

USC School of Architecture

Architecture 544 Urban Landscape: Theory, Process and Place Fall 2016

Class Location: Harris 115a

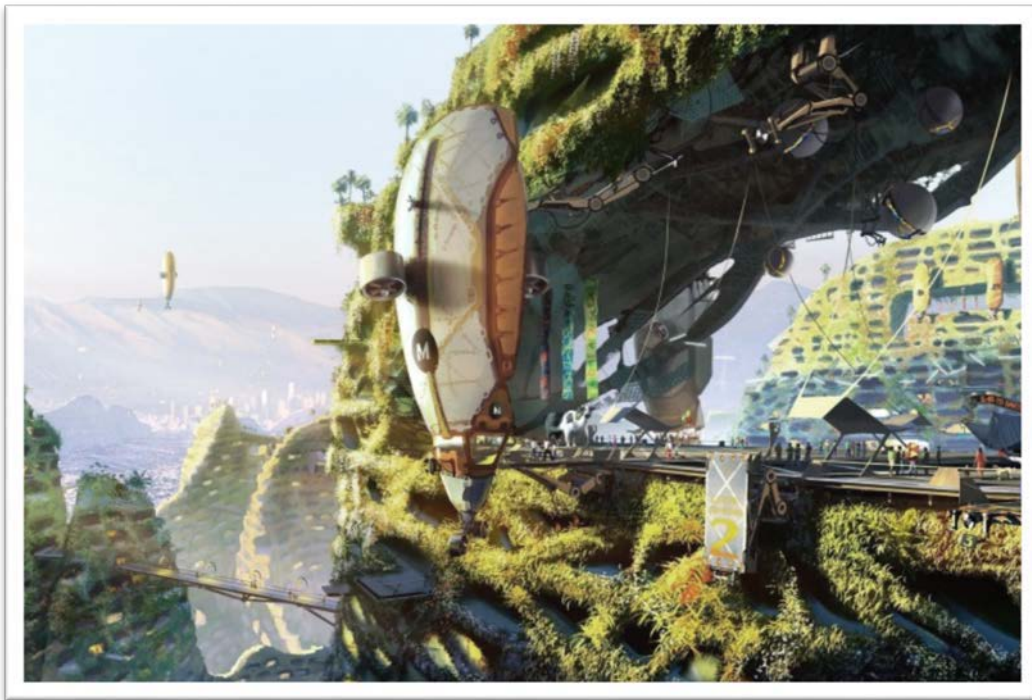
Instructor: Esther Margulies ASLA

3 units, Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:00pm – 5:50pm

Office hours: Mondays at 9am or By Appt.

Contact Information:

Email: emarguli@usc.edu



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yw6dJm2zYN0>

This course examines the processes of building the urban landscape as products of man and nature. Cities evolve as cumulative layers and projects applied under theoretical constructs in the context of economic, social, ecological and natural forces.

This course will examine the growth of Cities including Los Angeles. Readings and projects will focus on Urban evolution from migratory settlements dependent upon natural systems to a new forms of globally connected Urbis with complex communications, political, transportation, housing, infrastructure and technology systems. We will examine the past and present to better understand and speculate about the future.

This course will include lectures, field trips, research assignments and mapping to explore and document the City. Students will dissect and document the systems, districts, landmarks and neighborhoods of Los Angeles and beyond. Readings will include a wide range of perspectives on the City, contextual urban theory and critical writings speculating on the future of the City. Projects will focus on analysis and documentation of the characteristics, history, culture, physical qualities and myths that make up Los Angeles.

Meetings will include lectures, class discussions, field trips and project presentations. Readings for each class must be completed before the class meeting.

Reading Responses - Students will submit one question on each assigned reading prior to class for discussion. The deadline for these submissions is 12 pm on the day of the class.

The syllabus will be updated periodically throughout the semester.

Grading

Assignments: Four (4) required assignments – 15 points each 60 points total

Reading Responses, class participation and discussion: 20 points

Final Paper – 20 points

Class Attendance and Additional Work Requirements

Attendance at all meetings and field trips are mandatory. Students must notify the instructors and request to be excused prior to the class meeting time. Students are expected to spend a minimum of 3 hours of additional work time each week outside of class time to complete readings and assignments. You are expected to attend class and participate in class discussions. Excessive distraction with laptops and cell phones will not be excused.

Specific content and presentation requirements for all assignments and reviews will be provided.

Late submittals

Assignments and presentations are expected to be submitted by the posted deadlines. Late submittals will have grade reductions of 1/3 letter grade per day. All projects are due on the same day regardless of presentation schedule.

Required Skills:

This course will require production of mapping and site documentation. Students will have Arc GIS accounts provided for the semester and training. Maps may be created

digitally or by hand. Students will develop a final research paper with proper citations and notes.

Software

MS Office or equal, Adobe Creative Suite for mapping, CADD optional

Class Schedule

Date	Lecture Topics and Frameworks	Required Readings – Will be updated throughout the Semester
23 Aug	First Day of Class – Introduction Research and Academic Integrity USC Libraries Avoiding Plagiarism Tutorial 1. The Classical City to the Laws of the Indies	Kostoff The City Shaped p. 29 – 41 Spirn – The City and Nature 9 – 14 On Blackboard USC Plagiarism tutorial assignment – submit printed copy of course completion August 25th Bring to class
25-Aug	Research Assignment 1 -Home Work on during class time.	See Blackboard for Assignment and reading
30-Aug	2. Los Angeles Growth - Yangna to Boom Town	Cary McWilliams Southern California an Island on the Land Chapter 1 and 2 pp. 3 -48 Masters Griding the City See Blackboard
1-Sep	3. Modern Town and City Planning Nolen and Olmsted	Nolen, John, City Planning A series of Papers Presenting the Essential Elements of a City Plan, Introduction and Land Sub Division D. Appleton and Co. New York, 1916 See Blackboard
6-Sept	4. European Influence - The City Beautiful Movement	
8 - Sept	5. The Los Angeles Civic Center- Attempts at Establishing an Open Space Framework for downtown Los Angeles	Reitan, Meredith Drake (11/01/2014). "Beauty Controlled: The Persistence of City Beautiful Planning in Los Angeles". <i>Journal of Planning History (1538-5132)</i> , 13 (4), p. 296.
13-Sept	Field Trip Los Angeles Central Library Researching Los Angeles –	5th and Flower Streets Downtown Los Angeles Meet at the Library
15-Sept	6. The City of the Future – Le Courbusier, Lewis Mumford and Garden Suburbs	Lewis Mumford, Le Courbusier, See Blackboard

	Assignment 2 – Neighborhood Research Assigned Due Sept 22	
20 Sept	7. Early 20th Century Community Building in Los Angeles Real Estate, Housing, Sub Divisions, Zoning and Regional Planning	Neutra, Robinsion, Nadeau See Blackboard
22-Sept	Landscape Architecture As Necessity Conference at USC	NO Class Attend Conference !
27-Sept	In Class Presentations Assignment 2 Neighborhood Research	
29- Sept	8. Implementation of the Modern City – NY and Boston Robert Moses	The Powerbroker Robert Caro See Blackboard
4-Oct	9. Los Angeles Modern Development Bunker Hill	See Blackboard
6-Oct	10. Decline of the City - NY in the 1970s Return to Humanity – Jane Jacobs	The Death and Life of American Cities See Blackboard
11-Oct	11. Post World War II Real Estate and Housing in LA	Neutra Homes and Housing See Blackboard
13-Oct	11. Post World War II Real Estate and Housing in LA	Hise - Magnetic City
18-Oct	12. Return to the Village- New Urbanism and Villages in LA	Peter Calthorpe See Blackboard
20-Oct	13. Urban Infrastructure Gray and Green	
25-Oct	14. GIS and Mapping Workshop Guest Travis Longcore Review Assignment 3 Cities Past and Present	See Blackboard
27 - Oct	15. Global Urban Issues Context a. Population Shifts	TBD See Blackboard
1 -Nov	16. Economic Stratification Impacts From Redlining to Google	NY Times Article SF Mission District See Blackboard
3-Nov	Field Trip Destination Culver City	
8-Nov	Assignment 3 Interpretive Mapping - presentations	
10-Nov	16. Make up Presentations and Advising on Final research topics	
15-Nov	17. Smart Cities Lecture Advising on Final Research Topics	TBD
17-Nov	18. Post Industrial Cities	Waldheim, Detroit

22-Nov	Assignment 4– Interpretive Mapping Class Research and Advising	
24 -Nov	No Class Thanksgiving Break	
29 - Nov	18. City Futures	Curbed – The Low line McWilliams – Epilogue Ullin – A Walker in the City
1 Dec	Final Class Assignment 4 - Interpretive Mapping Presentations	
8 – Dec	Final Research Paper Due 4 pm	

Study Week Dec 3 – 6

MLA Studio Final Reviews Dec 12 and 13th

Required Text - There is no required text book for this class. All readings will be posted on Blackboard or links will be provided.

Resources <https://nextcity.org/> <http://www.citylab.com/>

Bibliography – Sources that may be valuable throughout the semester to supplement required readings.

Banham, Reyner, Los Angeles: The Architecture of Four Ecologies, London, Allen Lane, 1971.

Calthorpe, Peter, and Inc ebrary. , 'Urbanism in the Age of Climate Change', Anonymous Translator (Washington, DC, Island Press, 2010).

Cherry, Gordon Emanuel, Pioneers in British planning, The Architectural Press, London UK 1981.

Cronon, William ed., *Uncommon Ground: Toward Rethinking the Human Place in*

Cuff, Dana, *The Provisional City*, MIT, Cambridge, Mass 2000

Davis, Mike *Ecology of Fear: Los Angeles and the Imagination of Disaster* (Holt, 1998);

Deverell, William Francis. *Land of Sunshine : an Environmental History of Metropolitan Los Angeles* University of Pittsburgh Press,, 2005.

Hise, Greg and Deverell, William eds., *Eden By Design: The 1930 Olmsted-Bartholomew Plan for the Los Angeles Region* (University of California, 2000)

Hise, Greg. *Magnetic Los Angeles : planning the twentieth-century metropolis* / Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999, c1997.

Hubbard, Theodora Kimball , *Our cities, to-day and to-morrow, a survey of planning and zoning progress in the United States* , Harvard university press, 1929

Katz, Peter, 1954, Scully, Vincent, Jr., 1920, and Todd W. Bressi. , *'The New Urbanism: Toward an Architecture of Community'*, Anonymous Translator(, New York, McGraw-Hill, 1994).

[Kolson, Kenneth L](#), *Big plans : the allure and folly of urban design* , Baltimore : Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001.

Kostoff, Spiro, *The City Shaped*, Little Brown and Co, Boston, Mass 1991

Larson, Scott, *Building like Moses with Jacobs in mind: contemporary planning in New York City* Temple U Press, Phila Pa. 2013

Lynch, Kevin, *Good City Form* (MIT, 1981);

Nadeau, Remi, *Los Angeles from Mission to Modern City*, Longmans, Green & Co. NY 1960

Newman, P and Jennings, I, *Cities as Sustainable Ecosystems: Principles and Practices* (Island Press, 2008)

Peets, Elbert, 1886-1968. , *'On the Art of Designing Cities: Selected Essays of Elbert Peets'*, Anonymous Translator(, Cambridge, Mass, M.I.T. Press, 1968).

Robbins, George William, 1905, Leon Deming Tilton 1890'*Los Angeles: Preface to a Master Plan'*, Anonymous Translator(, Los Angeles, Calif, The Pacific Southwest Academy, 1941).

Sitton, Tom, Deverell, William Ed., *Metropolis in the Making*, University of California Press, Berkeley, Ca. 2001

Sprin, Anne Whiston, *The Granite Garden*, Basic Books Inc., NY, NY 1984

Wilson, William H. *The City Beautiful Movement*, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989.

Photograph Resources

<http://www.flickrriver.com/photos/33455118@N08/sets/72157625852971760/>

[http://waterandpower.org/museum/Early_City_Views%20\(1800s\)_Page_1.html](http://waterandpower.org/museum/Early_City_Views%20(1800s)_Page_1.html)

USC Policies

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.

Accreditation

The Master of Landscape Architecture degree program includes three curricula. Curriculum +3 for students with no prior design education and Curriculum +2 for students admitted with advanced standing have full accreditation by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board. Information about landscape architecture education and accreditation in the United States may be found on-line at <http://www.asla.org/Education.aspx>.

Religious Holidays

The University of Southern California recognizes the diversity of our community and the potential for conflicts involving academic activities and personal religious observance. The University provides a guide to such observances for reference and suggests that any concerns about lack of attendance or inability to participate fully in the course activity be fully aired at the start of the term. As a general principle, students should be excused from class for these events if properly documented and if provisions can be made to accommodate the absence and make up the lost work. Constraints on participation that conflict with adequate participation in the course and cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the faculty and the student need to be identified prior to the add/drop date for registration. After the add/drop date the University and the School of Architecture shall be the sole arbiter of what constitutes appropriate attendance and participation in a given course.

School of Architecture Attendance Policy

A student may miss the equivalent of one week of class sessions (in this case, **TWO**, excused absences are permitted) without directly affecting the student's grade and ability to complete the course. An excused absence is a confirmed personal illness, family emergency, or religious holiday. For each absence over the allowed number, your grade can be lowered by 1/3-letter grade. If additional absences are required for a personal illness, family emergency, pre-approved academic reason/religious observance, you must discuss the situation with your faculty member immediately.

Any student not in class within the first 10 minutes is considered tardy, and any student absent (in any form including sleep, technological distraction, or by leaving mid class for a long bathroom/water break) for more than 1/3 of the class time can be considered fully absent. If arriving late, a student must be respectful of a class in session and do everything possible to minimize the disruption caused by a late arrival. It is always the student's responsibility to seek means (if possible) to make up work missed due to absences, not the instructor's, although such recourse is not always an option due to the nature of the material covered.

Sustainability Initiative

The School of Architecture has adopted the 2010 Initiative for Sustainability. Solutions to design problems must engage the environment in a way that dramatically reduces or eliminates the need for fossil fuel.