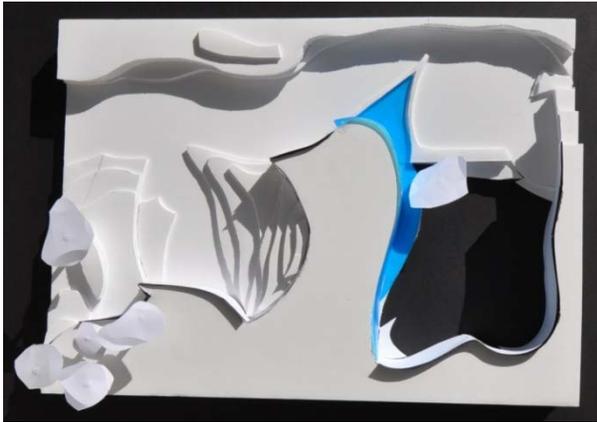


U282 URBAN DESIGN STUDIO FOR PLANNERS: AN INTRODUCTION



PHOTOGRAPHS OF STUDENT PROJECTS

INTRODUCTION

This course is organized as an introductory urban design studio for planning students. In this course, you will work on a variety of design projects to learn practical aspects of urban design. Lectures cannot serve the objectives of such a course, hence, we will regularly have studio consultation with individual students, class discussions, student presentations, and critiques of your assignments to guide you. The course is organized around several assignments to encourage learning by design. You need not have drawing or graphic communication skills at the beginning of the course but you will need to learn basic drawing and 3D model making skills fairly quickly (that is, by the end of the first week of classes), to complete the assignments. Students best learn the subject matter of this course by working on design projects, by completing the drawings/readings in advance of the class, and by participating in class discussions. The assigned textbooks provide important background information for studio discussions and for making variety of drawings for design projects; we will not cover material from these texts in the class. **This course is not about mastering drawing skills and the instructor will not teach programs or software such as AutoCAD, Sketchup, and the like. For assignments, you must submit hard-copy of drawings; electronic versions will not be accepted.** Please see the Course Schedule and Assigned Readings for details. Class discussions may include additional relevant materials as and when appropriate. It is expected that, by the end of the term, students will develop a better understanding of design of built environment.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS, DUE DATES, AND GRADING PROCEDURES

Attendance in all classes and field trips, and timely submission of all assignments is mandatory. Unexcused absences will not be permitted after first week. If you are more than 15 minutes late, it will count as absent. More than 2 unexcused absences may result in a failing (F) grade. All drawings and scale-models should be submitted in original. Each assignment should be removed from the studio within two weeks after the grade for the assignment have been submitted. I may retain some of the drawings and scale-models for instructional purposes (in that case, these drawings or models will not be returned to you at the end of the quarter).

There are no final exams. There will be a total of 4 assignments for this course. All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Any assignment not submitted in the class on the due date will be considered late. A 10% deduction of received points may apply per day to discourage late submissions. I may consider late submissions due to valid reasons and you will need to submit doctor's note for any medical reasons. Any assignment not received by the last day of class will not be considered for final grade calculation. The final grade will be based on total percent points received for this course and will be calculated using the grade conversion table included below. I may revise the weights of different parts of an assignment. Assignments will be weighted according to the following distribution:

Assignment 1	10%	Graphic representation and drawings
Assignment 2	5%	Compare urban design quality of two "public plazas"
Assignment 3	25%	Campus Plaza design
Assignment 4	45%	Playa Vista neighborhood design and street sections
Attendance	15%	Attendance and activity in class
Total	100%	

Grade Conversion Table

100 Points Scale and Corresponding Letter Grade

A+ \geq 100.00	A \geq 95.00	A- \geq 92.00	B+ \geq 88.00
B \geq 85.00	B- \geq 82.00	C+ \geq 78.00	C \geq 75.00
C- \geq 72	D+ \geq 68.00	D \geq 65	D- \geq 62
F < 62			

Academic Integrity and University Policy on Plagiarism

Acts of dishonesty in any academic work constitutes academic misconduct. You should familiarize yourself with university policies concerning academic integrity. I will follow the university policies in the event of academic misconduct.

ASSIGNMENTS

You will need to quickly learn drawing and graphic communication techniques to complete these assignments. **Please note that design projects (Assignments 3 and 4) have different parts and require preliminary proposals in the form of completed drawings and sketches. These preliminary proposals must be revised, based on feedback from the instructor, and must be resubmitted for final evaluation.** A general outline of the assignments is given below. I will provide more information and related details about some of these assignments in class. Your proposal will be reviewed and critiques by others in class. I may invite a guest critic to review your proposals and provide you with feedback.

Assignment 1: Drawing and graphic presentation skills

Submission Requirements: Plan and section drawings [Total 10 points]

For this assignment, you will prepare basic drawings including at least one plan and one section (to a scale 1" = 2' 0") of the steps area across Social Ecology I building on the UCI campus. Your drawing should include all the steps, sidewalls, profile of adjacent buildings, trees, shrubs, etc., in area. If you submit more than just one plan and one section, I will consider the additional drawings and freehand sketches for a total of 2 bonus points. Please be advised that the drawings and graphic communication skills developed in this assignment are very important for completing other assignments in this course.

Assignment 2: Comparing urban design quality: two "public spaces"

Submission Requirements: Two PowerPoint slides comparing two public spaces [Total 5 points]

For this assignment, you will identify two (proposed or built) public plazas and compare the main design elements, strengths and weaknesses of urban design concepts and physical design elements, and evaluate the overall quality of each of these public spaces on a scale of 0 to 10. You will need to present this assignment in-class using only two PowerPoint slides. These two PowerPoint slides should include all the pictures, text, and graphic material for this assignment. You are required to submit an electronic copy of the PowerPoint presentation for a grade for this assignment.

Assignment 3: Campus Plaza design

Submission Requirements: Drawings and a scale-model [Total 25 points]

You will redesign a parking lot on the UCI campus into a public plaza for this assignment. You will propose a design for the plaza that adds to the functional, aesthetic, and symbolic quality of open spaces on the campus. You are required to draw at least one plan and make a scale-model of your proposed design for the plaza (scale 1" = 10' 0"). You may include additional drawings such as elevations and sections as well as sketches and photographs to further explain your proposal. You will make a brief presentation in class discussing your final proposal.

Assignment 4: Redesign Playa Vista

Submission Requirements: Two one-acre block models in 3D, one detailed street plan and one detailed street section, and a site plan of the 150-acre project area [Total 45 points]

For this assignment, you will redesign a part of the Playa Vista project area in Marina Del Rey in Los Angeles area. The City of Los Angeles has decided to promote a higher-density, walkable neighborhood that incorporates mixed-use design on the project site. Although the Playa Vista project is currently being developed on a site of approximately 1087 acres, your proposal will primarily focus on a smaller area covering only ~150 acres of the project site. You will first make a conceptual plan drawing showing different land uses in your project area and also construct two 3D scale-models (scale 1" = 20' 0") of two different "one-acre blocks" that are designed with different densities (first block should be ~40 units/acre, second should be ~80 units/acre) [5 points for each block model, 10 points total for this part of assignment]. These one-acre blocks may be integrated in your proposed site plan of the 150-acre site. You should review housing designs and especially floor plans of different types of housing to familiarize yourself with the densities of different housing types, which will help you in designing the block models and developing the site plan.

Based on your "one-acre block" design, you will draw one detailed street configuration plan drawings showing the location of buildings, setbacks, and property lines on plan, and one detailed street section drawings showing configuration of streets, and buildings on both sides of the street [five points each, 10 points total for this part of assignment]. This part of the assignment is due on the last day of class.

You will also prepare a final proposal for the 150 acres of the 1087-acre project site, and draw a site plan of your 150-acre area to scale (1" = 200' 0") [25 points]. The site plan must show building footprint of all buildings that are not single-family detached buildings.

COURSE TEXTS

Wang, Thomas C. 1996 (Second Edition). *Plan and Section Drawing*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

Urban Design Associates (UDA). 2003. *The Urban Design Handbook: Techniques and Working Methods*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

REFERENCE TEXTS

American Planning Association. 2006. *Planning and urban design standards*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

Katz, Peter. 1994. *The New Urbanism: Toward an Architecture of Community*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Lynch, Kevin and Gary Hack. 2000. *Site Planning*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Richards, James. 2013. *Freehand drawing and discovery*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

Whyte, William H. 1980. *The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces*. Washington D. C.: The Conservation Foundation.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNED READINGS*

Wk	Date	Activity/Assignments	Readings
1		Introduction, course overview Explain Assignment 1, drawing techniques Explain Assignment 2	Wang (Chapter 1-2) Whyte (Chapters 1-3)
2		Assignment 1 due Site visit: UCI parking lot across Langson Library Instructor presentation: public plaza design Explain Assignment 3 Studio discussion on Assignment 3	Richards (Chapter 1-2) Wang (Chapter 3)
3		Assignment 2 due Student presentations of assignment 2 Assignment 3 conceptual plan drawings due Studio discussion on Assignment 3	Richards (Chapter 3, 4, 5) Wang (Chapter 4, 5, 6)
4		Assignment 3 working model and plan due Studio consultation on Assignment 3 Discussion: WTC memorial competition	Richards (Chapter 6, 7) Wang (Chapter 7, 8)
5		Assignment 3 due: All drawings and all 3D models Final review and critique of assignment 3	Richards (Chapters 8, 9 optional) Wang (Chapter 9-10) Lynch and Hack (Chapter 1)
6		Discuss Assignment 4 Instructor presentation: Playa Vista re-design Studio consultation on Assignment 4	Lynch and Hack (Chapters 2, 3-6); UDA (Chapter 1, 2)
7		Two block models of different densities due Studio consultation on Assignment 4	UDA (Chapter 3, 4) Lynch and Hack (Chapter 7) APA Urban Design Standards
8		Conceptual site plan of Playa Vista due (Street layout and site plan of ~150-acre project area) Students work on 150-acre site plan	APA Urban Design Standards UDA (Chapter 5, 6) Lynch and Hack (Chapters 8, 9)
9		Students work on 150-acre site plan Studio consultation on Assignment 4	Lynch and Hack (Chapters 10-12); Katz (pp. 1-220)
10		Assignment 4 due: All drawings and models due (Two block models, detailed plan and section drawings, and 150-acre site plan due) Final review of all parts of Assignment 4 and critique	Any assignment not received by the beginning of this class will not be considered for final grade

* Please note that this schedule of classes, assignment due dates, and course content are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.