



LDE4404C and HOS6932

Advanced Residential Landscape Design

Spring 2026
In person, 3 credits

Instructor

Dr. Gail Hansen
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Office Hours: Friday- 11am to 1pm (or by appointment)

Course Description

LDE4404C Credits 3

This course emphasizes sustainable landscape design concepts and practices to create regenerative and resilient residential or public landscapes that demonstrate advanced design skills and knowledge.

Studio- PSF 0004, Tuesday and Thursday, Periods 9-10 (4:05pm to 6:00pm)

Desk critiques and/or site visits vary from 60 minutes to 2 hours

Course Learning Objectives

Course Goal: To design and draw technically advanced, well designed, residential or public landscapes that demonstrate the integration and application of concepts of resource efficient and sustainable landscapes.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes: by the end of the semester students should be able to:

- Use the design process (knowledge, comprehension, analysis, synthesis, application, and evaluation) to create technically advanced well designed, residential landscapes.
- List and describe the concepts of resource-efficient landscape design and demonstrate an understanding of resource efficient concepts through application in the context of a residential design
- Describe the characteristics of sustainable, renewable building materials and demonstrate an understanding of their impact on sustainability through suitable integration of materials in the hardscape plan of a residential landscape design.
- Identify and develop a list of resource efficient plants and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the concept of resource efficiency through application of the concept to a planting plan of a residential landscape.
- Develop simple cost estimates and material specifications for a residential or public landscape design.
- Develop a complete graphic (plan view) sustainable residential or public landscape design, including symbols, labels, a plant schedule, and general notes

Course Overview and Purpose

The course includes presentations and in-class desk critiques. Activities include indoor studio work and outdoor site visits.

Each two-hour class period will typically consist of one of the following: presentations, or short tutorials and desk crits or site visits either on or off campus with activities and discussion.

Three teaching modules include:

- **Sustainable landscape concepts**- resource efficient plants, planting designs, energy conservation designs, self-sufficient landscapes (urban farms), green infrastructure, ecological principles, and ecosystem services
- **Water management and use**- stormwater management strategies
- **Sustainable building materials, techniques, and systems**- hardscape, wood, re-use and re-purpose of materials, green roofs, cool pavements

Course Prerequisites

LDE 3410C Residential Landscape Design or approval of instructor

OR LAA 2360C Principles of Landscape Architecture or LAA2361 Planting Design Studio

Textbooks, Learning Materials, and Supply Fees

All learning materials and class supplies are supplied by the instructor. Lab fees are assessed for this course. The fees are used to buy materials, such as marker pens, engineers scales, drawing pens and straightedges for use by students. Fees are also used to make copies of base maps and other materials used in class.

Class Demeanor/Expectations

Attendance: Students are expected to be present at all class meetings and must inform instructor by email prior to class if they will miss a class (emergency situations are an exception to this policy). One un-excused absence is allowed; every absence thereafter that is not pre-arranged with the instructor will result in a grade penalty unless a true emergency prevented attendance. Requirements for class attendance, make-up exams, assignments and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Technical Support

UF Computing Help Desk & Ticket Number: All technical issues require a UF Helpdesk Ticket Number.

The UF Helpdesk is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/> | 352-392-4357

Weekly Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Assessment	Due Dates
1	Intro to Class and Projects #1 and #4		
2	Shifting the Urban Landscape Paradigm	Desk Critiques Project 1	
3	Landscape Barriers and Preferences	Desk Critiques Project 1	
4	Biodiversity	Desk Critiques Project 1	
5	High Performing Landscapes	Desk Crits & Project due	Feb 12
6	Intro to Project #2	Site Visit & Desk Crits	
7	Energy Efficient Landscapes	Desk Critiques Project 2	
8	Climate Change and Plants	Desk Critiques Project 2	
9	Guidelines for Evaluating Landscapes	Desk Crits & Project due	March 13
10	Spring Break		

Week	Topic	Assessment	Due Dates
11	Intro to Project #3	Site Visit & Desk Crits	
12	Urban Farms	Desk Critiques Project 3	
13	Hardscape Materials- costs	Desk Critiques Project 3	
14	Repurpose, Reclaim, Reuse	Desk Critiques Project 3	
15	Portfolios	Desk Critiques Project 3	
16	Last day of class	Project # and #4 due	April 21

Grading Policy

Course grading is consistent with [UF grading policies](#).

Course Grading Structure

[Required, methods by which students will be evaluated and their grade determined.]

Assignment Type	Point Value	Percent of Final Grade
Final Landscape Design Project #1	100 points	25%
Final Landscape Design Project #2	100 points	25%
Final Landscape Design Project #3	100 points	25%
Class Portfolio	100 points	25%

Grading Scale

Grade	Points	Percentage
A	360-400	90.0-100.0
A-	348-359.6	87.0 - 89.9
B+	336-347.6	84.0 - 86.9
B	324-335.6	81.0 – 83.9
B-	312-323.6	78.0 - 80.9
C+	300-319.6	75.0 - 79.9
C	288-299.6	72.0 – 74.9
C-	276-287.6	69.0 - 71.9
D+	264-275.6	66.0 - 68.9
D	252-263.6	63.0 - 65.9
D-	240-251.6	60.0 - 62.9
S	0-239.6	0 - 59.9

Academic Policies and Resources

Academic policies for this course are consistent with university policies. See

<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

Campus Health and Wellness Resources

Visit <https://one.uf.edu/whole-gator/topics> for resources that are designed to help you thrive physically, mentally, and emotionally at UF.

Please contact [UMatterWeCare](#) for additional and immediate support.

Software Use

All faculty, staff and students at the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.