History of Landscape Architecture (11:550:330) 3 Credits

Instructor: Seiko Goto
e-mail: gotos@sebs.rutgers.edu


COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course provides an introduction to the history of landscape architecture around the world, beginning with the Paradise Gardens in Persia and concluding with the design of public parks in North America. The objective of this course is not only to provide an overview of various styles of gardens throughout the ages but also to give students a basic understanding of history as a methodological tool for the conceptualization and design of modern and contemporary landscape. Discussions on social and cultural influences on landscape architecture as well as the philosophical underpinnings of landscape design will also be covered.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
- Introduce major gardens and figures which played important roles in the development of landscape design in the middle East, Europe, and North America.
- Introduce major movements of landscape design.
- Understand the design concepts of each garden in its social and cultural context.
- Understand the symbolism of gardens in their cultural context in each historical period.

STUDENTS’ RESPONSIBILITIES:
- All projects discussed in lecture will appear either in the text book or on the course website. Students must be able to identify the designer (if known), name of the project, location, style and period (if known).
- Students are expected to spend several hours per week to review all information presented in lecture and assigned textbook readings on all the projects discussed in lecture.
- All written materials should be typed, in 12 point Times New Roman or equivalent, double-spaced and with consistent styles of headings and subheadings. Each page should have the student’s or group member’s name, date of document, and page number in the heading.
ASSIGNMENT AND ASSESSMENT DISTRIBUTION:

- Participation of Online Discussion 15%
- Lecture note 30%
- Participation of the Field Trip and note 5%
- Quizes 15%
- 1 Group Presentation 15%
- Midterm test 10%
- Final test 10%

There will be NO makeup tests. If a student misses a scheduled test, a grade of 0% will be recorded. Alternate arrangements will be made only when a student has an official approved excuse regarding absence. Student should bear the responsibility for missed information and their own academic progress.

Except for circumstances truly beyond the student’s control, all assignments are due at the dates and times specified throughout the semester. Any work submitted late will be penalized a letter grade for each day past due. All presentations and projects should be digitally submitted to be retained in archives for exhibition and accreditation purposes.

ASSIGNMENT OF GRADES
While the assignment of grades is ultimately the purview of the instructor, the department uses the following guideline for understanding appropriate grading in its courses:

A – Outstanding – This not only means fulfilling the requirements, but impressing and going beyond the initial expectations of the project. The student has demonstrated a superior grasp of the subject matter coupled with a high degree of creative or logical expression, and strong ability to present these ideas in an organized and analytical manner.

B – Very Good – The student has demonstrated a solid grasp of the material with an ability to organize and examine the material in an organized, critical, and constructive manner. The projects and in-class performance reveal a solid understanding of the issues and related theories or literature.

C – Acceptable – The student has shown a moderate ability to grasp concepts and theories for the class, producing work that, while basically adequate, is not in any way exceptional. This performance in class display a basic familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques.

D – Unacceptable – The work demonstrates a minimal understanding of the fundamental nature of the material or the assignment with a performance that does not adequately examine the course material critically or constructively. Students cannot graduate from the Landscape Architecture program with 2 D’s in required 550 classes.

F – Failure – The student has demonstrated a lack of understanding or familiarity with course concepts and materials. Their performance has been inadequate. Failure is
often the result of limited effort and poor attendance which may indicate that the student is not in the proper field of study.