EXAMPLE Syllabus for Web
PSS 238: Ecological Landscape Design
(Cross-listed with CDAE 238, ENVS 238, NR 238)

Professor: Stephanie Hurley. 221 Jeffords Hall. 656-9501. Stephanie.E.Hurley@uvm.edu

Course Description: Ecological Landscape Design is a studio course synthesizing work from the fields of landscape ecology, environmental planning, and landscape design. We will explore both well-established and recently-innovated ecological landscape design projects at multiple scales, from small sites to whole cities and watersheds. Inspiration will be drawn from precedent studies, lessons from the natural world, and our own creative abilities. This class will work on two design projects during the semester, a shorter preliminary project and a longer-term more intensive project, which address design challenges on real sites in Vermont. Students will be working individually and in groups. We will learn techniques for critiquing our own work and constructively evaluating the work of fellow students, while refining our graphic communication and presentation skills. We will follow the landscape design process from site analysis through conceptual, schematic, and detailed design phases, and develop multifunctional solutions to site-specific design problems.

Prerequisites/Credit: Minimum junior standing; PSS 137 or 1 course in ecology plus 1 course in design or drawing. This course is approved for graduate credit. 4 credits.

Example Grading:
Precedent Study Assignment and Presentation 5%
Sketchbook Prompts (including Photoshop Tutorial Work and Storyboards): 10%
Project 1 [Group]
   Site Analysis and Functional Diagrams: 8%
   Schematic Designs, Planting Plans, Plant Lists, Details, and Section Drawings: 15%
Project 2 [Mostly Individual]
   Site Analysis (Team): 3%
   Concepts/Functional Diagrams: 5%
   Schematic Design: 15%
   Sections and Perspectives: 12%
   Design Details and Planting Plans: 10%
   Final Presentation Overall: 5%
Peer Critique Exercises: 2%
Class Participation (includes attendance, discussion of readings, participation in group work, etc.): 10%
Total: 100%

Blackboard Course Website: All assignments, updates, and materials will be posted on Blackboard. Your professor and TA rely on using Blackboard postings/announcements to contact all the students in class simultaneously. Students are responsible for checking the content on Blackboard frequently. The main locations to view course content are the Syllabus and Course Materials Folders (and Sub-Folders), and the Blackboard Home Page (Course Announcements, which may also go directly to your email account).
**Attendance Policy:** Class attendance is mandatory; attendance will be part of your class participation grade. Studio work requires attendance for lectures, assignments, design time and critiques. Much of a design education comes through observing each other's work progress. Consistently arriving late or leaving early will affect your attendance grade. Three unexcused absences will result in a drop of one full grade from the final calculated grade for the semester.

**Academic Integrity:** Offenses against the UVM Code of Academic Integrity are deemed serious and insult the integrity of the entire academic community. Any suspected violations of the Code are taken very seriously and will be forwarded to the Center for Student Ethics & Standards for further intervention. To read the Code of Academic Integrity and learn more about the Center for Student Ethics and Standards, visit their website at: [http://www.uvm.edu/cses/?Page=ah.html&SM=ahmenu.html](http://www.uvm.edu/cses/?Page=ah.html&SM=ahmenu.html)

**Supplies:** Obtain the following items by Week 2 of classes.
- Sketchbook, at least 6x8” unlined, mid-weight paper
- Tracing Paper Roll – 24” x 20 yards or larger
- Engineer’s Scale
- Circle Template
- Triangles: 10”-30-60-90 and/or 10” – 45-90.
- Drafting Tape or Dots
- Scissors
- Set of Drawing Pencils: at a minimum get 2H, HB, 2B
- Eraser (Pink Pearl or similar)
- Pencil Sharpener
- Pentel Sign Pen(s)
- Pentel Micron Pens (or similar) with at least 3 line weights line weights
- Black Markers: minimum of 3 different line weights
- *Either* Colored Markers or Colored Pencils - Prismacolor or equivalent minimum 20, lots of green shades and earth tones
- Exacto or other Cutting Knife and Blades
- Cutting Mat
- Straightedge –heavy weight

**Textbooks:** Students will be required to obtain one (1) of the following landscape graphics books, or may use another graphics book of their choosing with instructor permission. The other books listed below are recommended to further knowledge in particular areas. In addition, required readings on particular topics will be posted on Blackboard prior to lectures.


**Recommended Books and Other Resources:**


Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department Library: http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/library.cfm

Recommended Peer-Reviewed Journal Titles:
Landscape and Urban Planning
Landscape Journal
Landscape Ecology
Environmental Management
Ecological Engineering

Environment and Planning A-D
A-interdisciplinary urban and regional research
B-planning and design
C-government and policy
D-society and space