



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Achieving International Excellence

Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts

UNIT OUTLINE

Landscape Urban Studio

LACH 3301



SEM 1 - 2011

CAMPUS: CRAWLEY

UNIT COORDINATOR: Christopher Vernon, Associate Professor

UNIT DETAILS

Unit title:	Landscape Urban Studio
Unit code:	LACH 3301
Credit points:	12
Availability:	Semester One
Location:	CRAWLEY
Mode:	On-campus
Unit web page:	www.alva.uwa.edu/students

UNIT RULES

Contact hours:	6 (10.00-13.00 & 14.00-17.00 Thursdays) (Rm 4.13)
Pre requisites/advisable prior study and incompatibility	Available at www.handbook.uwa.edu.au

CONTACT INFORMATION

Unit coordinator:	Christopher Vernon, Associate Professor
Unit coordinator email:	Christopher.Vernon@uwa.edu.au
Unit coordinator phone number:	6488.1565
Unit coordinator fax number:	6488.1082
Coordinator consultation hours:	13.00-15.00, Wednesdays (and by appointment)

COMMUNICATION

When you enrol at UWA you are automatically assigned an email address. This address is then used for official electronic correspondence unless you advise in writing that this is not acceptable. For more information about your UWA Student Email account and services available you should visit

<http://www.uwa.edu.au/web/students/email>

Staff may communicate with students by email, so all students should ensure that they:

- (a) activate their PHEME account and student email account
- (b) check their account regularly (at least twice per week)
- (c) communicate with University staff ONLY through their student email account. (Staff are not required to respond by email to any other addresses.)

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Introduction

The Landscape Urban Studio focuses on places where the city's cultural and economic dynamism is at its most intense. By design-based projects the studio investigates the contemporary spatiality of cities, tracking them in time as well as along an axis from the local to the global. Students design built and open spaces in concert. This year the Landscape Urban Studio will have a thematic, cross-cultural focus upon Australia's regional neighbour India to explore the potential of a 'hybrid urbanism.' The studio will undertake two projects of varying complexity. The first entails a graphic analysis of an urban space in Perth and the second involves a masterplan to house a migrant Indian population in West Perth (brief and submission requirements to be issued separately as per the semester calendar below).

Unit aims and objectives

- To gain an understanding of the qualities and dimensions (physical and cultural) and the vocabulary of landscape architectural language that can be employed when designing within an urban context;
- To gain competence in translating urban scale and detail integrated within well-informed site responses through precedent case studies;
- To develop synthetic abilities at sketch plan and developed sketch plan level in projects of intermediate complexity and
- To develop ability to integrate historical/theoretical areas of study with design.

Learning outcomes

Students produce design proposals which are borne of an awareness of the city's evolution, its contested terrains and its complex biophysical and human ecologies; produce designs that demonstrate an understanding of the history and theory of twentieth-century urbanism and landscape architecture; and apply in graphic form a sustained effort to form innovative design strategies and forms for the future of large urban sites. Students produce urban plans that include a carefully staged relationship between buildings and landscapes as well as detailed landscape designs for public spaces within the context of the city represented with sophisticated graphics and models.

UNIT REQUIREMENTS

It is expected that students submit all written work in typewritten form. Access is provided to computers and software in the ALVA computer labs. Students must make their own arrangements to obtain and activate user accounts if they require use of this service.

UNIT STRUCTURE

The Landscape Urban Studio will be conducted on Thursdays, from **10.00-13.00 & 14.00-17.00, Rm 4.13**. Studio class types will vary between group seminars, individual desk critiques and group pin-ups or juries. The type is dependent upon the stage of the project at hand and as per the studio co-ordinator's discretion.

Attendance at all sessions is essential to successfully complete the unit. Consistent absence from the studio without notifying the co-ordinator in advance (via email) will result in failure of the unit.

The Landscape Urban Studio will require students to have access to hand drawing materials and computer drawing/rendering programmes. Approximate costs for the unit include: \$50-\$200 for printing, \$20-\$50 for incidentals (eg drawing supplies, paper, etc); and \$20 Unit Reader.

UNIT TIMETABLE

To view the timetable for this unit please go to: www.timetable.uwa.edu.au

SEMESTER CALENDAR

NB : Please be aware that the studio is a fluid exercise and this calendar may be altered if merited by the co-ordinator. Should any amendments be made, you will be notified via email.

Week	Date	Day	Class type / Activity
1	3 rd Mar	Thursday	Studio Overview /Project One Introduction / Group Allocation / Site Visit / Begin Research
2	10 th Mar	Thursday	On-site / Research
3	17 th Mar	Thursday	Presentation Research Findings & Graphic Analysis Mock-ups
4	24 th Mar	Thursday	Final Presentations / Project Two Introduction (Separate Brief Issued) / Research Group Allocation / Site Visit / Begin Research
5	31 st Mar	Thursday	Presentation Research Findings / Individual Desk Critiques
6	7 th Apr	Thursday	Presentation Schematic Masterplans I
7	14 th Apr	Thursday	Individual Desk Critiques
8	21 st Apr	Thursday	Presentation Schematic Masterplans II / Begin Detail Proposals
			Non-Teaching Study Break
9	5 th May	Thursday	Individual Desk Critiques
10	12 th May	Thursday	Presentation Detail Proposal Concepts
11	19 th May	Thursday	Individual Desk Critiques
12	26 th May	Thursday	Individual Desk Critiques
13	3 rd Jun	Friday	Folio submission (1500-1600)

ASSESSMENT MECHANISM

Component	Weight	Due Date
Urban analysis (Group Project) (ie interim assessment)	30 %	24 th March (Thursday)
Masterplan & related detailed design proposals (ie final folio)	70%	3 rd June (Friday) (1500-1600)

In Level 1-3 studio units students must obtain a pass for the final submission (folio) in order to achieve a pass in the unit. A fail in the final folio submission will result in the student receiving a final grade of FC (Failed Component). If a student receives a grade of FC they are required to repeat the unit in the next available semester offering.

LEARNING OUTCOMES STATEMENTS

- 1. CONCEPT.** Develop awareness of the forces that shape suburban landscapes and become familiar with the sources and application of specialist information and expertise with regard to innovative design responses applicable to urban landscapes. Reconcile divergent factors and integrate domains of knowledge in the articulation of an urban landscape architectural proposition.
- 2. DESIGN DEVELOPMENT.** Resolve master-planning and more detailed design proposals for urban landscapes.
- 3. TECHNICAL INTEGRATION.** Develop a design proposal that incorporates technical, social and environmental areas of study in regard to urban context.

4. **CONTEXTUAL AWARENESS.** Acknowledge the landscape architect's roles and responsibilities in professional design teams and the social, ethical and ecological responsibilities impacting upon production of landscape architecture with regard to urban context.
5. **COMMUNICATION & PRESENTATION.** Produce clear and accurate descriptions of a landscape architectural proposal in regard to urban context and apply design skills and technical knowledge towards the deployment of a comprehensive landscape architectural vocabulary.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA ALIGNED TO OUTCOME

1. **CONCEPT.** Demonstration of capacity for critical engagement in the design process and an engagement with the issues pertaining to the urban design brief and the machinations of the city in general.
2. **DESIGN DEVELOPMENT.** Demonstration of thorough investigation of urban typologies and an engagement with design processes that manifest this in clear, accountable and innovative design proposals.
3. **TECHNICAL INTEGRATION.** Demonstration of basic knowledge of the limitations and conditions governing the production of urban landscape architecture.
4. **CONTEXTUAL AWARENESS.** Demonstration of professional awareness and of the need to sustain the natural and the built environment.
5. **COMMUNICATION & PRESENTATION.** Demonstration of command of landscape architectural representation that is clear, accurate, accountable and compelling with regard to the urban context.

Supplementary assessment is available to students who receive a final mark of 45-49% in a unit when it is the only unit required to complete the student's degree.

ASSESSMENT ITEMS

Assessment item 1 (30%) (Group Project)

Urban Analysis (see PROJECT ONE: 'Liminal Space' below for submission requirements and assessment criteria)

Assessment item 2 (70%)

Masterplan and Detailed Proposals to be recorded on A1 sheets and assessed as per criteria above.

NB A separate brief and detailed submission requirements will be issued as per the semester calendar above.

Building clean-up and folio collection

Studios are expected to be left clean and tidy. Students must remove all personal property immediately after the submission of their folio. If the content of a folio is used for exhibition then the student must write their name on the back of the work so that when the exhibition is demounted collection is simplified. If staff or the Faculty wish to reserve work for reproduction and/or accreditation purposes then this should be negotiated with individual students.

Return of Student Work

Marked assessments submitted on time will be made available for collection by students at least one week before the next assessment in the unit is due, or no more than four weeks after submission, whichever is sooner.

Student Support

Student Services offers services and programmes that complement the university experience and promote links with the broader community. Information about the services offered is available at <http://www.studentservices.uwa.edu.au/ss>

Student Guild

Information about the University Student Guild is available at <http://www.guild.uwa.edu.au>

ACE

All newly enrolled students (at any level) are required to complete the Academic Conduct Essential (ACE) unit. Further information can be found at <http://www.ace.uwa.edu.au>

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities

The University's charter of student rights is available at <http://www.secretariat.uwa.edu.au/home/policies/charter>

Academic conduct and Ethical Literacy

The Faculty and the University take very seriously issues of academic literacy and ethical scholarship. The University has developed a series of policies relating to ethical literacy and the Faculty's Academic Conduct Policy reflects these guidelines. The Faculty uses the University wide reporting and penalty mechanisms for students found to have been involved in academic misconduct. To view the Faculty's Academic Conduct Policy please refer to: <http://www.alva.uwa.edu.au/students/policies/academic-conduct>

Appeals

Where there is dissatisfaction with an assessment result and/or progress status students may lodge an appeal. For information regarding the appeals process please go to: <http://www.secretariat.uwa.edu.au/home/policies/appeals>

FACULTY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Attendance

Under General Rule 1.2.1.15, students are required to attend prescribed classes and submit work of a satisfactory standard. Under General Rule 1.2.1.16 a student may be prohibited by the Faculty from undertaking further study or examination in the unit concerned if the requirements of 1.2.1.15 are not met.

Extensions

The Faculty approves extensions only in exceptional circumstances in order to ensure that all students are treated fairly and that submission date schedules, which are designed to produce ordered work patterns for students, are not disrupted. Extensions may be authorised only by the Manager, Student Office.

In all cases, requests for extensions require the submission of an official extension form before the due date.

To view the full ALVA Extension policy and application procedures go to:

<http://www.alva.uwa.edu.au/students/policies/extension>

Submission of late work

All assessment tasks are due no later than 4pm on the date indicated in the unit's Assessment Mechanism Statement, with the exception of in-class assessment items such as tutorial presentations. Any assessment task which is submitted after the time indicated in the assessment mechanism statement on the due date without a formal approved extension will be considered late and appropriate penalties will be applied. The late work policy should be read in conjunction with the ALVA Extension Policy available at

<http://www.alva.uwa.edu.au/students/policies/late-work>

Digital Submissions

The ALVA Digital Submissions policy is available at:

<http://www.alva.uwa.edu.au/students/policies/assessment/digital-submissions>

Academic conduct

Academic misconduct includes plagiarism, collusion and other forms of cheating. The University of Western Australia defines Academic Misconduct as "any activity or practice engaged in by a student that breaches explicit guidelines relating to the production of work for assessment, in a manner that compromises or defeats the purpose of that assessment".

The full ALVA misconduct policy is available at: <http://www.alva.uwa.edu.au/students/policies/academic-conduct>

Special Consideration

Special consideration allows Faculties to take into account significant and unforeseen factors that may have affected your academic preparation or performance. Students who believe they may be eligible for special consideration should make an appointment to meet with the Manager, Student Office as soon as possible after the onset of the medical condition or other circumstance. For information regarding special consideration please go to:

http://www.guild.uwa.edu.au/home/student_assistance/academic_help/special_considerations

Academic Writing

Student Services provides an online guide to assist you in writing essays and general academic writing. Tools, techniques and tips on how to complete your written assignments is available at

<http://www.studentservices.uwa.edu.au/ss/learning/alva> and

http://www.studentservices.uwa.edu.au/ss/learning/academic_writing

PROJECT ONE

Liminal Space: Understanding the urban interface

Introduction

'Liminal' space is found at the point of transition, the space 'in between' two built edges, places or spaces —'interstitial' space that is subtracted, excavated, compressed and held poised. 'Liminal' space describes, embodies and characterises the urban interface with the public realm.

Aims

To gain an understanding of the qualities and dimensions —physical and cultural— and the vocabulary of architectural and landscape architectural language that can be employed when designing within an urban context; and
To gain competence in translating urban scale and detail integrated within well-informed site responses through precedent case studies.

Method

Working in groups you are to produce sketch studies of an urban public space within the Perth CBD (eg Central Park, Council House & environs, Cathedral Square, St George's Terrace, etc). **NB We will select sites after our walking tour of the CBD.**

- 1) Establish the overall dimensions and scale proportions of the space you are to sketch, including any architectural or landscape features and/or innovative detail. This need not be perfectly accurate but should be carried out as a site measurement exercise gained through on-site observation and analysis (that is, you do not need to refer to existing architectural documentation).
- 2) Record by means of detail photographs, sketches and material samples where possible, the palette of materials, surfaces and finishes employed in the space and the relative proportions and detailing of each. Explore collage techniques.
- 3) Research and present a brief written description of the architectural and landscape architectural intentions accompanied by images of the space in its original form, as documented in journals and texts of the era and subsequent publications.
- 4) Consider your site through the lenses of 'permeability', 'variety', 'legibility', 'robustness', 'visual appropriateness', 'richness', and 'personalisation'.*

*These concepts are from:

Ian Bentley (et al), *Responsive Environments: A manual for designers* (London: The Architectural Press, 1985) (EDFAA 711.4 1985 RES).

We will discuss these in studio.

Submission Requirements

Sketch studies illustrating 'a sectional slice or slices' at 1:50 scale of your group's urban space. This 'slice/s' should be a continuous section/s extending to the full site dimensions and include the landscaped approaches as well as the building interface, entries, forecourts and circulation spaces- i.e. the 'interstitial' spaces. The 'slices' should be hand drawn or computer-generated, bold, toned, black and white, 'sectional elevation' renderings on quality paper, ideally presented as a continuous or joined strip/s.

An additional 'strip' matching the overall length of the sketch 'slice' is to graphically present the palette of detail textures, surfaces and finishes as recorded in no. 2 above.

An 'urban context plan' at 1:1000 scale, a ground level plan drawing and the descriptive text/images are also to be presented with the work.

Each student within the group should record their observations, sketch diagrams, scale notations and drawings of architectural or landscape details in their individual sketch books. This design journal is to be available for review with the project submission.

Assessment Criteria

Overall, your submission must demonstrate your understanding of the context and interface that informs urban design; ability to identify and record urban detail, materiality and scale; ability to clearly communicate in a range of hand drawn sketch techniques; and ability to work in a group.

Your project will be assessed against the following criteria: 1) degree to which your submission illustrates comprehensive, rigorous research and on-site investigation (ie the quality of its 'knowledge content'); 2) degree to which your submission effectively communicates its content; 3) conceptual innovation; 4) quality of your sheet composition & layout.

REFERENCES: CITIES AND URBAN DESIGN

- Amidon, Jane. *Radical landscapes: reinventing outdoor space* (London: Thames & Hudson, 2001). (EDFAA 712.2 2001 RAD)
- Broadbent, Geoffrey. *Emerging concepts in urban space design* (London: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1990). (EDFAA Q 711 1990 EME)
- Ching, Francis D. K. *Architecture, form, space & order* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1996). (EDFAA Q 720.1 1996)
- Corner, James. 'Recovering Landscape as a Critical Practice', in James Corner (ed), *Recovering Landscape: essays in contemporary landscape architecture* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999). (EDFAA 712 1999 REC)
- Cullen, Gordon. *The concise townscape* (London: Architectural Press, 1971). (EDFAA 711.4 1971 CON).
- Gereda, Mark and Chris Johnson. *Greening Sydney - landscaping the urban fabric* (Sydney: Government Arch. Pub., 2003).
- Gosling, David. *Gordon Cullen: visions of urban design* (London: Academy Editions, 1996). (EDFAA Q 711.4092 CUL)
- Hough, Michael. *City form and natural process: towards a new urban vernacular* (London; Sydney: Croom Helm, 1984). (EDFAA 711.4 1984 CIT)
- Jacobs, Allan B. *The boulevard book: history, evolution, design of multiway boulevards* (Cambridge, Mass.; London: MIT, 2002). (EDFAA 625.7 2002 BOU)
- Jacobs, Allan B. *Great streets* (London, England; Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1993). (EDFAA Q 711.41 1993 GRE)
- Jencks, Charles and Karl Kropf (eds). *Theories and manifestoes of contemporary architecture* (Chichester, England; Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Academy, 2006). (EDFAA 724.6 2006 THE)
- Kostof, Spiro. *The city shaped: urban patterns and meanings through history* (London: Thames and Hudson, 1991). (HSS 307.7609 1991 CIT)
- Lynch, Kevin. *City sense and city design: writings and projects of Kevin Lynch* / edited by Tridib Banerjee and Michael Southworth (Cambridge, Mass: M.I.T. Press, 1990). (EDFAA 711.4092 LYN)
- Lynch, Kevin and Gary Hack. *Site planning* (Cambridge, Mass: M.I.T. Press, 1984). (EDFAA 720 1984 SIT)
- Lynch, Kevin. *A theory of good city form* (Cambridge, Mass: M.I.T. Press, 1981). (HSS 309.26 1981 THE)
- Marcus, Clare Cooper and Carolyn Francis (eds). *People places: design guidelines for urban open space* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1998). (EDFAA 711.40973 1998 PEO).
- Mostafavi, Mohsen and Ciro Najle (eds). *Landscape urbanism: a manual for the machinic landscape* (London: Architectural Association, 2003). (EDFAA 307.1216 2003 LAN)
- Mumford, Lewis. *The City in History: its origins, its transformations, and its prospects* (London: Secker & Warburg, 1961). (EDFAA 301.36 1961 CIT)
- Rowe, Colin. *Collage city* (Cambridge, Mass: M.I.T. Press, 1978). (EDFAA Q 711.4 1978 COL)
- Seddon, George and David Ravine. *A City and Its Setting: images of Perth, Western Australia* (Fremantle, WA: Fremantle Arts Centre Press, 1986). (EDFAA Q 711.409941 1986 CIT)
- Sorkin, Michael (ed). *Variations on a Theme Park: the new American city and the end of public space* (New York: Hill and Wang, 1992). (EDFAA 307.760973 1992 VAR)
- Sudjic, Deyan. *The 100 Mile City* (New York: Flamingo, 1993).

Waldheim, Charles (ed). *The landscape urbanism reader* (New York, N.Y.: Princeton Architectural Press, 2006). (EDFAA IN PROCESS)

Whyte, William H. *The social life of small urban spaces* (Washington, D.C.: Conservation Foundation, 1980). (EDFAA 711.558 1980 WHY)

Journals

In complement with the above texts (and as with any design studio unit), you should also consult journals for more recent essays on urbanism and design. A list of selected titles follows below.

AA [Architectural Association] Files (UK)

Architectural Design (UK)

Architectural Theory Review (Australia)

Architectural Review (UK)

Architectural Review (Australia)

Architecture + Urbanism (Japan)

Architecture Australia

L'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui (France)

Casabella (Italy)

Daedalos (Germany)

Domus (Italy)

El Croquis (Spain)

Fabrications (Australia)

Japan Architect

Landscape Architecture (USA)

Landscape Australia

Lotus (Italy)

Oppositions (USA)

Perspecta (USA)

Quarderns (Spain)

Rassegna (Italy)

Topos: European landscape magazine (Germany)

Transition (Australia)

Zodiac (Italy)