

LAWRENCE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
 COLLEGE of ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN
 ECOLOGICAL ISSUES : FALL 2012

Professor William Allen
COURSE SYLLABUS

PURPOSE / DISCOURSE:

We are all aware of the *ecological issues* facing us. As we move through the next century, the question often asked is, how will they affect us? The better question might be, how *will* we, as a profession, influence / respond to them? The issues for the most part are real. Some people contend that more emphasis is given the environment than can be justified due to the political currency they possess. There is only one planet earth. There are finite resources. The world's population continues to grow. Society has the ability to learn from observation, to ascertain causality, and to predict the probable outcome of its actions. We must, if we are to preserve our quality of life, be proactive, not reactive.

OUR OBJECTIVES in this seminar will be three fold:

1. Identify and understand *ECOLOGICAL issues* as they relate to Architecture.
2. To understand the political and social nature of ecological issues.
3. We will working within the framework of the environment, both social and physical, to identify solutions addressing those issues that affect the profession of architecture.

My goal is not to indoctrinate you with my position or opinions, but rather to help you to develop, define & support your own.

FORMAT:

A 2 hour Seminar, meeting once a week. SEMINAR: 1. a course of study pursued by a group of advanced students doing original research under a professor. 2. CONFERENCE. *This is according to The Merriam-Webster Dictionary.*

You will;

- 1. Read about 4 books (portions thereof)**
- 2. View 3 movies**
- 3. Develop 2 Power Point Reports**
- 4. Attend 2 off site field trips (or visit and present one on your own)**
- 5. Participate on Discussion Board (d'BOARD)**

CURRENT EVENTS:

I may start a Discussion with an introduction of current topics from the newspaper, website, readings or periodical sources. Last winter "FRACKING" was a new topic; something that I had not planned to introduce, but became a topic of interest. You will be encouraged to either refute or support an article and show how it impacts architecture.

Discussion participation is a major portion of your evaluation. This is a very important part of any seminar. In order to participate, you need to SUPPORT your positions. Your comments should "add value" to the discussion.

LEADERSHIP TRANSCRIPTS

The leadership transcript enables students to track co-curricular activities that are undertaken above-and-beyond the requirements of the LTU curriculum. The leadership transcript serves students by enhancing the leadership portfolio; providing the opportunity for a transcript of distinction; enhancing their resumes; and assisting in articulating leadership experience. It can be accessed by logging on to Banner Web and clicking the Student and Financial Aid tab. Leadership Activities is located at the bottom of the list.

TEXTS:

There are 4 required texts. While that may seem like a lot of reading, it averages about one book every 3 weeks. Start reading now.

COLLAPSE by Jared Diamond

BREAK THROUGH by Ted Nordhaus & Michael Shellenburger ISBN: -13:978-0-618-65825-1

SMALL is BEAUTIFUL by E. F. Schumacher

BIOMIMICRY by Janine M Benyus

SUGGESTED READINGS:

There is never enough time. However, I would encourage you to read both sides of issues such that you may be in a position to advance your thoughts. Here are a few interesting titles; and yes, I have read them all.

Cradle to Cradle by William McDonough & Michael Braungart

Design on the Edge by D. Orr

A Guide to Smart Growth, Edited by Jane S. Shaw & Ronald D. Utt

Green Architecture by James Wines (RECOMMENDED)

State of Fear by Michael Creighton

The Architecture of the Well-Tempered Environment, by Reyner Banham

Gray World, Green Heart, by Robert L. Thayer, Jr.

Humanscape; Environments for People, by Kaplan. Insight as to the why?

Gentle Architecture, by Malcolm Wells

Microclimate Landscape Design, by Gillespie and Brown

Climate Design, by Watson and Labs

Design With Nature, by Ian Mcharg (application of environmental considerations to land development).

Silent Spring, by Rachel Carson. She kind of started it off.

RED HOT LIES

A Green History of the World, by Clive Pointing. Great read for those who are interested in *POLITICS* and the environment.

Brave New World & **1984**

SUBJECTS:

We will look at ECOLOGICAL ISSUES from *SOCIAL*, *PHYSICAL*, and *PERCEPTUAL* points of view. We will look at those issues from the *micro* to the *macro* aspects of the environment.

Ecological Issues, as they impact the practice of Architecture, will be of primary focus.

Think about:

EARTH	HUMANITY	RESULTS	SOLUTION
air	individual	pollution	zoning
land	family	progress	education
water	community	technology	conservation
vegetation	society	consumer	recycle
animals	government	explore	limits
climate		waste	technology

PLACE TO GO; SITES TO SEE; THINGS TO FIND:

grist@grist.org

<http://www.greenclips.com/>

[USGBC: Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design](#)

Adam Joseph Lewis Center for Environmental Studies / Oberlin College, Ohio

[Erin Brockovich](#) : View ASAP

[A Civil Action](#): View ASAP

[The 11th Hour](#): View ASAP

EVALUATION POLICIES:

Attendance is required ≈ 25%

This is a seminar; as such it is critical that you express yourself. I am not as concerned with your position on an issue, but rather how you present your position. Enter into discussion; challenge what is said, or support what is said. (Field trips are a part of your attendance)

Projects, Exercises & Assignments ≈ 65%

MAN on the Street ≈ 5%

WN / WN ≈ 25%

Building with Historic Precedents ≈ 35%

OTHER ≈ 10%

You will be evaluated on the basis of projects, exercises & class **participation**. All work submitted must be of a professional quality; all sources noted. **It is required that any and all work submitted is original and that you are the author.** Plagiarism will result in an F in the course and may result in dismissal from the program.

A 15 point scale is used to designate the grade of a project.

A	B	C	D	F
15 14 13	/ 12 11 10	/ 09 08 07	/ 06 05 04	/ 03 02 01

A: Approaching professional quality: meets all criteria and exceeds in most areas.

B: Above average work: meets all criteria and exceeds in some areas.

C: AVERAGE WORK: MEETS ALL THE CRITERIA.

D: Below average work: fails to meet all the criteria.

F: Well below average work: fails to meet the primary criteria.

Late projects / presentations / participation, will be graded down one full letter grade per week unless a written medical is provided at the time of late submission.

If I ask for a Power Point Presentation, please do NOT submit a PDF! Please do NOT submit a Power Point SHOW. I want to be able to save and view later. BB has a limit of 20 MB!

KEEP PRESENTATIONS TO LESS THAN 20 MB.

FIELD TRIPS

It is really worth the drive and the time. You will be required to experience 2 sustainable buildings. I set up 1 field trip to Adam Joseph Lewis Center for Environmental Studies for those who are interested in attending it. No report is required for this trip.

You will be required to submit a brief PP Presentation of each ROAD TRIP you arrange.

AJL Center for Environmental Studies, Oberlin, Ohio see calendar.

Actually I have a call in at the moment, but want to get this posted for those of you who wish to plan your life.

It is not required that you attend this trip. However, it is required that you visit and photo document 2 sites of your own choosing **if you cannot make the planned trip.**

You will be required to make a brief PP Presentation of your visit to share with the class.

There must be at least one photo of YOU at the sustainable structure.

RECOMMENDATION:

I would start reading COLLAPSE now...

Research AJL Center for Environmental Studies at Oberlin College, Ohio, on the internet...

Take a look at Waste Not / Want Not project now. Keep a sharp eye out for materials that are "trash" and think about how you can turn them into an ARCHITECTURAL APPLICATION.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please know that you can e-mail me at wallen@ltu.edu. You may also call my cell phone just about any time before 8:00 PM Monday through Saturday. I welcome conversation and would rather you question before getting lost or confused. 248 670 1130

NOTE:

There is a lot of reading in this course. It will be important as the readings are necessary to support your position in discussion; therefore, it is important that you get it done ASAP.

It is assumed that at the graduate level of your education you understand what constitutes cheating; what constitutes plagiarism. It is understood that neither will be tolerated. It is understood that either one is sufficient cause for failure of the course at a minimum, and / or dismissal from LTU.

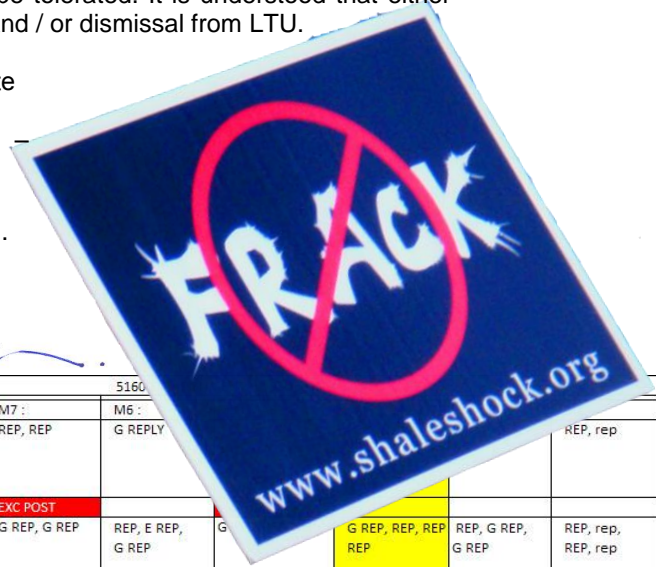
Man's greatest asset is the ability to observe, assess, anticipate and adjust.





Life is the greatest experience on the face of the earth – embrace it.

Pop some popcorn, rent a few movies and let the games begin.

Respectfully,

Will (Professor William Allen)

		5160										
		VOTE	M 10 : HELP ME	M9 : SMALL JOHN	m8 : PP&F	M7 :	M6 :					
20 R 7 P			REP., REP, REP		REP, G REP	REP, REP	G REPLY				REP, rep	
12 34	JODIE		POST		POST	EXC POST						
44 R 15 P			REP, REP, REP	REP, REP, REP	REP, REP, REP REP	G REP, G REP	REP, E REP, G REP			G REP, REP, REP REP	REP, G REP, G REP	REP, rep, REP, rep
15 74	DUDE		E POST	G POST	G POST	EXC POST				PARENT POST		
31 R 9 P				REP	REP, REP, G REP REP	G REP, G REP	REP, G REP, REP REP, G REP	REP, rep	REP, REP	REP	REP, REP, REP	
14 49	BIRDY			POST	POST					PARENT P	PARENT P	G PARENT P
19 R 8 P			REP,	REP	REP, G REP	G REP	G REP, G REP	G REP		REP		
12 35	CODY		G POST	G POST	POST						G PARENT P	

PS, This is a copy of last semester's roster. You can see that I keep track of your participation on d'BOARD. This participation is approximately 20% of your grade; **it is a part of attendance.**

