

## **Syllabus: History of Landscape Architecture 11:550:250**

(3 credits, a SEBS Core Curriculum course)



**Mondays, 10:20am – 11:50am, Thursdays, 10:20am-11:40 am, Blake Hall, Room 128**

Field trip to Central Park in NYC, Saturday, October 15th at 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Field Trip to Drumthwacket, Princeton, Thursday, October 20th at 2:30 pm–4:30 pm

Requirements this class fulfills: SEBS Historical Analysis

Prerequisites: None

Professor: Dr. Wolfram Hoefler  
Associate Professor, Department for Landscape Architecture, Rutgers  
University, 216 Blake Hall, 93, Lipman Drive, New Brunswick  
Office Hours at Blake 216, Wednesdays, 3:00pm-4:00pm or by appointment  
[whoefler@sebs.rutgers.edu](mailto:whoefler@sebs.rutgers.edu)  
Website for uploaded course material: Canvas

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### *Course Overview*

The overall course is developed by Dr. Anette Freytag who is on sabbatical this semester. Because of the sabbatical, the course is thought by Dr. Wolfram Hoefler in fall 2022. The sequence of course topics may be adapted to the learning progress within the course.

This course is dedicated to students who want to grasp the history of humans shaping their environment. It explores the evolution of the Western Landscape from the Minoan Civilization to the contemporary period. From the large scale of natural or cultivated landscapes to small-scale gardens, the lectures present the historical periods of different types of designed landscapes and their general cultural and historical contexts.

This course is dedicated to planners, designers and engineers as well as students from the arts and sciences. It aims to have an effect on how students perceive their current natural and built environment and provide them an opportunity to tie in with a continuity gained from centuries of learned skills and care with regard to the shaping of nature and landscape.



*Textbooks for the course* (provided in reserve in the Chang Library throughout the semester)  
Christophe Girot, *The Course of Landscape Architecture. A History of our Designs on the Natural World, from Prehistory to the Present*, London: Thames & Hudson 2016

ISBN: 978-0-500-34297-8

Rogers, Elizabeth Barlow. *Landscape Design: A Cultural and Architectural History*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2001.

Online available: [React App \(lsi-island-react.herokuapp.com\)](https://reactapp.lsi-island-react.herokuapp.com)

#### *Learning Goals SEBS Core Curriculum for History*

**Learning Goal 1:** Historical Analysis (h.) Understand the bases and development of human and societal endeavors across time and place.

Learning objectives associated with this learning goal:

1a. Students will be introduced to the art of place making as it was taught in different civilizations throughout the centuries. They will gain an understanding of why specific landscapes were chosen for settlements and how these settlements were organized with regard to the relationship between the natural and the built environment. (HST-h)

1b. Students will explore the impact different forms of knowledge – from the sacred to the technical – had on the shaping of landscapes and gardens up to the contemporary period. (HST-h)

**Learning Goal 2:** Historical Analysis (k.) Explain the development of some aspect of a society or culture over time, including the history of ideas or history of science.

2a. Students will be introduced to the connection and interaction between landscape design, architecture, art and literature. They will be able to identify the ideas and basic forms of landscape designs throughout the centuries. They will also be able to read a historic plan, describe a designed landscape and roughly date it. (HST-k)

2b. Students will explore place making, landscape design and garden art as creations that appeal to all human senses. They will investigate what makes a designed landscape successful and accepted by its users. In addition, what role the subjective human experience plays in this process. They will understand that aesthetic experience is not absolute but also depended on cultural imprints. (HST-k)



### *Canvas*

Please make sure to check the class Canvas website regularly. All assigned reading material and all necessary information will be uploaded and regularly updated.

### *Disability services*

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentationguidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructor and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible.

To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>

### *Absence policies*

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss a class, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sim.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason of your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. Three unexcused absences lead to the downgrading of an entire grade.

### *Course work*

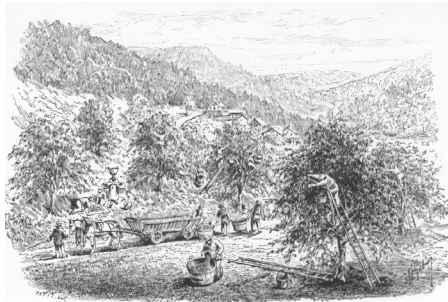
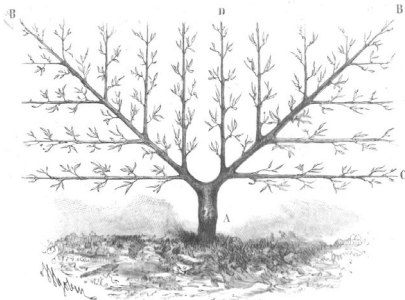
The keynote presentations of the lectures are provided online after class. You are encouraged to take notes during the lecture.

*Course evaluation*

Final Grades include: A (90-100%), B+ (86-89%), B (80-85%), C+ (76-79%), C (70-75%), D (60-69%), F (less than 60%)

Individual student course grades are based on possible 100 points / 100%

Assignment Narratives of Origin	5 points / 5% test
Test 1	10 points / 10%
Assignment 2 Central Park	23 points / 35%
Test 2	10 points / 10%
Assignment 3 Historic NJ	40 points / 40%



**Tentative schedule of the Classes: Dates, Topics and Assignments**

Week	Monday 10:20- 11:40		Thursday 10:20- 11:40	
1			9/8	Introduction: Why history? Given assignment 1: Narratives of origin
2	9/12	Magic. Place, and Nature	9/15	Assignment 1 due: Narratives of origin 10:00 am PDF Discussion
3	9/19	Early Settlements: The Landscape of the Minoan Civilization	9/22	Sacred Landscapes in Greece
4	9/26	Rome: Rome: Urban Empire and Landscape Control	9/29	Roman Garden Culture: Luxurious Privacy with Elaborate Design
5	10/3	Orient and Occident: Medieval Gardens TEST 1	10/6	The New World – New Territories. Cartography and Mapping in the Renaissance

6	10/10	Geometry and Power: Baroque Gardens	10/13	Central Park – Historic Park in 21 <sup>st</sup> Century <b>(Field Central Park Oct 15)</b>
7	10/17	The English Landscape Garden in Great Britain	10/20	Drumthwacket - A Guided Age Estate in New Jersey The English Landscape Garden in Europe and in the US
8	10/24	Student presentations (in groups): Frederick Law Olmsted and lessons learned from Central Park Assignment 3 due: Central Park origin 8:00 am PDF	10/27	City Beautiful Movement and the Urban Question
9	10/31	National Park Movement	11/3	The Country House,
10	11/7	Field trip time given back	11/10	Field trip time given back
11	11/14	People's Park Movement and the Modern Landscape Architecture	11/17	Ecology and Design I
12	11/21	Test 2 Ecology and Design II	11/24	Thanksgiving
13	11/28	Post-industrial	12/1	Urban Farming
14	12/5	Landscape Urbanism	12/8	Assignment 3 due: Historic NJ of origin 8:00 am PDF New Jersey Historic Sites I
15	12/12	New Jersey Historic Sites II		

*Applies to both tests*

You may not take notes, books or cell phones to the final exam. The professor will provide the paper you write on. Dictionaries (hard copies) are allowed for students whose mother tongue is not English. The professor will check them at the beginning and during the exam.

### *Academic Integrity*

As an academic community dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge, Rutgers University is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is essential to the success of the University's educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community.

Please read the principles of academic integrity carefully:  
<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers/>

Failure to uphold these principles of academic integrity threatens both the reputation of the University and the value of the degrees awarded to its students. Every member of the University community therefore bears a responsibility for ensuring that the highest standards of academic integrity are upheld.

### **Just in case....**

#### *Student Wellness Services*

Just In Case Web App <http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

#### *Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)*

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ [www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/](http://www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/)  
CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

#### *Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)*

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / [www.vpva.rutgers.edu/](http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu/)  
The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

#### *Scarlet Listeners*

(732) 247-5555 / <https://rutgers.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/scarletlisteners>  
Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.