THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SITE ANALYSIS ARC K241/L

Spring Semester 2011, Thursday 8:00 am - 12:30 pm

Professors: Professor Mark Comeau, (885-2387), email MComeau@trcc.commnet.edu
Professor Meredith Metcalf, (885-2374), email MMetcalf@trcc.commnet.edu

Performance Measures: Quizzes (3) 50% Vignette Projects 25% Final Project 25%

Course Objectives:

Site Analysis introduces Architectural Design, Construction Management and Sustainable Facilities and Landscape Ecology students to an overview inventory of the systems & elements which are encountered in the analysis of site conditions. The student will explore how each element operates and procedures to maintain or improve the quality of the site environment. Students develop a value system which fosters the concept of fitness to human purpose & specific site context through an ecological approach to design.

Instructional Method: Slide Lectures, Project-based Vignettes, Class Discussion, Lab Activities

Text: **Site Analysis, James A. LaGro Jr., (and Instructor Supplements)**
*(**Note:** The course's weekly subjects follow the book's layout in sequential chapter order. Please read corresponding subject-chapter material prior to each class.)*

Week 1 (1/20)	**Planning,** Zoning & Ordinances Reading pp 95-106	Week 9 (3/17)	**Spring Break** No Classes in Session
Week 2 (1/27)	**Contextual Elements,** Natural/Cultural Reading pp 3-16, 106-113	Week 10 (3/24)	**Landform,** Geomorphology Handouts
Week 3 (2/03)	**Design Factors,** Historic/Functional (Storyboard Project) (Test 1)	Week 11 (3/31)	**Landform,** Topography Handouts
Week 4 (2/10)	**Environment,** Climatology Reading pp 67-86	Week 12 (4/07)	**Landform,** Grading/Earthwork Handouts (Test 3)
Week 5 (2/17)	**Environment,** Hydrology Reading pp 87-94	Week 13 (4/14)	**Landscape,** Design/Materials Reading pp181-184
Week 6 (2/24)	**Environment,** Soils Reading pp 87-94 (Test 2)	Week 14 (4/21)	**Utilities,** Systems & Distribution Reading pp 44, 52, 152-168
Week 7 (3/03)	**Land Use,** Historic, GIS (Lab)	Week 15 (4/28)	**FINAL SITE DESIGN PROJECT** Evaluation/Selection/Develop
Week 8 (3/10)	**Land Use,** Historic, GIS (Lab)	Week 16 (5/05)	**FINAL SITE DESIGN PROJECT** Presentations

Course Notebook

Students will assemble a notebook, to be made up of handouts distributed at the beginning of each class. A 3" "*Slant-ring"* notebook with plastic sheet protectors is recommended – this will be a good resource for future reference.

Suggested Reading:

1. Site Planning, Kevin Lynch
2. Design With Nature, Ian McHarg
3. Form, Space & Order, F.D. Ching

STUDENT PERFORMANCE:

- Students are bound by the tenets of the TRCC Student Handbook. This includes conduct, performance, academic dishonesty, attendance, and other subjects contained therein.
- Attendance is mandatory and expected. Students shall conduct themselves collegially in the classroom/lab.
- Excused-from-absence status is granted by the Professor on a case by case and situational basis.
- Students who miss a test or submittal deadline have one week from the date for make up or submittal. In the case of non-compliance, test or project points may be reduced and/or adjusted at the Professor's discretion and may **not** be disputed.

EXPANDED COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Broad scope:

1. To develop an awareness and understanding of ecosystems (the relationship between organisms and their environment). To understand how a good environment supports purposeful behavior and makes a good fit with user actions.
2. To have an awareness of how civilizations develop their own unique interpretation of a-fit-attuned to the time, place, culture and technology of that civilization.
3. To stress the urgency of a comprehensive approach to the evaluation and protection of the environment. Current events (news articles, television, internet, etc), are used to dramatize the urgency of the issues and encourages life-long learning and commitment.
4. To understand the interrelationships between the professions of architecture, planning, civil engineering and landscape architecture.

Narrow scope:

5. Ability to identify sources of information and record inventory data.
6. Ability to interpret and analyze inventory data.
7. Ability to organize the analysis into summaries of opportunities and constraints for site development.
8. Ability to prepare site development criteria and guidelines.
9. Ability to prepare basic site design proposals that address the major site analysis factors outlined in this course.
10. To be able to select the appropriate biotic and abiotic materials to be used in site development.

The Resource Book

1. The course will provide reference handouts for each area of site analysis. Students will be required to develop his/her own resource notebook. This notebook must be submitted for review and approval at the end of the semester. No passing grade will be issued until this requirement has been completed.

SYLLABUS EPILOGUE:

Understanding human use as a part of a site's natural system without destroying the attributes which attract us to it may seem like a new idea but primitive and ancient cultures were far more successful at it than modern mankind, even with all of our technologies. This course will provide students with a background in the development of site analysis and the ability to conduct the process of inventory, analysis, and the preparation of development criteria and guidelines. The material is organized into two main areas of Site Analysis Inventory:

1. Natural Factors;
2. Cultural Factors.

This course will present a background and method of implementing Kevin Lynch's statement (Site Planning, 1962) that, "site planning is the art of arranging on the land and shaping the spaces between, an art linked to architecture and city planning … making places that fit human purposes is the task of site planning".

The central focus of this course is a presentation of a rational basis for the process of land development and preservation. This process follows the order of inventory, analysis, judgment, and recommendations. The inventory is a recording of existing and extractable material descriptive of the study area. The analysis interprets the build-up of data affecting all parts of the study area. The aggregation of permissive and/or restrictive factors generates a profile of land potential. These are outlined as summaries of opportunities and constraints for site development. The recommendations coalesce these findings into a form suitable for implementation.

Note: This course syllabus for ARC K241/L is subject to change and adjustment at the Professor's discretion regarding content, dates, and other course-structural elements that do not affect stated expected student performance and/or learning outcomes and objectives.