



Land Acknowledgement: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/indigenous/cultural-teachings/territorial-land-acknowledgement>

Course Number: LAND 201

Course Name: Landscape Architecture and the Future of Cities

Classroom: Online

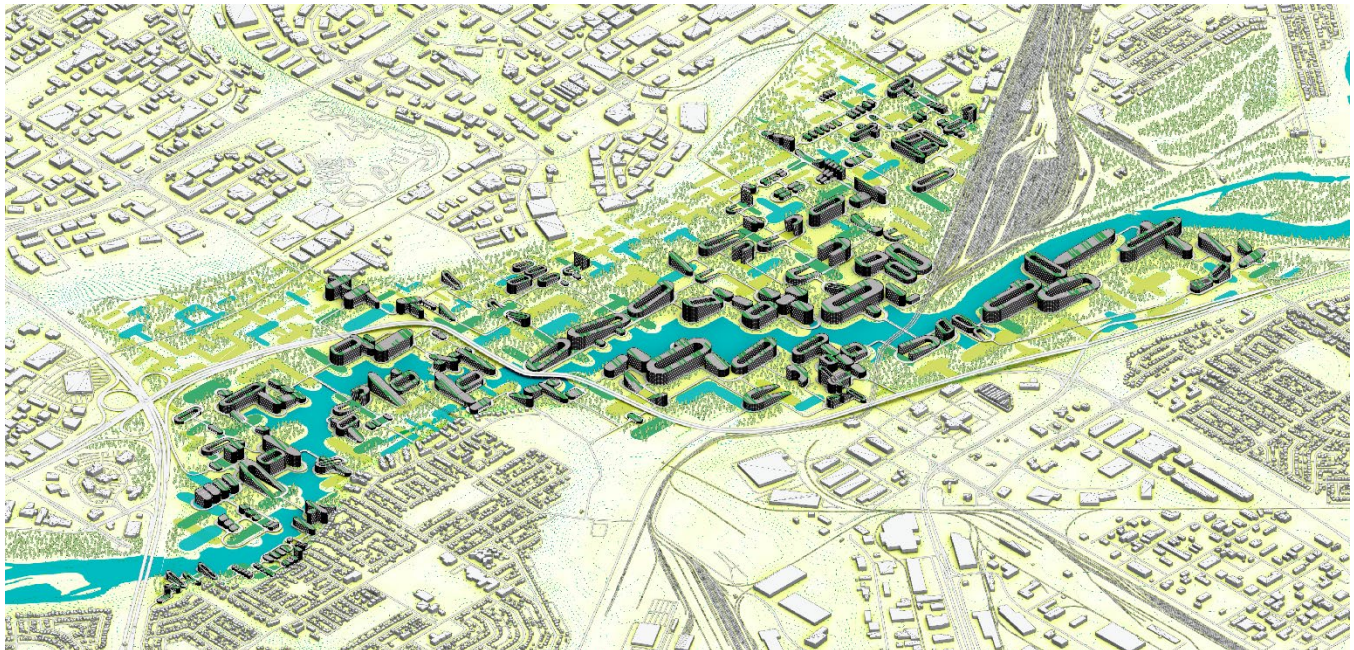
Instructor: Prof. Alberto de Salvatierra

- **Email:** alberto.desalvatierra@ucalgary.ca
- **Office Hours and Location:** By appointment only.
- **Instructor Email Policy:** Instructor will respond to emails sent via students' @ucalgary emails as soon as possible, usually within 48 hours (excluding weekends and statutory holidays).

Teaching Assistants (TAs): Kale Lazarick, Chloe Leyao and Grayson Moore.

- **Emails:** kale.lazarick@ucalgary.ca, chloe.leyao@ucalgary.ca, grayson.moore@ucalgary.ca

Class Dates: May 4th to June 15th, 2026; completely online and asynchronous.



Laura Sandor. *City of a Thousand Courtyards*. Calgary, Canada (2020).

Course Description:

An introduction to landscape architecture as a creative and technical discipline that shapes the future of cities and natural environments. The course examines the performative role that landscapes play in climate change mitigation, habitat restoration, water management, disaster resilience, and public health, as well as urban vitality and well-being. Students will develop an understanding of the critical role that nature and outdoor space plays in city building and how landscape architecture can affect positive future change.

This iteration of LAND 201 is organized in five parts:

- **Part I: Transdisciplinary Origins + Futures**
- **Part II: Disciplinary Foundations**
- **Part III: Disciplinary Pathways**
- **Part IV: Disciplinary Adjacencies**
- **Part V: Transdisciplinary Intersections**

Each “part,” will be composed of a variety of lectures, selected film screenings and/or readings (where applicable). The specific contents of each part are further detailed in the course schedule and will be updated on D2L as the course progresses.

Academic Calendar description: <https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/courses/1652641>

Course Hours: 3 units; (2-1T)

Requisites: See [Section 3.3.5](#) of the Academic Calendar for more information regarding School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape courses.

- Prerequisite(s): none
- Corequisite(s): none

Course Delivery:

- This course is completely online and asynchronous and will take place via Desire2Learn (D2L) with no face-to-face meetings or Zoom sessions. **Students are required to participate in the asynchronous learning tasks using the D2L learning environment.**
- On D2L, new lecture modules will go live every Monday at 11:59pm, and new project briefs (and tutorial videos) will go live on applicable Fridays at 11:59pm.
- Assignment deadlines, unless otherwise stated, will be on Mondays at 11:59pm. The assignments are to be completed and placed in the appropriate D2L dropbox by the due date, as shown on the course outline.
- **Communication with Instructor (and TAs) Outside of Class Time:** To communicate with the Instructor (and/or TAs) at any time, please use your UCalgary email account (unless otherwise noted). Email is a widely used professional communication tool. Please specify the course name in the subject line of all emails (e.g., LAND 201). Please ensure you check spelling, grammar,

salutations, and other professional etiquette requirements for email communications. The Teaching Team will not respond to emails that do not contain this information. Please provide at least two (2) business days for the Instructor and TA(s) to reply. While email is most commonly used by students to communicate with their Instructors, it can sometimes limit the effectiveness of communication and may not be the best way for to answer all student questions. When replying, if the Instructor(s) determines that communicating via email is not optimal, they may request a phone call or a virtual/in-person meeting.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will know and be able to:

1. Define what landscape architecture is and understand the role of a landscape architect in a complex and changing world;
2. Summarize and discuss how landscape architecture and design can affect positive future change;
3. Examine spaces via a new lens and be able to analyze them at a variety of scales and from multiple perspectives—whether visually with graphics or in written format; and,
4. Gain an introductory understanding across various areas of specialty within the landscape architecture discipline.

Learning Resources:

- **Learning Materials:** Although no textbooks are required for this course, the below textbooks are excellent resources and may complement material from the lectures and equip students well for some of the assignments associated with the course. *Thinking about Landscape Architecture* provides a comprehensive overview of landscape architecture, covering its evolution from garden design to urban planning, habitat restoration and sustainable design. The book is ideal for newcomers to the field, offering foundational knowledge for the future study and practice. *Representing Landscapes: Hybrid* and *Landscape Graphics* are guides to all the basic graphics techniques used in landscape design and landscape architecture:
 - Sharky, B. (2016). ***Thinking about Landscape Architecture: Principles of a Design Profession for the 21st Century***. Routledge.
 - Nassauer, J.I., & Opdam, P. (2016). ***Representing Landscapes: Hybrid***. Routledge.
 - Reid, G. W. (2002). ***Landscape Graphics: Plan, Section, and Perspective Drawing of Landscape Spaces***. First Printing.
- **Further Reading:** Does the structure of the course inspire you and want to learn more about the field and/or discipline of landscape architecture? The following are *highly* recommended:
 - Doherty, G. (2025). ***Landscape Is...! Essays on the Meaning of Landscape***. Routledge.
 - Doherty, G. (2016) & Waldheim, C. ***Is Landscape...? Essays on the Identity of Landscape***. Routledge.

- **Complementary Readings:** Other readings (available online) will be assigned as optional supplementary material to certain lectures.
- **Technology requirements:**
 - To successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote, and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:
 - A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
 - A current and updated web browser;
 - Webcam (built-in or external);
 - Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
 - Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
 - Broadband internet connection
 - [Student IT Resources](#)
 - In addition to the above, students will need access to the following software:
 - Adobe Photoshop (or another photo-editing software)
 - Adobe Illustrator or Canva (or another vector-based editing software)

Special Budgetary Requirements:

Unlike traditional courses, **this course will *not* require the purchase of expensive textbooks.** However, **please note that students *may* choose to incur the cost of software and/or materials to complete assignments.** Assignments are structured to minimize or eliminate these costs, but they are ultimately contingent upon the student's creative work and therefore cannot be precisely anticipated. In addition to the software noted above (of which there are several free options), students may chose to buy physical materials for Project II (though not necessary).

Classroom Conduct and Related Information:

The University classrooms and University-provided facilities and equipment are governed by the [University's Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#). Professional and courteous behavior is expected at all times. For more information, please refer to [Appendix 1: Prohibited Conduct](#), including the following categories: 1. Protection of Individuals; 2. Protection of Property; 3. Protection of University Functions, Activities and Services; 4. False Information and Identification; 5. Possession or Use of Dangerous Objects, Drugs or Alcohol; 6. Aiding in the Commission of an Offence; 7. Contravention of Other Laws and University Policies; and 8. Failure to Comply with a Sanction.

While this course will not have synchronous class sessions, proper etiquette and comportment is expected in both email and on D2L, such as in discussion forums. For more information on how to contact the Instructor and TAs, please see section "Course Delivery" above.

Assessment Components:

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the Academic Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course, the following weights will be used:

Assessment Method	Description	Weight	Aligned Course Learning Outcome*
Project I	(Annotated) Reflection Collages (x6)	60% (10% each)	1, 3, 4
Project II	Design Intervention	20%	1, 2, 3
Project III	Systems Map	20%	1, 2, 3, 4
D2L Participation	Discussion Forums	Up to 4% (extra credit)	2, 4

**Please refer to itemized Aligned Course Outcomes.*

▪ Assessment and Evaluation Information:

- Submitted course materials are evaluated on a stated balance of factors specific to each project submission and clarified by the accompanying grading rubric.
- Included factors encompass:
 - Submission deadline met
 - Competent use of toolsets
 - Completion of described project challenges
 - Depth of engagement/experimentation with project methodologies
 - Quality, clarity, and precision of visual communication
- For assessments submitted online (e.g., D2L), late assignments **with a valid excuse** may be considered for grading without penalty at the discretion of the Instructor and upon review of the student's previous assignment submissions and class participation record. Otherwise, the course's standard grade penalties (indicated below) will apply.
- For assessments submitted online (e.g., D2L), **all** late assignments **without a valid excuse** will lose a letter grade step (e.g., A- to B+) every 8 hours after the submission date/time. **Late assignments submitted more than four days late constitute an automatic zero (0).**

▪ Attendance and Participation Expectations:

- Students are expected to engage with the course using the Desire2Learn (D2L) environment. As this is an online and asynchronous class, participation is not strictly required. However, **active participation in course Discussion Forums will be evaluated at the end of term for extra credit**. Using the 4-pt scale, participation will be graded and will be converted to an equal percentage in extra credit added at the end—on the course's final grade. For example, "approaching excellent performance," or A-, would be equal to 3.7% added to your final grade.

- **Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:**

- **All assignments must be submitted digitally, in a PDF format** (unless otherwise stated), to the appropriate course Dropbox in D2L, by the specified due date/time.
- All assignments (e.g., projects, papers, presentations, etc.) **must be turned in on time.**
- Students are responsible for ensuring that all submitted digital files are in the correct format, complete, and accessible. Submissions that are corrupt, empty, incorrect (e.g., wrong file type), or inaccessible may receive a grade of zero. It is not the Instructor's responsibility to verify or notify students of submission errors. Students are encouraged to double-check their uploads and retain confirmation of successful submission.
- Assignments should have a file name as follows: "Coursenumber_semester_Lastname-Firstname_project#" (e.g., *LAND201_P26_Smith-Alex_Project1a.pdf*).
- **Late Assignments:** Please see above for the course's policy on late assignments/assessments.

- Final Examinations:

- **This course has no final exams.**

- Expectations for Writing:

- Please see the "Copyright and Legislation" Section of the University of Calgary Policies and Supports for information on the use of AI in this course.
- Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum
<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/pages/2c2d1ce47b8c4d008aec9cc3da49876e>

- Criteria that must be met to pass:

- A passing grade calculated from the cumulative value of all submitted assignments. A submission for each of assessments is required for the completion of the course.

Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade):

As per [Section 3.5.1](#) of the Academic Calendar, the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape will *not* permit the Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade) for any course offered by the School, with the exception of the following courses:

- Architecture 201
- Landscape Architecture 201
- Planning 201

Grading Scale:

Based on [Section F.1.1](#) of the Academic Calendar

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95-100	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Exceeding good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Good performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	Approaching good performance
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	60-64.99	Satisfactory performance
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	Approaching satisfactory performance. Minimum grade requirement for prerequisite courses.
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Topic Areas and Detailed Class Schedule:

The following class schedule is subject to change according to the requirements, eventualities, and progress of the course. Instructors will update the class over the term as any changes are required.

Course Schedule Date	Part	Lecture Topic(s)	Assessments and Due Dates
May 4-8	I. Transdisciplinary Origins + Futures	1. Landscape Architecture as Civilization 2. Landscape Architecture as Urban Futures + Project 1 Tutorial Video	n/a
May 11-15	II. Disciplinary Foundations	3. Landscape Architecture and its Definitions 4. Landscape Architecture and the Profession 5. Landscape Architecture and the Use of Color + Project 2 Tutorial Video	Project 1a due (May 11)
May 18	Victoria Day (university closed)		
May 19-22	III. Disciplinary Pathways	6. Landscape Architecture as Design 7. Landscape Architecture as Ecology 8. Landscape Architecture as Infrastructure	Project 1b due (May 19)
May 25-29	III (continued)	9. Landscape Architecture as Regional Planning 10. Landscape Architecture as Tactical Urbanism 11. Landscape Architecture as Urban Design	Project 1c due (May 25)
June 1-5	IV. Disciplinary Adjacencies	12. Architecture 13. Urban Planning and Design Justice + Project 3 Tutorial Video	Project 1d due (June 1) Project 2 due (June 1)
June 8-12	V. Transdisciplinary Intersections	14. Computational Design 15. City Innovation	Project 1e due (June 8)
Monday, June 15	<i>Last day of classes</i>		Project 1f due (June 15)
Wednesday, June 17	<i>Start of exams</i>		Project 3 due (June 17)

Deadlines:

- **Project I: (Annotated) Reflection Collages** (x6) will be (mostly) due on Mondays at 11:59pm:
 - Project 1a is due at 11:59pm on Monday, May 11th.
 - Project 1b is due at 11:59pm on **Tuesday**, May 19th.
 - Project 1c is due at 11:59pm on Monday, May 25th.
 - Project 1d is due at 11:59pm on Monday, June 1st.
 - Project 1e is due at 11:59pm on Monday, June 8th.
 - Project 1f is due at 11:59pm on Monday, June 15th.
- **Project II: Design Intervention** is due at 11:59pm on Monday, June 1st.
- **Project III: Systems Map** is due at 11:59pm on **Wednesday**, June 17th.

Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities:

There are no scheduled out-of-class activities.

University of Calgary Policies and Supports:

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf>

Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor (contact information on first page above).

[Student Accessibility Services](#) will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors.

For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures please visit:

- Student Academic Misconduct Policy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>
- Student Academic Misconduct Procedure: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy>).

Notice to Students Regarding Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications and Tools in Learning Environments

- **Use prohibited:** The use of generative AI, including the use of work created by generative AI tools and applications in course assignments and assessments may be considered in accordance with the university's academic misconduct policy. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy> If you are in doubt as to the use of generative AI tools in this course, please discuss your situation with the course instructor. Further clarifications:
 - AI tools can be used for learning course material, but not for completing assignments.
 - The use of AI tools for assignments will be considered an academic offense.
 - Students must not copy or paraphrase from AI applications for assignments.

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

The University of Calgary (University) respects your privacy and is committed to ensuring the privacy of all students, staff, and community members. UCalgary's collection, use, and disclosure of your personal information is authorized under section 4(c) of the Alberta [Protection of Privacy Act](#) (POPA). It will be collected, used and disclosed as permitted under POPA and in accordance with the University's [Privacy Policy](#) and [Notice of Collection, Use and Disclosure of Student Personal Information](#). All student assignments and personal information provided to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. It will not be disclosed to anyone else without your permission unless permitted under POPA.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual and/or gender-based violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual/gender-based violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual/gender-based violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy

available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-policy>.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT APPEALS OFFICE

If a student has a concern about a grade that they have received, they should refer to Section I of the Undergraduate Calendar (<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/uofcregs/university-regulations/reappraisal-term-work>) which describes how to have a grade reappraised.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please visit the Registrar's website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk