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

- A. Presenting & Selling
- B. Marketing Your Services

COURSE APPROACH:

Due to UT’s commitment to manage the COVID 19 virus this course has been selected to be totally delivered in an online format. The intention is to use an **asynchronous format** that students may be able to view according to their schedules. With this being said it is imperative that each lecture **must** be viewed prior to the next session.

Since we will be asynchronous, I am requiring each student enrolled in this course to make contact with me at least every two weeks in order that we can chat live and answer any questions you may have.

TESTS & ASSIGNMENTS

Final grade will be based on student’s performance on the following:

- 1 Estimating Exercise (100 pts.)
- 2 Unit tests (200 pts.)
- 1 construction detail assignment (100 pts.)

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:

Grades will be assigned according to a point accumulation format. The following breakdown and grade scale will be used as a guide;

Grade Scale:

92% - 100%.....	A
89 – 91%.....	A-
86 – 88%.....	B+
82 – 85%.....	B
79 – 81%.....	B-
76 – 78%.....	C+
72 – 75%.....	C
69 – 71%.....	C-
66 – 68%.....	D+

62 – 65%.....	D
59 – 61%.....	D-
< 61%	F

COMMUNICATION:

You will be expected to make use of articles and other materials available on the Canvas site. You will also be expected to check you UT email occasionally for updates and messages regarding class schedules, projects, etc.

GENERAL UT POLICY

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

“Civility is genuine respect and regard for others: politeness, consideration, tact, good manners, gracious-ness, cordiality, affability, amiability and courteous-ness. 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.