LAND 601: LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN THEORY & APPLICATION I

FALL 2015, 5 credits

This is the first design studio in the Master of Landscape Architecture curriculum's design studio sequence. Our curriculum emphasizes evidence-based design approaches, and multidisciplinary learning experiences. This course introduces students to the diverse theories, principles, and tools of landscape architectural design. Through a series of reading assignments and design exercises, students will gain the knowledge and skills to think both creatively and logically, in transforming abstract ideas to concrete forms that respond to the larger context. Students are expected to think sensitively and responsibly about the various forces of the environment, including psychological, social, political, ecological factors. Acquisition of spatial thinking skills, including the understanding of spatial scales and dimensions, is a key learning objective in this class. Equally important is the development of visual, oral and written communication skills to effectively communicate design ideas.

Students are expected to carefully observe and critically think about people's interactions with the environment. Students will begin to learn the power of designed environment in shaping people's behavior, perception, health, and well-being, influencing every aspect of daily life. Throughout the course, students are expected to further their understanding of the landscape architecture profession, through readings, case studies, discussions of contemporary urban issues, field trips, etc.

The project, UBRICA ONE biomedical industrial city in Kenya, is to promote a self-sustaining One Health Community anchored by world-class health care services and high-tech research and development centers with cutting edge technologies in biomedicine. This city is located on a 4,000-acre property in the Rift Valley of Kenya.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Instructor:
Chanam Lee, PhD, Professor

Teaching Assistants:
Sinan Zhong, 2nd year PhD student
Sungmin Lee, 3rd year PhD student

Collaborators:
Di Yang, 2nd year MLA student
Tianchi Shen, 3rd year MLA student
Plus” has various meanings. But the first picture that comes to our mind is its symbolic representation (+), which has 4 connecting ends. We use this property of “Plus” to bring people together: We create 2 green corridors along the 2 axis of plus: 1) An entry portal with trees on either side, to form a boulevard, and 2) It aligns with the visual line between the 2 existing mountains, Mount Suswa and Mount Longonot.
Appetite Zone

The planning of the appetite zone is to propose a multifunctional area in the central green corridor, where people are encouraged to have a healthy lifestyle. What’s more, the Appetite Zone is also a destination in the central green corridor, where people can enjoy different kinds of cuisines, and participate in various activities.

Xueqi Song
Destination Green

The site is located at the northeast of Mt. Suswa. The green space around the mountain is also close to the designed site. The distance between site and Mt. Suswa is around 3 kilometres. It’s a walkable distance, so it is possible to assume a new path way from my site to the Mt. Suswa through nearby green spaces.

Xinyi Bu
Experience and Participate

Create a really attractive tourist destination and solve the problem among local people

Kaidi Ye
Self-sufficient

The goal is to offer an affordable housing development to self-sufficient habitat for humanity with the harmony of relationships between stormwater, energy, community agriculture and domestic animals.

Yao Zhen
Recreation Road Section

In low density residential area, people can get easy access to recreational parks. Jogging and cycling routes are well organized with local vegetation around the roads.

Residential Road Section

Transit hubs connect urban daily exercise and transportation, as well as retail.

Health Information Database

People in high density residential area can be involved into a whole system with agriculture, efficient transportation system and active living promotion. People can log on health database when they connect to WIFI.
Generation

The concept is proposed to achieve a balance between environment, human and culture. It promotes a new generation of active and healthy living.