Course number: **ARC 6911**
Course title: **Sustainable Planning and Design Studio**
Term: Spring 2017
Section numbers: 07DG / 1436
Credits: 6
Meeting times: Tuesdays, 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm + Thursdays, 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm, Eastern Time Zone (UTC-05:00) or Eastern Daylight Time (UTC-4:00), when applicable. See: http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html to determine corresponding times in your location. See also detailed course schedule for alternate meeting dates on certain weeks, where noted.

Faculty: Bradley Walters, AIA, NCARB
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Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9:30 am to 10:30 am, Eastern Time Zone. Additional meeting times are available. Please email instructor to arrange online, phone, or in-person meetings, as needed.

Course Facilitator: Dr. Michael Kung, Ed.D.
                  Director of Global Education
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SYLLABUS   Latest Revision: 2 January 2017

01. Course Description

     This specialized studio introduces design thinking and problem solving through intensive research and the development of design proposals. Studio projects apply theories of sustainability, with specific attention to issues of water quality, density, urban scale, mixed-use development, infrastructure, ecosystems, and habitat preservation. The course includes a significant research component, allowing the analysis of precedent and site to inform the projective design work that follows. To develop an appreciation for design as a collaborative endeavor, certain project work will be conducted in groups intentionally assigned to create cross-cultural partnerships and to require discussions with one or more team members located in remote locations.

     The course builds on the lessons learned during the first semester's coursework in *International Sustainable Development*, *Sustainable Design Problem Solving*, and runs parallel to the *Ecological Issues in Sustainability 2* during this semester. Furthermore the studio anticipates and prepares students for independent work required by the *Sustainability Capstone-Thesis or Masters Research Project*.

02. Course Outline + Approach

     This course is structured around a design problem that allows students to draw from prior and concurrent coursework to develop design proposals that address a wide range of environmental and cultural concerns. The students' project proposals are developed in an iterative way involving numerous studies, revisions, verbal/visual presentations, and discussion of both their own work and the work of others. The basic sequence and organization of the work is as follows:

     Research, Analysis, Discovery + Defining Project Parameters

     Weeks 1-4:   Visualization + Mapping Strategies
                     Site Analysis (watershed, natural/ecological considerations, cultural/social, etc.) + Precedent Study

Synthesis, Design + Evaluation of Proposals

Week 5-8:   Projective Representational Tools + Urban Scale
              Development and Refinement of Design Proposals
Week 9:   Spring Break

Travel Tours + Reflection

Weeks 10:   Studio Travel to the Netherlands + Singapore

Revisions, Final Presentations, Project Documentation + Preparations for MRP/Thesis

Weeks 11-15: Reflections, Self-Criticism, + Revisions
              Development and Refinement of Design Proposals
              Incorporation of Issues Directly Related to MRP Studies
              Final Project Presentations + Documentation
Week 16:   Reflection + Wrap-up

03. Tentative Week-by-Week Schedule

Week	Date	Class Discussion	Assignment (due prior to following Tues class)
Research, Analysis, Discovery + Defining Project Parameters			
01	Thurs, 5 January	*No live class meeting – Introductions via email*	Project 01: Five-minute CV
02	Tues, 10 January	• Project 01 student presentations • Introduction to "single-issue" diagrams • Introduction to analysis and visualization of information • Project 02 topical assignments	Project 02: Existing Condition Research (draft)
	Thurs, 12 January	• Q&A discussion about research assignment • Analysis and visualization strategies	
03	Tues, 17 January	• Project 02 student presentations • Class discussion/feedback on presentations	Project 03: Existing Condition Research (final)
	Thurs, 19 January	• Q&A discussion about research assignment • Analysis and visualization strategies • Introduction to use of precedent in research	
04	Tues, 24 January	*Project Development – No class meeting*	Project 04: Precedent Research/Readings
	Thurs, 26 January	• Project 03 student presentations • Class discussion/feedback on presentations	
Synthesis, Design + Evaluation of Proposals			
05	Tues, 31 January	• Project 04 discussion • Class discussion/feedback on presentations • Introduction to synthetic design processes • Discussion about scale, the familiar, and the concept of the "urban ruler"	Project 05: Urban Ruler + Conceptual Design
	Thurs, 2 February	• Q&A discussion about assignment • Introduction to basic representational tools: hand drawing, photography, collage, PowerPoint drawing annotations, Google/Bing maps, SketchUp	

Week	Date	Class Discussion	Assignment (due prior to following Tues class)
06	Tues, 7 February **5 – 8:30 pm**	• Project 05 discussion • Class discussion/feedback on presentations • Review: Analysis + Precedent in Design	Project 06: Interim Project Development
	Thurs, 9 February	• Q&A discussion about assignment • Representational strategies • Discuss: Strategies for engaging MRP research topics in design proposals	
07	Tues, 14 February	*Project Development – No class meeting*	
	Thurs, 16 February	*Project Development – No class meeting*	
08	Tues, 21 February	• Project 06 student presentations • Class discussion/feedback on presentations	Project 07: Finalize Plan Proposals
	Thurs, 23 February	• Q&A discussion about assignment • Final Trip planning + Q&A	
09	Tues, 28 February	*MSD Spring Break – No class meeting*	
	Thurs, 2 March	*MSD Spring Break – No class meeting*	

Travel Tours + Reflection

Week	Date	Class Discussion	Assignment (due prior to following Tues class)
10	Tues, 7 March	*Singapore Trip (4-7 March)* • Student presentations to URA (tentative) • On-site evaluation of design strategies • Refer to separate detailed trip itinerary, to be provided	Project 08: Reflections + Self-Criticisms
	Thurs, 9 March	*Groningen Trip Travel – No class meeting*	

Revisions, Final Presentations, Project Documentation + Preparations for MRP/Thesis

Week	Date	Class Discussion	Assignment (due prior to following Tues class)
11	Tues, 14 March	• Discussion about Singapore + Groningen • Project 08 student presentations • Class discussion/feedback on presentations	Project 09: Draft Final Proposal + Intersections with Individual MRP Topics
	Thurs, 16 March	• Q&A discussion about assignment • Discuss: Strategies for engaging MRP research topics in design proposals	
12	Tues, 21 March	• Project 09 student presentations • Class discussion/feedback on presentations	Project 10: Development + Refinement
	Thurs, 23 March	• Q&A discussion about assignment	
13	Tues, 28 March	• Project 10 student presentations • Class discussion/feedback on presentations	Project 11: Development + Refinement
	Thurs, 30 March	• Q&A discussion about assignment	
14	Tues, 4 April	*Project Development – No class meeting*	Project 12: Final Project Presentations + Intersections with Individual MRP Topics
	Thurs, 6 April	• Project 11 student presentations • Class discussion/feedback on presentations	
15	Tues, 11 April	• Project 12 student presentations • Class discussion/feedback on presentations	Project 13: Final Project Submissions
	Thurs, 13 April	• Project 12 student presentations (if needed) • Class discussion/feedback on presentations • Q&A discussion about assignment	

Week	Date	Class Discussion	Assignment (due prior to following Tues class)
16	**Monday, 17 April 2 – 5:30 pm**	*Last day of class* • Open discussion about sustainability, planning, and design processes.	

04. Key Learning Outcomes

   • Understand the complexities of sustainable design, particularly the inherent conflicts between systems. Students should be able to evaluate a number of competing demands and establish a clear design proposal that establishes a hierarchy amongst these different systems and value structures.

   • Understand the concept of a watershed.

   • Understand varying scales of design and the different possibilities for making sustainable design decisions at these different scales of work.

   • Understand the impacts of urbanization on natural systems and reciprocal interactions between diverse systems.

   • Incorporate water-sensitive urban design and green infrastructure.

   • Develop refined understandings of "sustainability" and test these through projective design proposals.

   • Develop an ability to use a range of representational tools, including drawing, mapping, diagramming, computer-assisted spatial representation, etc.

   • Develop iterative and diverse processes for problem solving.

   • Clearly communicate and implement a sustainable design proposal.

05. Required and Recommended Textbooks

   This class has no required text books but required readings will be posted on Canvas.

06. The Studio System

   The structure of studio courses is substantially different from a lecture format, more closely approximating a lab class or workshop. The basic assumption is that the student learns as much from fellow students as from professors. Exercises and discussions will involve your active participation both in and outside of the structured class time. The process is a communal one, involving redundant sequences of making, looking, articulating, clarifying, and remaking. You must learn to trust one another, and value each other's input in the development of your work.

07. Critiques

   From time to time at the end of a project, or at a critical moment of the work Reviews and/or Critiques are scheduled. These are public presentations of the work and provide a forum for its discussion. Usually an external critic – or several – are brought in to provide a fresh viewpoint and to stimulate discussion. These sessions are usually more formal than other studio sessions and should be taken quite seriously. Critics come in on their own time and expend a serious level of energy in trying to understand your endeavors and give you good feedback. You should think of your presentation not as a moment of judgment, but as an opportunity to get input on implications and possible directions for development. The critiques of your fellow students will also be essential to your education.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

08. Attendance and participation at all studio sessions and reviews is mandatory. Because of the direct, dynamic, and participatory group learning that occurs in the studio environment, it is not possible to replicate this learning through individually-scheduled meetings. Although a long conversation with a fellow student will help you begin to figure out what to do to prepare for the next session, it can never make up the learning accomplished in this collaborative environment. A makeup session with your professor cannot duplicate the collective conversation. As a result our policy on attendance is strict.

09. Any absence must be explained, either by 1) contacting your faculty by email, 2) through other online tools, or 3) calling the instructor. THREE ABSENCES CAN CONSTITUTE AN AUTOMATIC DROP FROM THE COURSE OR A FAILING GRADE. Chronic absences and/or tardiness will have a negative impact on your grade. If you must miss a class session, it is up to you to still meet project submission deadlines and get new assignments and/or class notes from your classmates. In the event of illness, injury, family emergency, or personal crisis, arrangements can be made for attendance, missed exams or work. On this point, it is important for you to contact your instructor regarding your particular circumstances as soon as possible. It is never permissible to miss a critique, nor is it permissible to be late or to leave early.

10. Religious Holidays

   You can be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of your faith with prior notification to the instructor. You will be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in your absence, and will not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances.

11. Student Illness

   If you are absent from classes or examinations because of illness, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. The Student Health Care Center (SHCC) can provide a medical excuse note if their providers are involved in your medical care and if you must be absent from class for three or more days for medical reasons. If you have a medical issue that results in fewer than three days of absence from class, speak with your professor.

12. Make-Up Policy

   No late work will be accepted without prior approval by the instructor. Computer problems that arise during submission will not be accepted as an excuse for late work. All work must be completed and submitted by the designated time on E-Learning or you will not receive credit for the assignment. In the event that make-up work is required and approved by the instructor in accordance with university policies, students will be given an amount of time equivalent to the missed classes to make up the work. Such make-ups will be administered individually if/as needed.

   Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance and in the Graduate School Handbook at: http://www.graduateschool.ufl.edu/media/graduate-school/pdf-files/handbook.pdf.

GRADING POLICIES

13. There are no tests in Design. There are also no right or wrong answers *per se*. You will not be taking in information over the course of the term and regurgitating it in another form. You will begin as you will go on - by making things over and over and over. Each time you make something you will take on new questions or the same questions at another level of sophistication. Therefore, there is no single answer for which we are looking. We will give you feedback on the directions you have taken, suggestions for further work, and assess the architectural implications of your projects.

   Our goals for you are:
   1)   To have at your fingertips many fruitful ways to approach any problem.
   2)   To learn to critique yourselves effectively.

14. The studio follows a reflective practice model, or "the capacity to reflect on action so as to engage in a process of continuous learning" (Schon, 1983). What we ask from you is a concerted effort, an innovative approach to the problem, proposals that address sustainability issues, and, most importantly, for you to challenge yourself and be constantly willing to continue to develop a scheme. Grades will be assigned as much on dedication and improvement as on talent.

15. We evaluate your performance in terms of the following: Quality, Completeness, Clarity, Rigor, and Contribution to the Discourse. "Quality" should be more or less self-explanatory, as is "Completeness." "Clarity" refers to the precision of the proposals you make, the words you use, and the close correlation between the constructions and words. "Rigor" refers to serious effort, and the willingness to work through an iterative process to reach solutions. Finally, "Contribution to the Discourse" refers to your participation in the discussions in class and to your meaningful contributions to the larger field of sustainable design.

16. Letter grades are assigned based on your performance in studio. These letter grades correspond to the following numeric grades, quality points, and qualitative descriptions:

	Letter Grade	Numeric Grade	Quality Points	Qualitative Description
PASSING GRADES	A	100–93	4.0	Outstanding work only
	A-	92–90	3.67	Close to outstanding
	B+	89–87	3.33	Very good work
	B	86–83	3.0	Good work
	B-	82–80	2.67	Good work with some problems

Minimum Cumulative GPA

	C+	79-77	2.33	Slightly above average work
	C	76-73	2.0	Average work
FAILING GRADES	C-	72-70	1.67	Average work with some problems
	D+	69-67	1.33	Poor work with some effort
	D	66-63	1.0	Poor work
	D-	62-60	0.67	Poor work with some problems
	E	59-0	0.0	Inadequate work

The current UF grading policies can be found at http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades.

17. Every effort will be made to provide timely and appropriate feedback for your performance. If you have questions about your grade, you may schedule a conference to review your grades, attendance, and performance. Final grades will reflect the University of Florida policies for assigning grade points (http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades).

18. An incomplete grade may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor as an interim grade only in cases of extreme extenuating circumstances. Note that as this is a required course, you will not be allowed to graduate without completing the course with a passing grade. Please also note that the Graduate School states that a passing grade is a C or better. Graduate students must maintain a "B" or better cumulative grade point average in order to graduate.

UF POLICIES

19. University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

20. University Policy on Academic Misconduct

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: 'On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.'" The Honor Code (https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Please note that you are expected to provide appropriate citations and/or credit for images, text references, and design influences, where appropriate. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult your instructors.

21. Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/. Your thoughtful responses to these questions will help inform both the content and conduct of the course in subsequent semesters.

22. Policy on Retaining Work

Please note that student work may be retained indefinitely for academic purposes. You should be prepared for the instructor to ask that it be exhibited and/or photographed during or after the term. Having your work retained for photography and/or exhibition is evidence of its quality and value to the school. You will always be able to either retrieve your original work or retrieve it temporarily to make copies/photograph it for your own personal purposes.

GETTING HELP

23. Technical Assistance

    If you have technical difficulties participating in online class sessions, please contact Michael Kung at mkung@dcp.ufl.edu. For assistance with e-learning or Canvas, contact either Mr. Kung or the UF Help Desk at:

    • Email: Learning-support@ufl.edu
    • Phone: (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
    • Online: https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml or http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/

    ** NOTE: Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by an email from Mr. Kung or the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructors within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up or deadline extension.

24. Counseling + Emergency Contacts

    • Police / Fire / Medical Emergency: 911
    • University Police Department (UPD): 352.392.1111
    • UF Counseling and Wellness Center (3190 Radio Road): 352.392.1575 or http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/
    • Student Nighttime Auxiliary Patrol (SNAP) free transportation: Use free "TapRide" app (IOS or android) to schedule pickup or call 352.392.SNAP (7627). For more info: http://www.police.ufl.edu/community-services/student-nighttime-auxiliary-patrol-snap/.

CHANGES AND REVISIONS TO THIS SYLLABUS

25. This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be discussed during regular class meetings and/or through announcements posted to the class e-Learning site.