

**Clemson University. Landscape Architecture. Spring 2024**

**LARC 8520 (6 credits)**

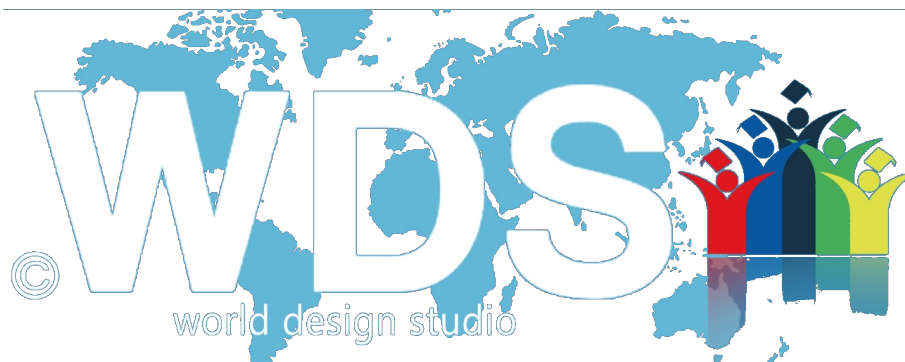
## **Advanced Urban Design Studio**

*Meets in Lee Hall*

**M-W, 1:30-5:30, F 1:30-4:30 PM & Zoom Online**

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## Course Description

Landscape architectural design in the urban context. Students study urban issues and offer design solutions for urban areas. Includes readings and theory components as well as an opportunity to collaborate internationally through the World Design Studio (WDS) with Architecture and Landscape Architecture from China and Egypt.

## Course Overview

“... Aristotle ... summarizes all rules of city planning in observing that a city must be so designed as to make its people at once secure and happy. In order to realize this, city planning should not be merely a technical matter, but should in the truest and most elevated sense be an artistic enterprise. Such it was in Antiquity, in the Middle Ages, in the Renaissance, indeed, wherever the arts are fostered.”

Camillo Sitte, *The Art of Building Cities*

“With regards to the conservation of historic neighborhoods and city centers, as well as individual monuments and sites of unique natural beauty, we wish to maintain cultural diversity in much the same ways that environmentalists aim to protect biological diversity. We seek to conserve and remediate components of the built environment that were constructed decades or centuries ago and that embody the values and aesthetics of times gone by.”

John C. Keene, *The Links Between  
Historic Preservation and Sustainability*

What makes a good city, a city at once secure, happy, and aesthetically pleasing to its people? How do we maintain a city's connection between its past, its contemporary conditions, and its anticipated future? And how do we accomplish these goals in a sustainable manner? Our studio and seminar sections will address these questions, with all their inherent qualifications, and stratagems as we delve deeply into the subject of urban design and the scope of urban conditions of our project site in Aswan, Egypt.

**Required Texts:** Student research & readings posted in Canvas

## Goals

In this Advanced Urban Design Studio offering, studio and seminar components are closely interrelated. The intention of that interrelationship is to provide the opportunity to recognize urban design issues in the broadest context, over different historical periods, and according to different ideologies and theoretical propositions. More importantly, these components support the understanding of fundamental principles and elements of urban design and management necessary for the development of design skills appropriate to urban design studios at city, district, and neighborhood scales.

### Seminar Objectives and Learning Outcomes

In this component of Advanced Urban Design Studio, graduate students will research and identify articles that address Urban Design theory concerned with various approaches towards understanding and delineating urban design principles, design knowledge, and design practice. The seminar component, of identified articles and provided studio papers, will help students acquire knowledge of urban design contemporary authors and theorists. Upon successful completion of the seminar component of the studio students will be able to:

- Identify and interpret general and specific urban design issues.
- Recognize urban form and structure issues as they impacted the development of the first cities to the development of megacities today.
- Demonstrate understanding of the significant ideological movements and development of urban form.
- Identify and characterize principal elements of urban design both programmatic and formal that impact urban development strategies, zoning, land use, design guidelines, sustainable management, and resilience.
- Illustrate urban design issues related to urban conservation and historic tourism, international practice, interdisciplinary design, and sustainability.

### Studio Objectives and Learning Outcomes

As stated, the studio component of the course is structured to build upon the seminar content and discussion as you develop your urban design proposals for Aswan, Egypt. With our colleagues at Ain Shams University in Cairo, and Huazhong Agricultural University in China, we have identified areas which we would like to explore in a comprehensive and multi-disciplinary manner. We are interested specifically in the potential that urban design - from the perspective of landscape architecture- holds for the development of the city.

Specifically, the studio component contemplates acquiring and applying research towards developing design skills in Urban Design. Upon successful completion of this studio, graduate students will be able to:

- Apply urban design research and design skills to the development of advanced urban design plans including development strategies, urban analysis methods, zoning and land use approaches, urban design guideline development, and sustainable management techniques.
- Integrate urban design research and conceptual approaches including conservation and economic growth, international practice, interdisciplinary design, and sustainability.
- Operate and communicate effectively across cultural and disciplinary professional design contexts in globally diverse community settings.
- Create grounded design proposals based on site context and conditions as they relate to the resolution of urban design issues raised by community stakeholders and site-specific project contexts.
- Develop and deliver final design proposal that exhibit creative and independent thinking and contain significant research-based ideas and innovative components.

## Evaluation

You will get considerable feedback on how you stand in the course throughout the semester. Grades will be given for various parts of the project and for your work in the seminars, research, and case studies. Students will earn grades based on the depth, quality and thoroughness of the work submitted. Grades will be determined based on the following percentages:

|                                                     |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Seminars and exercises                              | <u>10%</u> |
| Analysis, Precedent Study & project research phases | <u>55%</u> |
| Final Project                                       |            |

### Clemson University Grading System

Graduate students in graduate-level (6000+) courses may be graded using the following letter grades: A, A–, B+, B, B–, C+, C, C–, F. Faculty have sole discretion as to whether they use the full range of grades available or a subset (e.g., A, B, C, F). A minimum grade of C– (or P) must be earned for each course a student applies toward a degree.

Grades are determined based upon student knowledge and performance in the course. General assessment criteria along with a performance-based assessment system combine to help determine grades.

### **Performance-Based Assessment Standards**

The following standards are used for performance assessment. Individual assignments will have their own brief, percentage of the final grade and rubric.

*A: 94 – 100% | A-: 90 – 93% | Excellent or Superior*

“A” work must be of the highest quality. The work must be completed on time, accurate, and correct. The work clearly and holistically demonstrates excellent conceptual content, execution, and communication (where applicable). Typically, the student’s effort, improvement, and contributions are also outstanding. The student’s performance and learning are outstanding. “A” work demonstrates the highest level of competency and design professional readiness. The work needs very little to no development and/or refinement.

*B+: 87 – 89% | B: 84 – 86% | B-: 80 – 83% | Good*

“B” work is of above-average quality. The work must be completed on time and is mostly accurate and correct. The work suggests good conceptual content, execution, and communication (where applicable); however, it is not holistically and clearly excellent. Typically, the student’s effort, improvement, and contributions are also above average. The student’s performance and learning are good. “B” work demonstrates a significant level of competency and substantial design professional readiness. The work needs minor to moderate development and/or refinement.

*C+: 77 – 79% | C: 74 – 76% | C-: 70 – 73% | Satisfactory/Fair or Average*

“C” work is of average to fair quality. The work may be completed on time but may also have some incompletions, inaccuracies, and incorrect responses. The work suggests minimal or satisfactory conceptual content, execution, and communication; however, it is not holistically and clearly above average. Typically, the student’s effort, improvement, and contributions are also minimal. The student’s performance and learning are satisfactory. “C” work demonstrates minimal competency and lacks design professional readiness. The work needs moderate to major development and/or refinement.

## **Studio design outcomes and submittals**

All assignments, design development phases as well as final submittals are required to be turned in to the professor as per specific project instructions issued throughout the semester. These documents will be retained and serve as a record of student work for the semester. Students will submit all assignments in Canvas and at key points work will be plotted for in studio presentations. Presentations with international partners will

happen at different key points in the semester as well. At the end of the semester, all work produced will be turned in on a flash drive to the professor as per instructions.

All image files shall be JPEGs and editable PDFs. File names should accurately describe the content of each file – Model photos, plans, elevations, perspectives, etc. Files should be organized into folders for each project, interim review, and the final project. File names should include the name of the student/s. In the case of group work, group member should upload the work individually in canvas.

Content, graphic quality and legibility are critical. Content should document significant work in progress and completed work, including drawings, models, and electronic media presentation materials. Professional quality of work should be observed in every submittal and high-quality craftsmanship is an expectation of all studio work. In case of working with studio partners and a real studio client, the work will be shared with them as well.

## **Policies**

### **Clemson University Integrity Code**

“As members of the Clemson University community, we have inherited Thomas Green Clemson’s vision of this institution as a high seminary of learning. Fundamental to this vision is a mutual commitment to truthfulness, honor, and responsibility, without which we cannot earn the trust and respect of others. Furthermore, we recognize that academic dishonesty detracts from the value of a Clemson degree. Therefore, we shall not tolerate lying, cheating, or stealing in any form.”

By taking this course you become a member of the academic community. Clemson University places high expectation on its academic community. University standards and expectations are designed to guarantee high academic integrity. As a Clemson student you are expected to be honest and respectful of the ethical standards of academia.

### **Clemson University Accessibility Statement**

“Clemson University values the diversity of our student body as a strength and a critical component of our dynamic community. Students with disabilities or temporary injuries/conditions may require accommodations due to barriers in the structure of facilities, course design, technology used for curricular purposes, or other campus resources. Students who experience a barrier to full access to a class should let the instructor know and make an appointment to meet with a staff member in Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible. You can make an appointment by calling 864-656-6848 or by emailing [studentaccess@lists.clemson.edu](mailto:studentaccess@lists.clemson.edu). Students who receive Academic Access Letters are strongly encouraged to request, obtain, and present these to their instructors as early in the semester as possible so that accommodations can be

made in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to follow this process each semester. You can access further information here: <http://www.clemson.edu/campus-life/campus-services/sds/>."

Students are encouraged to consult with the Accessibility Services staff early in the semester, preferably prior to the first day of class. Current documentation of a specific disability from a licensed professional is needed. Additional information or appointments are available from Student Accessibility Services, Suite 239 in the Academic Success Center, 656-6848, [studentaccess@lists.clemson.edu](mailto:studentaccess@lists.clemson.edu). Details on policies and procedures are available at [www.clemson.edu/academics/studentaccess/](http://www.clemson.edu/academics/studentaccess/).

### **Clemson University Title IX (Sexual Harassment) Statement**

"Clemson University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, veteran's status, genetic information or protected activity in employment, educational programs and activities, admissions and financial aid. This includes a prohibition against sexual harassment and sexual violence as mandated by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972." The Policy is located at <http://www.clemson.edu/campus-life/campus-services/access/title-ix/>. Ms. Alesia Smith is *Assistant Vice President/Title IX Coordinator, Office of Access and Equity, Division of Inclusion and Equity*. Her office is located at 223 Brackett Hall 864.656.3181 (voice).

### **Clemson University Social Justice Statement**

Clemson University is committed to social justice. I concur with that commitment and expect to foster and maintain a positive learning environment based upon communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Our University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color, or national origin. Any suggestions on how to further such positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration.

### **Clemson University & Covid-19 +**

Please be familiar with the information on the [Healthy Clemson](#) website. In the case of illness, please visit Clemson University Redfern Health Center located at 735 McMillan Rd, Clemson, SC 29631. Please exercise caution and good judgment. Don't show up to class sick in the interest of not spreading disease and maintaining the health of the studio community.

### **Copyrights**

Materials in some courses are copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in a particular course and only for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further. They are provided in compliance with the provisions

of the Tech Act. Students should be reminded to refer to the Use of Copyrighted Materials and “Fair Use Guidelines” policy on the Clemson University website. Additional information is detailed at <http://libguides.clemson.edu/copyright>.

## Attendance policy

You are expected to attend all studios unless you have an excused absence arranged by prior permission; have an illness, which can be verified by physician; or have a family emergency where the instructor is informed about. If more than 3 unexcused absences occur, your final grade will be reduced by one letter grade for each unexcused absence. Three arrivals to class more than 5 minutes late will equate to 1 absence. If the Instructor has not arrived in class 20 minutes after the designated start time, without prior notification, students may leave or stay at their discretion. Studio attendance means being in studio from beginning to end. Late arrival or early departure without permission will be considered an absence. Please maintain open communication with your instructors regarding any circumstances that might interfere with your attendance.

## Assignments

All work is to be handed in as per due date. **Late work WILL NOT be accepted.** Please make sure to file and keep digital copies of all work produced in the studio. At the end of the semester, you are required to turn in all work produced in studio on a flash drive to the instructor.

Please note that work developed outside the studio that have received no instruction, direction, nor feedback from the professor, **WILL NOT be accepted.**

## Syllabus Change

The professor reserves the right to make any changes in the syllabus throughout the course as necessary. Changes in assignments, point values, due dates are also discretion of the professor and will be announced prior to due dates. The professor also reserves the right to use work produced for this class for educational and accreditation purposes, as well as share with studio partners and clients.

## Studio Schedule

**Studio Schedule is tentative and will be coordinated with the international studios in Egypt and China**

### week 1

Jan. 10      Course Introduction: Course overview, Assign Seminar I  
Urban Design Form and Structure Readings, Assign Urban Factors Poster

Jan. 12      **Phase I Urban Context Theory**  
Seminar I: first reading discussion of Urban Design Form and Structure

### week 2

Jan. 15      **Dr. Martin Luther King Day**

Jan. 17      Presentation of Urban Factors Poster,

|               |                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|               | Assign Seminar II Urban Design Theory                                                                                                                        |
| Jan. 19       | Presentation of Urban Factors Poster<br>Seminar II discussion: Urban Design Theory, Assign Seminar III Urban Studies:<br>Urban Design History and Typology   |
| <u>week 3</u> |                                                                                                                                                              |
| Jan. 22       | <b>Phase II Formal Urban Analysis and Conceptual Development</b><br>Review Progress on Urban Analysis Studies research: Urban Design History<br>and Typology |
| Jan. 24       | Review Progress on Urban Analysis Studies research: Urban Design History<br>and Typology                                                                     |
| Jan. 26       | Review Progress on Urban Analysis Studies research: Urban Design History<br>and Typology                                                                     |
| <u>week 4</u> |                                                                                                                                                              |
| Jan. 29       | Presentation Urban Analysis Studies & Research: Urban Design History and<br>Typology                                                                         |
| Jan 31        | Precedent Studies research<br>Studio review of research to date                                                                                              |
| Feb 2         | Precedent Studies research<br>Urban design methodologies                                                                                                     |
| <u>week 5</u> |                                                                                                                                                              |
| Feb. 5        | Precedent Studies research; Urban design methodologies<br>and Design Methods studio work                                                                     |
| Feb. 7        | Precedent Studies research; Urban design methodologies<br>and Design Methods studio work                                                                     |
| Feb. 9        | Conceptual Development;<br>Design Methods studio work                                                                                                        |
| <u>week 6</u> |                                                                                                                                                              |
| Feb 12        | Conceptual Development;<br>Design Methods studio work; Review of student group project                                                                       |
| Feb 14        | Conceptual Development;<br>Design Methods studio work; Review of student group project                                                                       |
| Feb 16        | Conceptual Development;<br>Design Methods studio work; Review of student group project                                                                       |
| <u>week 7</u> |                                                                                                                                                              |
| Feb. 19       | <b>Phase III Design Development: Intro to design development</b>                                                                                             |
| Feb. 21       | Analysis and Conceptual Development Reviews                                                                                                                  |

|                              |                                                                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Feb 23                       | Masterplan development                                                    |
| <u>week 8</u><br>Feb. 26- 29 | Masterplan development and crits                                          |
| <u>week 9</u><br>Mar. 4-8    | Masterplan development and reviews with international partners in studios |
| <u>week 10</u><br>Mar. 11-15 | Master plan final development and component plan preliminary development  |
| <u>week 11</u><br>Mar. 18-22 | Spring Break                                                              |
| <u>week 12</u><br>Mar. 25-29 | Component plan and detail development                                     |
| <u>week 13</u><br>April 1-5  | Component plan, detail development and reviews                            |
| <u>week 14</u><br>Apr. 8-12  | Final component/detail development and production for final reviews       |
| <u>week 15</u><br>Apr. 15-19 | Production for final reviews                                              |
| <u>week 16</u><br>Apr. 22-26 | Final reviews virtually with Cairo, Wuhan, and Clemson                    |