Master of Landscape Architecture Core Curriculum

ARCH 439 Media and Context Workshop and Tours – Fall 2019

Units: 1

Meeting Times

Monday Aug. 19th  TOUR: 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM Meet at Watt Hall end in Santa Monica at Expo Line

Tuesday Aug. 20th  TOUR: 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM Meet at Watt Hall, end in Downtown Los Angeles

Wednesday Aug. 21st  WORKSHOP: 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM at Harris Hall Rm 115A

Thursday Aug. 22th  WORKSHOP: 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM at Harris Hall Rm 115A

Instructors: Aroussiak Gabrielian and Esther Margulies

Contact Info:

Esther Margulies  emarguli@usc.edu
Aroussiak Gabrielian  aroussig@usc.edu
Course Description

This course leads students though the cultural and ecological context of Los Angeles with two days of guided tours around the city and its greater region. It introduces analog and digital representation techniques with which to capture, depict, and analyze this region’s cultural and ecological diversity.

Learning Objectives

The ARCH 439 Field trips are designed to introduce students from all geographies to the cultural and ecological diversity of coastal mountains, shores and riparian landscapes of the Los Angeles Region. We will visit sites in the Santa Mountains, local beaches, cultural centers and the Los Angeles River to observe multilayered narratives in a complex megacity. Site tours will introduce a lexicon of terminology commonly used in the field of landscape architecture. We will tour sites with ecological, cultural and infrastructural significance to develop skills in observation and a foundation of knowledge in site and systems thinking.

Development of freehand drawing and visualization skills; material, light, texture, movement, measure, depth - will be explored both on site, as fieldwork, and in the studio during the media workshop. Two days of intensive workshops will introduce students to analog and digital methods used to capture and depict the elemental qualities of landscape.

Course Notes

Media workshop sessions will be held in Harris Hall room 115a. Students must bring laptops with up to date copies of Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and Rhino. Please make sure to have your subscription at the student rates loaded onto your laptop.

https://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/buy/students.html?sdid=1XGJD51M&mv=search&s_kwcid=AL!3085J31271598495517!e!lg!adobe%20student%20subscription&ef_id=WuDPxQAAA1KX-z::20180728053521::

Make sure to bring your media supplies from the materials list you received to the first day of the media workshop on August 21st and a sketchbook, your soft graphite pencils, erasers and a sharpener to the field trip.
Tours: August 19 and 20

Tours will leave from Watt Hall at USC unless otherwise announced. Students should arrive 15 minutes before the start of the tour. You will need to have a Metro Tap Card to pay for rail and bus fares. On August 19th you will have the option of returning to USC or going home via Metro. For August 20th everyone should load their Tap Cards with a full day pass loaded prior to the start of the tour. We will be using Tap Cards for all transportation that day.

Hot weather is typical for this time of year. Please be prepared with comfortable walking shoes, lightweight clothing, hats, water, sunscreen etc. We will be walking a few miles throughout the day.

For August 19th there will be at least one swimming opportunity during the tour. Please bring swimsuits and towels if you plan to swim. There are very basic changing facilities at the beach.

Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required
Students will utilize Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and Rhino, in addition to hand drawing.

Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

Media: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pbe3yc9rtw1w8rb/AACikvg1EWHu_527VjB7QsH-a?dl=0

Tours: Readings can be found in this folder on the google drive. Please read before Monday August 19th https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bopvr029lod5n5a/AABP3oNr0acriGWRqOBvRFlvRFca?dl=0

Description and Assessment of Assignments

1) FIELD NOTEBOOK – All students must submit a copy of their own field notes from the two days of tours in this course. Field notes will include sketches, notated drawings, and observations.

2) Short Essay: Provide references to the readings assigned in this course. Answer the following questions with a narrative and sketches where appropriate:
   a) Where did you find that Reyner Banham’s descriptions of Los Angeles are consistent with your observations?
   b) What did you observe that has changed significantly since Banham’s work was published?
   c) Could you imagine a prairie like that described by Paula Schiffman in the 21st century? What would it mean for present day Los Angeles?
   d) What do you imagine as public space in a revitalized Los Angeles River?

   Your field notebook with answers to these questions is due on Monday August 26th. Turn into Professor Margulies by 2 pm. I will be in my office in 339 Watt Hall in the north west corner of the 3rd floor. Written answers should be a minimum of 200 words per question and can be submitted as word or pdf files.

3) MEDIA ASSIGNMENTS - To Be Completed During the Media Workshop
a) **MAKING MARKS** – experimentation with mark making techniques using Photoshop, Illustrator, and various analog drawing methods.

b) **TAKING MEASURES** – precision with measured drawing and drafting, and the construction of 3-dimensional space using the modeling software, Rhino.

Scan, save and submit your media work to Aroussiak Gabrielian by end of day Friday, August 23.

**Grading Breakdown:**

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<th>Assignment</th>
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<th>% of Grade</th>
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<td>Field Notes from Tours</td>
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<td>Making Marks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taking Measures</td>
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<td>Essay</td>
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**Assignment Submission Policy**

Assignments must be turned in by the deadline in person to the instructor.

**Course Schedule: Daily Breakdown**

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<td>Readings: Schiffman</td>
<td>Field Notes and sketches due 8/26</td>
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<td>August 19</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bopvr029lod5n5a/AABP3oNr0acriGWRqOBLvRFca?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bopvr029lod5n5a/AABP3oNr0acriGWRqOBLvRFca?dl=0</a></td>
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<td>Day 2</td>
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<td>August 20</td>
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<td>Day 3</td>
<td>Media Workshop</td>
<td>Readings: <a href="https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pbe3yc9rtw1w8rb/AACikvg1EWHu_527VjB7QsH-a?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pbe3yc9rtw1w8rb/AACikvg1EWHu_527VjB7QsH-a?dl=0</a></td>
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<td>Day 4</td>
<td>Media Workshop</td>
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<td>August 22</td>
<td>Media Assignments due 8/23</td>
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Day 1 Monday August 19th

The Southern California Coast Tour

1. Meet at Watt Hall USC 8:30am Corner of Watt Way and 37th Place
2. Travel to King Gillette Ranch 26800 Mulholland Hwy, Calabasas, CA 91302 – Tour with SMMC 10 am to 11:30 + lunch
3. Travel to Malibu Lagoon State Park 23200 Pacific Coast Hwy, Malibu, CA 90265 Lagoon 12:15 to 1:45 Tour by Clark Stevens and optional swim. Bring a towel and bathing suits if you want to swim.
4. Travel to The Getty Villa 17985 Pacific Coast Hwy, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272 2:30 to 4:00
5. Travel to The Annenberg Community Beach House 415 Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica, CA 90402 4:30 – 5:30
6. Travel to Tongva Park 1615 Ocean Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90401 End of Tour
7. Return to USC via Expo Line

Day 2 Tuesday August 20th

Los Angeles Natural and Man Made

1. Meet at Watt Hall 8:30 am have Metro Card with day pass loaded
2. Travel to Union Station via Expo Line + Red Line
3. Tour Union Station
4. Walk to Gold Line Station @ Union Station Gold line to Cypress Park/Lincoln Hts.
5. Walk to Oso Park
6. LA River Talk Steve Dwyer USACE and Prof Alexander Robinson
7. Walk to Lincoln Hts/Cypress Park Metro Station, take train to Boyle Heights
8. Lunch in Boyle Hts.
9. Metro Gold Line to Little Tokyo. Walk to Hauser Wirth Gallery Complex
10. Tour Hauser Wirth Arts District – Tour End return via Metro

USC Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct
Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Section 11, Behavior Violating University Standards https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the Office of Equity and Diversity http://equity.usc.edu or to the Department of Public Safety http://adminopsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety. This is important for the safety of the whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. The Center for Women and Men http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/ provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage http://sarc.usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.
Support Systems
A number of USC’s schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the American Language Institute http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The Office of Disability Services and Programs http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information http://emergency.usc.edu will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.