

LAND 640_Major Landscape Change

spring 2014

Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:00pm-4:40pm, NESB 101 and the West Studio



Professor

Kelly Curl Kelly.Curl@colostate.edu

Office: B104 NESB

Office Hours: By appointment or drop in

Kelly 970.491.7283

Course Description

LAND 640 Prerequisite: Graduate Standing

Addresses social and ecological resilience of large-scale landscapes through theory and application.

Introduction

Our landscape is never static. It is ever changing and is seen throughout time in its geological formations, evolutionary characteristics, and its climatic features. Over time, natural change within our landscape is slow, but landscape change caused by human impact can be measured and seen at a faster rate. We have drastically shaped and changed the landscape we live in, but man has also shaped his own definition of landscape and has determined how he treats it. The history of our landscape in combination with the actual state of the people living in the landscape may be the resulting landscape definition in the minds of people. This conceptual definition of landscape is crucial for understanding the historical landscape, how it was created, how we may plan for future developments, and how we manage and process landscape change.

This design studio will focus on how we as humans have changed or altered our landscape over time. What have we done to our ecosystems, and our watersheds as we develop our land? How do we now develop and move beyond our now contaminated landscapes?

"A Brownfields Development Site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant".

Source:

2002 Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. (Public Law 107-188).

"Virtually every city in the nation's older industrial regions, no matter its size, grapples with the challenge of unused manufacturing facilities and other industrial sites. These properties include the shuttered steel mills in western Pennsylvania and on Chicago's southeast side; mining operations in Montana and Arizona; closed timber mills that dot many small towns in Washington and Oregon; and declining defense contractors, metal plating factories, machine shops, and chemical plants in communities from Michigan to Mississippi. Local public officials, economic development practitioners, and plant owners who have sought to revitalize fallow industrial properties face a daunting challenge: contamination of the surrounding land and water, buildings and equipment. Public concern about health effects from hazardous chemicals, stricter environmental laws, and changing private-sector development priorities have made it increasingly difficult for communities to restore and reuse former manufacturing sites. The precise magnitude of site contamination is unknown, but it is no doubt pervasive and significant, especially in areas with long manufacturing histories."

Source:

Bartsch, Charles and Elizabeth Collaton. 1997. *Brownfields, Cleaning and Reusing Contaminated Properties*. Praeger Publishers

This course focuses on urban reclamation sites that have been scarred or contaminated by past industrial or commercial uses. These derelict and potentially hazardous sites will be studied and theoretically be redeveloped into livable landscapes. How does the legal, regulatory, environmental, economic advances aid in reclaiming and redeveloping these sites? Students will use applied environmental and economic development research and analysis, brownfield practices and sustainable planning to complete a site design project of their choice.

Instructional Methodology

This course is a combination of lecture, studio (lab), discussion, and performance.

Course Requirements

- Attendance – lasting the duration of the class period
 - Participation in class
 - Complete weekly assignments/projects in studio
-

Required Text

- McHarg, Ian. *Design With Nature*, John Wiley and Son, Inc. 1992
- Bartsch, Charles and Elizabeth Collaton. Preface, *Brownfields, Cleaning and Reusing Contaminated Properties*, Westport, Connecticut: Praeger, 1997
- Kirkwood, Niall. J. Hollander, J Gold. *Principles of Brownfields Regeneration: Clean-up, Design and Reuse of Derelict Land*, Washington DC: Island Press, 2010
- Kirkwood, Niall. *Manufactured Sites: Rethinking the Post-Industrial Landscape*, London: Spon/Taylor Francis, 2001

Evaluation of Student Performance

The instructor will provide in-class reviews of work in progress. We will occasionally have class pin-ups and discussion of student's work. Outside reviewers may be asked to critique your work. You are encouraged to discuss your work with others, keeping in mind that you are responsible for your product.

Grading Scale

The instructor will use her best professional judgment in evaluating each student's level of engagement, productivity and innovation in design through assignments and projects.

A-F(no +/-)

GRADING SCALE

"A" High level of engagement, productivity and innovation in design.

"B" Adequate level of engagement, productivity and innovation in design.

"C" Marginal though passable level of engagement and productivity.

"D" Submittals are not complete and/or nearly without redeeming qualities.

"F" Student is actively disengaged from the course.

Attendance

Attendance lasts the duration of the class session. Because written and verbal instructions for new assignments will be given regularly, it is essential to be in class. If a student misses class (without a reasonable excuse) and therefore does not receive information about an assignment, he/she should get the information from a reliable classmate.

Need for Assistance

If you have any condition, such as a physical or learning disability, which will make it difficult for you to carry out the work as I have outlined it, or which will require academic accommodations, please notify me as soon as possible. For more information please refer to <http://rds.colostate.edu/home.aspx>.

**Policy Regarding Academic
Honesty/Dishonesty**

Honor Pledge

This course will adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy of the Colorado State University General Catalog and the Student Conduct Code. ALL graded activities of the course will comply.

- I pledge on my honor that I will not receive or give any unauthorized assistance in this course and endeavor toward meaningful social and environmental responsibility.

Student signature and date _____
