

Instructor Contact Information

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Office location and office hours

PF4172; PF4184

Office hours are via email (as this is an online course) and by appointment

Introduction

An examination of the central concepts of environmental design, delivered in an online format. Topics include: the natural, built and human environments, and interdisciplinary issues.

Design is everywhere. It is part of your everyday communication, your household, your workplace. Design is also a complex concept. It is both a process and the result of that process -- the shape, style and meaning of environments that have been designed. Many factors influence the design process: the location, the environmental issues, the relationship with its surroundings, the ideas of the designer, technological determinants, the cultural context that gave rise to the need for the project in the first place and finally the political and the legislative context that will frame the design.

Environmental Design is concerned with the built, natural, and human environments and focuses on fashioning physical and social interventions informed by human behaviour and environmental processes. Therefore it includes fields such as architecture, planning, urban design, environmental science, product design and landscape architecture.

Objectives

1. To achieve an holistic understanding of the issues relevant to environmental design
2. To acquire a basic knowledge of the various fields involved in design of the environment
3. To understand how an interdisciplinary approach can be used to solve complex problems
4. To apply "design thinking" to a small but important problem of personal interest

Teaching Approach

This course will be offered online. The majority of the study and interaction will be done asynchronously (on your own schedule) but some opportunity will be provided for synchronous interaction with faculty and other learners.

The course will be divided into four broad topic areas -- natural, built, human environment (social and cultural environment) and interdisciplinary aspects) and will utilize short video lectures by experts in their relevant area of expertise follow by study

of and response to online materials. Each broad topic areas will require further a brief literature review and a paper / portfolio will need to be submitted electronically. To accomplish this, learners will need access to the Internet and a computer capable of playing video and audio content. Suitable facilities are available on campus (e.g. at the TFDL) though of course your own computer can also be used.

Content: Topic Areas & Detailed Class Schedule (subject to change)

Week	Date	Topic	Guest Speaker	Assignment Due @ 11:59 p.m.
1	Sept 10 th	Intro to course and Arch.	Dr. David Monteyne	Sept 17 th
2	Sept 17 th	E-visit to Arch. firm	Prof. Marc Boutin	Sept 24 th
3	Sept 24 th	Critical Residential Practice	Prof. John Brown	Oct 1 st
4	Oct 1 st	Landscape Architecture	Dr. N. Pollock-Ellwand	Oct 15 th
5	Oct 15 th	Smart Communities	Dr. Tom Keenan	Oct 22 nd
6	Oct 22 nd	Sustainable Cities	Dr. Noel Keough	Oct 29 th
7	Oct 29 th	Urban Design	Dr. Bev Sandalack	Nov 5 th
8	Nov 5 th	Industrial Design	Prof. Denis Gadbois	Nov 12 th
9	Nov 12 th	Technology	Prof. Barry Wylant	Nov 19 th
10	Nov 19 th	Visualization	Dr. Richard Levy	Nov 26 th
11	Nov 26 th	Environmental Science	Dr. Mike Quinn	Dec 3 rd
12	Dec 3 rd	Lifecycle Assessment	Dr. Getachew Assefa	Dec 10 th

Note: No class week of Oct 8th as it is “Block Week” for EVDS faculty and graduate students. However, instructors will be available for online discussion and optional “mid course review.”

Means of Evaluation

The course evaluation will be based on assignments and online participation. Students will complete a written assignment and submit it electronically each week as shown on the schedule above. Late assignments will be accepted up until a final deadline of December 17, 2012, but will be penalized one full grade (e.g. A to B). Assignment grades will be returned online.

Weighting:

12 assignments @ 7.5% each for a total of	90%
Class participation over the term of the course	10%
Total	100%

Final grades will be reported as letter grades, with the final grade calculated according to the 4-point range. Assignment and participation grades will be also reported as letter grades (A+, A, A- etc.) Percentage grading will not be used in this course.

It is not necessary to pass any particular component to pass the course as a whole.

There is no final examination.

Class participation grade will be evaluated based on the quality and quantity of online discussion in the media specified by the instructors. To obtain full marks in the participation component, students should make at least one timely, non-trivial posting about each of the weekly topics.

Readings

All required materials will be supplied electronically, though students are free to supplement their work with other materials.

Special Budgetary Requirements

None, aside from having access to a suitable computer which can be accomplished using on campus facilities.

Notes:

1. Written work, term assignments and other course related work may only be submitted by e-mail if prior permission to do so has been obtained from the course instructor. Submissions must come from an official University of Calgary (ucalgary) email account.
2. It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>) Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.
3. Plagiarism - Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:(a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),(b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,(c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,(d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course(although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar.
4. Information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>) and how this impacts the receipt and delivery of course material
5. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>)
6. Safewalk information (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>)
7. Contact Info for: Student Union (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/contact>); Graduate Student representative(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>) and Student Ombudsman's Office (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/quality-education/academic-services/student-rights>).

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