



## LA447 – COMPREHENSIVE TERMINAL PROJECT 2007 (4CR.)

TYPE OF COURSE: Capstone Studio

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SCHEDULE: Tuesdays and Thursdays, January 16<sup>th</sup> – May 11<sup>th</sup>

### Course Description

Focus on:

- I. Research, analysis, and synthesis for ecologically sensitive natural and cultural landscapes;
- II. Spatial analysis and ideation for promotion of sustainable landscape and economy; and
- III. Individual skills of the profession – GIS, CAD, 3D, Adobe suite elements, hand drawing, and project organization.

### Pedagogic Objectives:

- A. Explore the advanced theories and methods of analytical and synthetic decision making for landscape scale, site scale, and garden scale environments.
- B. Apply advanced methods for understanding the natural and cultural landscape through defensible, analytical assessment techniques, and technologies.
- C. Focus on mastery of the sequential components of landscape analysis, planning, design, and implementation.
- D. Focus on improving/and or acquiring personal skills in digital, 3D, and hand drawn representation.

Time Commitment of Student: Extensive studio-level commitment for project and organization.

Basis of Final Grade: Grade evaluations will be based upon quality and quantity of documented thought, writing, analysis, design, planning, drawing, imaging, and organization. Grades for individual projects will account for 100% of the final grade for the course. Attendance is required for all course sessions – recognizing need for interview-related absences, three non-pinup days will be permitted without affecting overall grade. Absence must be discussed in advance.

### COURSE OUTLINE

This capstone studio explores the core and boundaries of contemporary landscape architectural practice. It explores formal theories and practices of landscape architectural analysis, planning, design, and implementation. Students explore creative processes, refine capabilities for the profession, and establish alternative solutions for contemporary programmatic elements and environmental situations.

The overall goal of the course is to engage a project that is both inspirational for you and meaningful in the profession. ...in order to enable a challenging integration of your knowledge of the profession and world.

***Please be apprised of the following new options for your final studio.*** Beginning spring term 2007 you will have choices as follows: **1)** community or four season resort development within either a greenfield location or an existing resort community expansion/infill/redevelopment area;

2) another landscape scale project of interest to you - from analysis, planning and design to site scale design concepts; 3) another project topic of interest to you - from garden scale analysis and design alternatives through construction drawings. Eg. A village green, an urban park, a golf course, a memorial/commemorative landscape, a ceremonial landscape, a brownfield redevelopment, etc., etc. Option 3 must include garden scale design alternatives through construction drawings.

***In all cases, there will be a bi-weekly required pinup/presentation (half of the class, by alphabet, each Thursday). Attendance by all is required every Thursday. Tuesdays will be devoted to individual critiques and field study.***

The rationale for specifically choosing community or four-season resort planning and design stems from their comprehensive urban village, residential, infrastructure, recreational and open space program and likelihood of addressing issues inherent in an ecologically sensitive environment. It involves exploration, evaluation, planning, design, management and representation for terrain analysis and planning, urban village design, housing, recreation, golf, and transportation; the sustainable markets of contemporary professional practice. Studio topics cover landscape to site scales and range from nature to culture, from wilderness to urbanization, and from GIS to CAD, 3D, and Adobe imaging. The interrelated spheres of project area, program, and individual works are opportunity for you to demonstrate qualifications and capabilities for the profession that reflect this university's overall program of study. The requirement is for major programmatic elements as follows: 1. resort village with plaza and village green; 2. parks/open space/recreation (skiing, snowboarding optional); 3. championship golf course; and 4. setting for sustainable landscape ecology. Each of the program elements will be integrated in an overall master plan (landscape scale) and designed at a site scale.

The rationale for providing options two and three is self-evident. ***In all cases, please choose an interesting study area with rich natural and cultural elements. Please choose a study area accessible by visit and/or eye-level photography of details.***

***Please submit for review and concurrence, on the first day of class (January 16), a project proposal, including topic, location and schedule. The schedule must list the topic of each of the bi-weekly pinups/presentations. The project and schedule must be substantive to the extent that it requires the university minimum of eight to twelve hours (two to three hours per credit hour) per week beyond class time (1-5 Tuesdays & Thursdays).***

This course is opportunity to focus on contemporary methods for the profession in the context of sustainable forms and spaces at landscape, site, and/or garden scales.

- 1) Aspects of Analysis, Design, and Planning
  - a) Natural and Cultural Landscapes
  - b) Landscapes for Bio-Diversity
  - c) Resort Landscapes
  - d) Interpretation of Nature and Culture
  - e) Spaces for Humans, Wildlife, and Plants
- 2) Landscape Scale Decision - Making
  - a) Landscape Identity and Change
  - b) Ecology
  - c) Land Use
  - d) Soil and Vegetation
  - e) Terrain
  - f) Site Selection
- 3) Site Scale Decision - Making
  - a) Site Identity and Change
  - b) Site Ecology
  - c) Human Behavior and Perception

- d) Soil and Vegetation
- e) Climate
- f) Terrain
- 4) Garden Scale Decision - Making
  - a) Natural and Cultural Vocabulary and Narrative
  - b) Site Ecology
  - c) Human Behavior and Perception
  - d) Soil and Vegetation
  - e) Climate
  - f) Terrain
- 5) Digital and Hand-drawn Design Development
  - a) Organization of Spaces
  - b) Circulation Patterns
  - c) Infrastructure
- 6) Geographic Information Systems and Computer - aided Design
  - a) Demands and Needs
  - b) Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences Models
  - c) Design Guidelines and Mitigation Measures
  - d) Programming / Site Analysis
  - e) Design Development