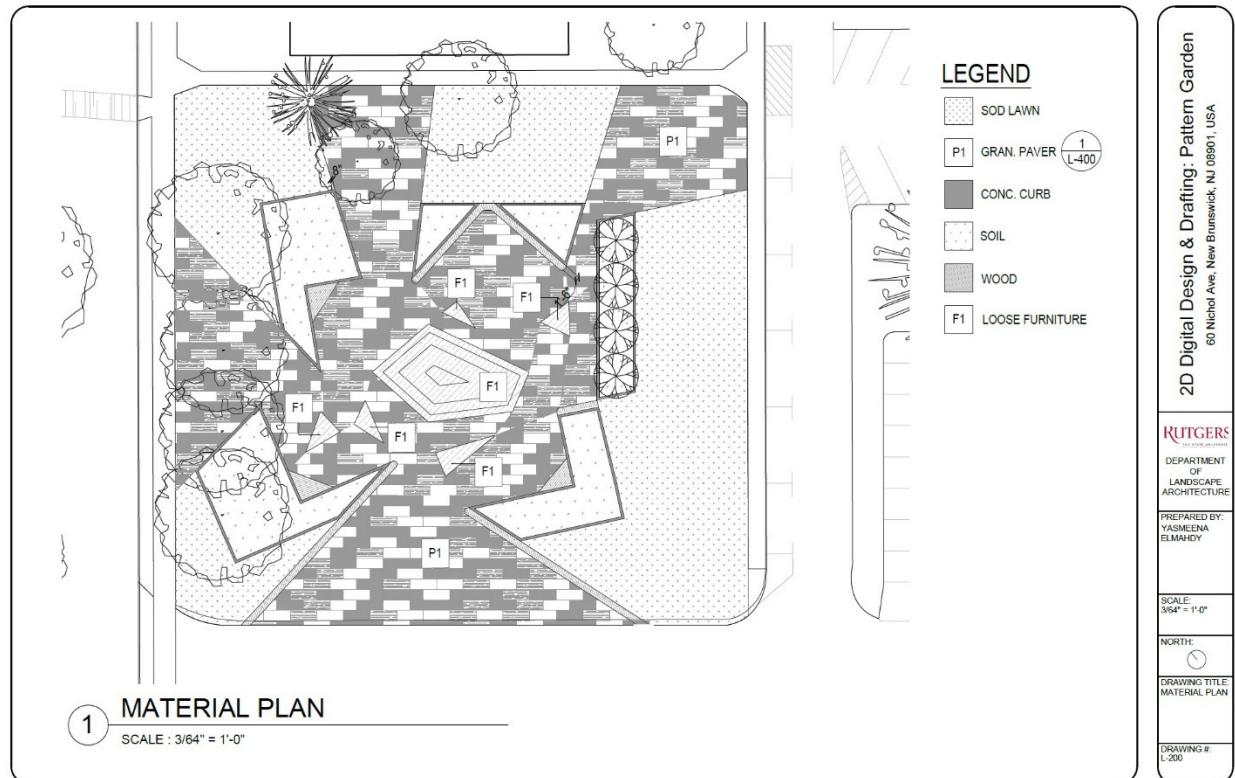**Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey**

Spring 2026

2D Digital Design & Drafting

Credit : Yasmeena Elmahdy

Course Code: Landscape Architecture 11:550:337 (3.0 Credits)
Instructor: Haemee Han, PLA, ASLA
TA: Luke Tilton
Location : Blake Hall Room 129
Email : haemee.han@rutgers.edu , ljt84@scarletmail.rutgers.edu
Office House: By Appointment Only
Course Time : Tuesday 8:30 AM– 11:30 AM & Friday 8:30 AM– 11:30 AM
Course Folder : https://rutgersconnect.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/sebs-lastudents/Shared%20Documents/_COURSE_FILES/2026_Spring/550-337_2D%20DIGITAL%20DRAWING?csf=1&web=1&e=xQ2cep

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the fundamental principles of digital representations, and computer drafting, as well as the software, techniques and products appropriate for presenting conceptual illustrative graphics. Essential tools for the landscape architect, both graphic design and computer-aided design (CAD) include visual communication and design software that can

help the individual convey design intent throughout the lifecycle of the design, effectively communicating and selling ideas to fellow professionals and clients.

Adobe Design CS offers the designer a suite of graphic design programs while AutoCAD is the industry standard for drafting, bridging landscape architecture, architecture, and engineering and allowing for a seamless exchange of ideas and output. This course expands upon the drawing and drafting fundamentals acquired in Landscape Drawing 550:237 and the introductory studios, expanding the students' toolbox to include graphic design, digital representation, and AutoCAD.

Learning Objectives:

1. Create drawings at a greater complexity of scale and information.
2. Develop representational and file management skills required for the Design Studio sequence of classes.
3. Learn the types and use of technical and illustrative representational methods in the design process.

Course Format:

1. Lecture / Presentations
2. In-Class Exercises & Tutorials
3. Weekly Assignments & Pin-Ups
4. Final Design Package

Student Obligations and expectations:

The course is a prerequisite in the Landscape Architecture degree program and the second in the sequence of Visualization courses required by the student for graduation. In accordance with University policy, students are expected to work an additional 9.75 hours per week outside of class. Therefore, please prepare appropriate time in your schedule this semester in relationship to your other course work, employment and social obligations to prepare for and participate in class.

Students are expected to:

1. Complete and submit all assignments as directed on the designated due date. Late coursework will not be accepted unless approved by the instructor.
2. Come to class on time. Four (4) Late arrivals will be considered as one (1) absence.
3. Take notes during class presentations to help retain knowledge and repeat procedures outside of class. The instructor will not review any content that has been missed by a student's absence. Your attendance will be directly related to your success in this class.
4. Care. Put 100% into every one of your assignments and be proud of the work you produce in this class. Treat each assignment like it is your last.
5. Seek help, when needed, during office hours and in advance of an assignment's due date.

Equipment and Use of Facilities:

The Department of Landscape Architecture requires that each student purchase a laptop. In addition to

the laptop, you will need a roller-ball style mouse. NOTE: The computer lab is not accessible when a class is in session. A schedule of courses using the Lab is posted on at the entry of the lab. The LA computer labs are a shared resource for the entire school body. Project deadlines will NOT be extended because resources were not available in the computer lab. Please plan your time accordingly. Please be aware that the Department's computer guidelines recommend a PC-based platform. LA computer labs are PC based, and the Department provides PC based software. AutoCAD and Adobe CC are installed on all desktop computers in the labs.

AutoCAD: Students can download a copy of the free student licenses for AutoCAD software to their individual laptops. Find the free downloads at: students.autodesk.com. Select "Free software" tab at the top of the page and follow the instructions to download the basic platforms.

Adobe Creative Cloud (CC): Rutgers provides, at no cost, licenses for Adobe CC Suite to faculty, staff, and students. Find installation and login instructions at software.rutgers.edu. Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, and Illustrator will be used in this class, which are installed on all computers in LA computer labs.

Courses cannot be taught without reliable facilities. The student is expected to use facilities and equipment [printers, projectors, cameras, drafting, and computer equipment] responsibility with particular regard to the clearly established rules about their use: Facilities & Equipment rules cover access to the lab, vandalism, seat assignments, personalization of working spaces, smoking and drinking, use of lockers, access to the reference collection, and basic rules governing the use of computer lab. No eating or drinking allowed in the computer lab. Failure to observe these rules will result in loss of access to the lab.

Attendance:

The Department of Landscape Architecture requires attendance in all of its classes. All studio meetings including both Lecture and Lab are required. The individual student's development as a landscape architect is largely dependent upon two aspects of education. First, is the exposure to an assimilation of a body of information, which relates to the field. Second, is the application of this knowledge through studio projects and problem-solving skills developed through critiques, reviews, and interactions during each project. The Rutgers Landscape Architecture curriculum is designed to develop both areas. Attendance and participation in all lectures and studios are essential if the student is to achieve their maximum potential. **It is the Policy of the department that more than three (3) unexcused absences will result in a reduction of the final course grade (One Letter Grade Down). Each additional three absence will result in another step reduction**. If circumstance arises beyond your control, please notify the instructor prior to the class meeting, and other arrangements will be made. Please note that attendance is taken at the start of class and **late arrivals greater than 10 minutes will be documented as a full absence**. In addition, students may not leave the class prior to the official end time of class unless the instructor has officially dismissed the students, or the early departure has been pre-arranged with the instructor in advance. In-class exercises will be handed out during class periods; there will not be a chance to make up missed exercises.

Students with LOA (Letter of Accommodation):

Students who know that they have any type of disability which may affect their performance in the class must inform the instructor of such disability in writing before the third-class meeting. The instructor will

coordinate with the University Counseling and Testing Center as needed. To be eligible for any accommodations, students must obtain an official Letter of Accommodation (LOA). It is students' responsibility to obtain LOA. Do not discuss with instructors regarding details of procedure.

This course is structured around a cumulative sequence of assignments, with required check-ins at each designated due date. Students with an LOA are expected to adhere to the same deadlines and **will not** receive automatic extensions. Completing the entire project retroactively at the end of the term is not permitted.

In the case of an emergency, you may contact the Dean of Students for support; however, this does not guarantee an extension or an excused delay.

If you have an LOA and anticipate needing an extension, you must notify the instructor via the Canvas project submission page **at least 48 hours before the deadline**. Extensions must be approved by the instructor or TA. Once approved, you will receive an additional 7 days to submit the assignment.

Late submissions **up to one week after the deadline** (without prior approval) will be accepted with a **one full letter grade deduction**.

Late submissions **more than one week past the deadline** will not be accepted even with LOA. The Canvas submission window will close and will not be reopened.

Attendance is required for everyone including students with LOA.

If you have concerns about your grading in this course, please contact your academic advisor.

Policies:

If you encounter any personal circumstances that inhibit your ability to fulfil the requirements of this course, you should immediately contact the instructor. In addition, any student with a special need, circumstance, or disability, should make an appointment to see the instructor during the first week of classes. If there is a plotting problem, PDF files can be uploaded or emailed to the instructor and the assignment will not be considered late. All information in this syllabus and course schedule is subject to change. While students are encouraged to work alongside one another to learn the tools and techniques presented in this course and foster a positive studio environment, copying or sharing of digital information is not acceptable and will be considered a violation of the school's Integrity Policy.

Academic Integrity:

1. Attendance Policy

The Department of Landscape Architecture requires attendance in all of its classes. The individual student's development as a landscape architect is largely dependent upon two aspects of education. First, is the exposure to an assimilation of a body of information which relates to the field. Second, is the application of this knowledge through studio projects and problem-solving skills developed through critiques, reviews, and interactions during each project. The Rutgers Landscape Architecture curriculum is designed to develop both areas. Attendance and participation in all lectures and studios are essential if the student is to achieve their maximum potential. It is the Policy of the department that more than three (3) unexcused absences will result in a reduction of one letter grade down from the final course grade. Each additional three absences will result in another step reduction. If circumstances arise beyond your control, please notify the instructor prior to the class meeting, and other arrangements will be made. Please note that attendance is taken at the start of class and late arrivals greater than 10 minutes will be documented as a full absence. In addition, students may not leave the class prior to the official end time of class unless the instructor has officially dismissed the students, or the early

departure has been pre-arranged with the instructor in advance. In-class exercises will be handed out during class periods; there will not be a chance to make up missed exercises.

2. Excused absences

An excused absence includes a written excuse from a Physician, excuse from the Dean of the College, or a field trip for another course if this instructor is notified one week or more in advance.

3. Due dates, deadlines, and presentations

Assignments must be submitted on the stated due date, time and place regardless of how complete or incomplete it is. Late submissions up to one week after the deadline (without prior approval) will be accepted with a one full letter grade deduction.
Late submissions more than one week past the deadline will not be accepted even with LOA.

4. Policy for make-up work due to excused absence

Upon return from an excused absence, a student has one week to turn in any missed assignments without penalty.

5. Students needing assistance:

Students who know or suspect that they have any type of disability which may affect their performance in the class must inform the instructor of such disability in writing before the third class meeting. The professor will work with the University Counseling and Testing Center to accommodate the needs of such students. Without such notification, no special accommodations will be considered at any later date.It is students' responsibility to obtain LOA.

6. Work ethics and standards:

Professionalism is requested. If presenting, students will be expected to wear professional dress. During studio, casual clothes suitable for work in an office will be the standard. Professional work days require evidence of self-directed learning and initiative. All students are encouraged to work together in the studio outside of class time rather than at home. You will each benefit from the interaction with classmates and upperclassmen if you take advantage of this opportunity. Typically, students who produce superior work participate fully in the studio environment rather than in isolation.

7. Lab rules and etiquette:

During class time, the following will not be permitted: • Use of tobacco of any form • Playing music or use of earphones • Browsing/surfing the Internet not related to class unless indicated by the class instructor • No pets in the studio & lab • Please observe common courtesy when working with others in the studio.

8. Cell Phone Use:

Cell phone use during class is considered a public distraction and discourteous to those around you. Please turn off your phone during lectures and studio and place your phone out of sight in backpacks, purses or lockers. If you need to communicate using this vehicle – please do so outside of the studio.

9. Documentation of Student's Work:

Students are required to keep all work completed during a semester until the end of the term in order to review progress and aid discussion if necessary.

10. Studio and Computer Lab Work:

All students are encouraged to work together in the studio outside of class time rather than at home.

You will benefit from the interaction with classmates and upperclassmen.

11. Academic Honesty:
While students are encouraged to work alongside one another to learn the tools and techniques presented in this course and foster a positive studio environment, copying or sharing of digital information is not acceptable and will be considered a violation of the school's Integrity Policy

Assessment:

A :   89.5-100 %
B+ :   84.5-89.49%
B :   79.5-84.49%
C+ :   74.5-79.49%
C :   69.5-74.49%
D :   59.5-69.49%
F :   0-59.49%

Course Grades:

Scores for class projects during this semester will be graded and recorded as if for one class. Grades for the two courses will be determined based upon the following performance scale. In the event of split grades for the two courses, the instructor reserves the right to determine which course to assign grades. Grades will be based upon assessment of your performance.

A | Exemplary Work. Exceptional performance, discipline, and effort. The student is self-motivated to produce above and beyond what is assigned. "A" work shows initiative and independent exploration both in thought and in craft.

B | Good Work. Performance above the norm. A "B+" student completes precise and thoughtful work that executes the assignment in a well-crafted, thoughtful way, with a concept behind it. "B" work meets all expected criteria but lacks conceptual advancement or understanding.

C | Work is Lacking. Mediocre performance, little discipline, and effort. Student barely meets or is lacking the expectations of the assignment, and work is carried out in an unrefined manner.

D | Unacceptable Work. Not meeting the expectations or standards for the assignment and/or program. Student failed to apply the concepts applicable to the assignment. A sense of care does not accompany work submission.

F | Failing, Unacceptable Work. Complete lack of performance and shows no regret for non-compliance with the minimum requirements.

SEBS DEI Statement:

It is our intention that students of all backgrounds will be well served by this course. We will work to

create an environment of inclusion which respects and affirms the inherent dignity, value, and uniqueness of all individuals, communities and perspectives. We are lucky to have a diverse university. Diverse voices and life experiences enhance the learning process and we welcome students to share their personal experiences. We will not tolerate disrespectful language or behavior against any individual or group. If you feel as though you have been disrespected or treated unfairly by the instructors or any other individual please let us know. You may speak with the instructors in person, over email or report anonymously via the Office of Academic Programs. In addition, you may also report bias to the Rutgers Diversity and Inclusion initiative using this link: http://inclusion.rutgers.edu/report-bias-incident/.
For further reference, please visit: https://sebscourseapproval.rutgers.edu/policies/syllabus-dei-statements-policy/

Assignments:

Students will be given weekly assignments at the end of each class on Tuesday. Assignments are to be worked on outside of class time and 'work in progress' is to be discussed during Friday class meetings. Weekly assignments must be uploaded to the Canvas by 8:00AM the following Tuesday. Students will be expected to present their weekly assignments at the beginning of the Tuesday class. The due date and time will be reiterated on the assignment sheets found on Canvas.
If a student misses a class, whether excused or unexcused, it is the responsibility of the student to acquire the missed lecture information, new assignment and submit the previous assignment on time. If a student elects to not submit work, they will receive a zero. Any project work submitted late will lose a letter grade for past due. Late submissions **more than one week past the deadline** will not be accepted even with LOA. The Canvas submission window will close and will not be reopened. Working beyond a due date is both unrealistic in a professional setting and unfair to classmates who have completed their work on time.

Students must conform to the following naming conventions:

550-337_LastName_FirstName_Assignment#

Assignment & Grading Schedule

Part 1 : CAD Package
Assignment 1 : Pattern Making – 5%
Assignment 2 : Plan Drafting (Existing Site) – 5%
Assignment 3 : Various Plans (Proposed Design) – 10%
Assignment 4 : Sections – 5 %
Assignment 5 : Details & CAD Package – 10%

Part 2 : Illustrative Package
Assignment 6 : Illustrator Diagram – 5%
Assignment 7 : Illustrator Section – 5%
Assignment 8 : Collage – 15%
Assignment 9 : Masterplan – 10%
Assignment 10 : True Axon – 15%
Assignment 11 : Portfolio & Design Panel – 15%

Class Schedule

Day	Date	Class Assignment

Week 1 : Pattern Making

Tue.   1/20   Tutorial : Basic Drafting (Layers, Interface)
                     Project Handout : Drawing Patterns
Fri.   1/23   Tutorial : Basic Drafting II (Lineweight, Hatch & Annotation)
                     Tutorial : Plotting (Model Space to Paper Space)

Week 2 : Plan I : Existing Site

Tue.   1/27   Tutorial : Basic Drafting III (AutoCAD Block, Xref, Title Block)
                     Assignment 1 Due 8:30 AM
Fri.   1/30   Tutorial : Dimstyle

Week 3 : Plan II : Proposed Plan , Other Plans

Tue.   2/3   Tutorial : Other Plans (Layout Plan, Material Plan/Grading Plan)
                     Assignment 2 Due 8:30 AM
Fri.   2/6   Tutorial as needed

Week 4 : Sections & Elevations

Tue.   2/10   Tutorial : Sections
                     Assignment 3 Due 8:30 AM
Fri.   2/13   Tutorial as needed

Week 5 : Details

Tue.   2/17   Tutorial : Details
                     Assignment 4 Due 8:30 AM
Fri.   2/20   Tutorial as needed

Week 6 : Batch Plot as package, Intro to Illustrator

Tue.   2/24   Tutorial : Other sheets, Reference Bubbles, Batch Plot, Package
Fri.   2/27   Tutorial : Illustrator Intro
                     Assignment 5 Due 8:30 AM

Week 7 : Illustrator I (Diagrams)

Wed.   3/3   Tutorial : Diagrams I (Series of diagrams)
Fri.   3/6   Tutorial : Diagrams II (Axon)

Week 8 : Illustrator II (Section)

Tue.   3/10   Tutorial : Plan, Lineweight, Hatch
                     Assignment 6 Due 8:30 AM
Fri.   3/13   Tutorial : Section

<mark>Spring Break 3/14 – 3/22</mark>

Week 9 : Photoshop I(Intro, Concept Collage)

Tue.   3/24   Tutorial : Intro to Photoshop
                        Assignment 7 Due 8:30 AM
Fri.   3/27   Tutorial : Concept Collage

Week 10 : Photoshop II & Integration (Masterplan)
Tue.   3/31   Tutorial : Plan Rendering
                        Assignment 8 Due 8:30 AM
Fri.   4/3   Tutorial as needed

Week 11: Integration -Intro to True Axon Project
Tue.   4/7   Tutorial as needed
                        Assignment 9 Due 8:30 AM
Fri.   4/10   Intro to True Axon Project

Week 12 : Integration (True Axon)
Tue.   4/14   Tutorial : True Axon
Fri.   4/17   Tutorial as needed

Week 13 : Intro to InDesign
Tue.   4/21   Tutorial : InDesign I (Booklet)
                        Assignment 10 Due 8:30 AM
Fri.   4/24   Tutorial : InDesign II (Board Layout)

Week 14 : InDesign, Final Portfolio
Tue.   4/28   Work Session
Fri.   5/1   Work Session

Final Portfolio & Design Board (Assignment 11) Due 5/4 Monday Pin Up by 5PM

*The detailed schedule above is tentative and may change as the course develops