

LARC 1150 INTRODUCTION TO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | FALL 2023

| Final Project – Research

Presentations begin November 28 and will continue until December 07

Report due December 13 @ 3pm

Description

In this assignment, you will research a type of landscape, an issue, a possibility, or a concept that pertains to landscape architecture. It can be anything from the ordinary such as how students are accessing the bus, to a major issue we experience in the world. Think of this project as an exercise in research and exploration of your own interests.

When choosing your topic, consider the following criteria:

1. Why is this important? How do you communicate to your audience that this is important?
2. What is your position on the topic? Make it clear what you think about it. If you need to make a polemic statement, feel free.
3. What is the context of your topic? Consider the history, political, environmental, and ecological aspects.
4. Can you generate your own content, i.e. can you take photos and make graphics that will effectively communicate your narrative?
5. Can you easily find data, maps, stories, oral history, and other material to create a rich story?
6. Keep an account of your references.

Learning Outcomes / Goals

At the end of this assignment, you will be able to:

1. *Demonstrate critical thinking of narratives on the built and natural environment globally and understand the symbiotic and contrary relationships between humans and nature.*
2. *Demonstrate your understanding of basic concepts in design thinking, ecological design, environmental justice, and planting design.*
3. *Apply visual and design thinking techniques that facilitate information retention and discussion.*
4. *Create thoughtful and engaging presentations that communicate how concepts discussed in class are visible in the landscapes you encounter every day OR landscapes you find intriguing.*
5. *Conceptualize and communicate your ideas.*

Deliverables

1. **Project Documentation:** Prepare a written report on your topic.
 - A minimum of 750 words
 - Supporting visual imagery
 - Written report is broken into the following sections:
 - Introduction
 - The topic is clearly stated, explaining why the topic is important to both the author and the field of landscape architecture.

- A written “roadmap,” or thesis, is provided that states the author’s position and how the topic relates to the concepts we’ve covered in class this semester.
- Body Paragraphs (minimum of 3)
 - Each paragraph discusses only one topic.
 - Each paragraph relates back to the author’s thesis statement.
 - Supporting imagery is incorporated into to assist the author.
- Conclusion
 - The thesis is restated and summarized.
- The report is organized in a hierarchical fashion, with headings for each section.
- Case studies of other projects or built work can be included to help explain your topic, but credit must be given.

2. Presentation: *Prepare a visual and auditory presentation.*

- Presentations must be between 5 and 10 minutes long.
- Auditory and visual elements must be included.
- Presentations should be recorded and uploaded prior to your presentation date and be in a format that is presentable on a PC (.mp4, .mov, etc.)
- You may create a documentary-style short film, voice-over a slide show or any other type of recorded media.
- Presentation must fully convey your topic and the argument you’ve made in the paper.

Grading Rubric

Both the presentation and the report will be used to inform the grade.

ITEM	PERCENTAGE	DESCRIPTION
Completion and timeliness	10%	Assignment submitted on time, named correctly: ▪ Your report should be named “LastName_LARC1150_FinalReport” ▪ Your presentation should be named “LastName_LARC1150_Presentation”.
Content	30%	▪ Topic is either a place or an issue about a place. ▪ Topic choice demonstrates creative and inquisitive thought process. ▪ Research conveys fresh and engaging facts, and demonstrates diligence in unearthing information.
Presentation	30%	▪ Presentation is clear, informative and engaging. ▪ Graphics are good resolution and contribute to visual communication. ▪ Presenter has good pacing and appears calm with minimal breaks in tone or voice.
Report	30%	▪ Report is organized in a logical manner that tells an effective story. ▪ Graphics and text assist and work together. ▪ Report clearly documents each requirement.