Course guide to LK 0345  
**Landscape planning in theory and practice**  
2020

The course in a nutshell

The aim of the course is to learn to scrutinize how landscape is being understood in theory, and transformed in the practice, of landscape planning. It captures how ideas of landscape and its geographical constitution can limit, or facilitate, certain planning solutions.

The course uses landscape theory as a lens to critique and gain deeper understanding of planning, especially landscape planning. It discusses key concepts and methods in landscape planning, with examples of how it is practiced.

The course is based on literature seminars combined with lectures and workshops. It ends with writing a paper in which one of the theories or concepts discussed in the course is studied in more detail.

## Course leaders

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## Responsible department

Department of Urban and Rural Development

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# Themes and reading list

Seminar 1, Ways of seeing, ways of doing: why does the definition of landscape matter?

Compulsory reading

Gailing, L., & Leibenath, M. (2013). “The social construction of landscapes: two theoretical lenses and their empirical applications”. Landscape Research, 1-16. doi:10.1080/01426397.2013.775233

Olwig, K. R. (2005). “The Landscape of ‘Customary’ Law versus that of ‘Natural’ Law”, *Landscape Research*, 30(3): 299–320. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01426390500165385>

Atha, M., Howard, P., Thompson, I. & Waterton, E. (2019). “Introduction. Ways of knowing and being with landscape: a beginning”. In: P. Howard, I. Thompson, E. Waterton, & M. Atha (Eds.), *The Routledge Companion to Landscape Studies* (pp. xix-xxviii). Abingdon, Oxon – New York: Routledge.

Recommendedreading

Jackson, J. B. (1980). *The necessity of ruins.* Amherst: The University of Massachusetts Press

Mitchell, D. (2007). “Work, struggle, death, and geographies of justice: the transformation of landscape in and beyond California's Imperial Valley”. *Landscape Research*, 32(5), 559-577. doi:10.1080/01426390701552704

Waterton, E (2019). “More-than-representational landscapes”. In: P. Howard, I. Thompson, E. Waterton, & M. Atha (Eds.), *The Routledge Companion to Landscape Studies* (pp. 91–101). Abingdon, Oxon – New York: Routledge.

Seminar 2, Materialised discourses and landscape cosmologies

Compulsory reading

Egoz, S., Bowring, J. & Perkins, H. C. (2001). “Tastes in tension: form, function, and meaning in New Zealand’s farmed landscapes”*. Landscape and Urban Planning*, 57(3), 177–196. <https://doi.org/10.1016/S0169-2046(01)00203-1>

Qviström, M. (2010). “Shadows of planning: on landscape/planning history and inherited landscape ambiguities at the urban fringe”. *Geografiska Annaler Series B*, 92(3), 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-0467.2010.00349.x>

Schein, R. (1997). “The place of landscape: A Conceptual Framework for Interpreting an American Scene”. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 87(4), 660 – 680

Recommended reading

Cresswell, T. (1997). ‘Weeds, plagues, and bodily secretions: a geographical interpretation of metaphors of displacement’, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers,* 87 (2), 330–345.

Jackson, J B. (1984). *Discovering the vernacular landscape*. Yale University Press.

Walker, P. & Fortmann, L. (2003). “Whose landscape? A political ecology of the ‘exurban’ Sierra”. *Cultural Geographies*, 10(4), 469-491. [https://doi.org/10.1191/1474474003eu285oa](https://doi.org/10.1191%2F1474474003eu285oa)

Seminar 3, Nature, culture, wilderness

Compulsory reading

Cronon, W. (1996). “The Trouble with Wilderness; or, Getting Back to the Wrong Nature”. In W. Cronon (Ed.), *Uncommon Ground: Toward Reinventing Nature* (pp. 69–90). New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

Kaika, M. (2005). *City of flows: modernity, nature and the city* (pp. 11–26). New York. Routledge.

Recommended reading

DeSilvey, C. & Bartolini, N. (2019). “Where horses run free? Autonomy, temporality and rewilding in the Côa Valley, Portugal”. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 44(1), 94–109. <https://doi.org/10.1111/tran.12251>

Jazeel, T. (2019). *Postcolonialism*. Abingdon, Oxon – New York, NY: Routledge. Chapter 5 (Nature, postcolonialism and environmentalism), pp. 94–122.

Jorgensen, A. & Tylecote, M. (2007). “Ambivalent Landscapes – Wilderness in the Urban Interstices”. *Landscape Research*, 32(4), 443–462. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01426390701449802>

Kirchhoff, T. & Vicenzotti, V. (2014). “A Historical and Systematic Survey of European Perceptions of Wilderness”. *Environmental Values*, 23(4), 443–464. <https://doi.org/10.3197/096327114X13947900181590>

Workshop, The nature of landscape planning. McHarg’s overlay approach

Compulsory reading

McHarg, I. (1969/1992). *Design with nature*. New York: J. Wiley. Selected chapters: “A step forward”, pp. 31–41, and “Processes as values”, pp. 103–115.

Recommended reading

Herrington, S. (2010). “The Nature of Ian McHarg’s Science”. *Landscape Journal* 29(1), 1–20. doi: 10.3368/lj.29.1.1

McHarg, I. (1969/1992). *Design with nature*. New York: J. Wiley.

Yang, B. & Li, S. (2016). “Design with Nature: Ian McHarg’s ecological wisdom as actionable and practical knowledge”. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 155, 21–32. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2016.04.010>

Recommended reading for the lecture by Mia Ågren, 14th of Sept.

Arora-Johnsson, S., Ågren, M. (2019). ”Bringing diversity to nature: Politicizing gender, race and class in environmental organizations?” *Environment and Planning E, Nature and Space*, 2(4) 874–898

Seminar 4, Landscape, mapping and the claims of objectivity

Compulsory reading

Harley, J. B. (1988). “Maps, knowledge, and power”. In: S. Daniels & D. Cosgrove (Eds.): *The iconography of landscape* (pp. 277–312). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cosgrove. D. (1985). “Prospect, perspective and the evolution of the landscape idea”. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 10(1), pp. 45-62. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/622249>

Monmonier, M. (1988). *How to lie with maps*, chapter 1 and 6.

Dodds, R. & Joppe, M. (2001). “Promoting urban green tourism: The development of the *other* map of Toronto”, *Journal of Vacation Marketing*, 7(3), 261–267.

Recommended reading

Crampton, J. & Krygier, J. (2005). “An Introduction to Critical Cartography”. *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies*, 4(1), 11–33. <https://www.acme-journal.org/index.php/acme/article/view/723>

Olwig, K. R. (2004). ‘This is not a landscape’: circulating reference and land shaping, in: H. Palang, H. Sooväli, M. Antrop & G. Setten (Eds.). *European rural landscapes: persistence and change in a globalising environment*. Kluwer Akademic Publishers, Boston. 41–65.

Pickles, J. (2004). *A History of Spaces: cartographic reason, mapping and the geo-coded world*. Abingdon, Oxon – New York: Routledge.

Wood, D. (1993). *The Power of Maps*. Guilford Press, New York.

Seminar 5: Going back to place in planning

Compulsory reading

Cresswell, T. (2004). *Place: a short introduction* (pp. 1–51). Malden: Blackwell Publ.

Buser, M. 2014. “Thinking through Non-Representational and Affective Atmospheres in Planning Theory and Practice.” Planning Theory 13 (3): 227–43. https://doi.org/10.1177/1473095213491744.

Røe, P G. (2014). “Analysing Place and Place-Making: Urbanization in Suburban Oslo.” International Journal of Urban and Regional Research 38 (2): 498–515. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-2427.12113>.

Recommended readings

Augé, M. 1995. Non-Places: Introduction to an Anthropology of Supermodernity. London ; New York: Verso.

Basualdo, C. and Laddaga, R. (2009) Experimental Communities. In ‘Communities of Sense: Rethinking Aesthetics and Politics” edited by Hinderliter et al. Duke University Press: Durham, pp. 197-214

Beauregard, R. A. (1995) If Only the City Could Speak: The Politics of Representation. In ‘Spatial Practices’ (Eds.) Ligget, H. and Perry, D.C. . Sage Publications, pp. 59-81

Bhagat, A., and L. Mogel. 2008. An Atlas of Radical Cartography. Journal of Aesthetics and Protest Press; Slp Edition. http://www.an-atlas.com/.

Harvey, D. (2012). “From Space to Place and Back Again: Reflections on the Condition of Postmodernity.” Mapping the Futures. Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203977781-9.

Hayden, D. (1995) The Power of Place: Urban Landscapes as Public History. MIT Press

Hubbard, P, and Rob K, eds. (2011). Key Thinkers on Space and Place. 2nd ed. Los Angeles, [Calif.]: Sage.

Macpherson, H. (2016). Walking methods in landscape research: moving bodies, spaces of disclosure and rapport. Landscape Research, 41(4), 425–432. https://doi.org/10.1080/01426397.2016.1156065

Massey, D B. 1994. Space, Place, and Gender. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Paasi, A. 2010. “Commentary.” Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space 42 (10): 2296–2301. https://doi.org/10.1068/a42232.

Pred, A. 1984. “Place as Historically Contingent Process: Structuration and the Time- Geography of Becoming Places.” Annals of the Association of American Geographers 74 (2): 279–97.

Somerville, M. (2012). The critical power of place. In S. Steinberg & G. Cannella (Eds.), Critical Qualitative Research Reader (pp. 67-81).

Tuck, E. and McKenzie (2015) Place in Research: Theory, Methodology, and Methods. New York and London: Routledge

Documentary:

Freidrichs, C. 2011. The Puitt-Igoe Myth. Documentary. http://www.pruitt-igoe.com/watch-now.html

Competition ‘Pruitt-Igoe Now’ Materials

<http://www.pruittigoenow.org/>

Seminar 6, Scrutinizing landscape planning

Compulsory reading

Qviström, M., Luka, N., De Block, G. (2019). ”Beyond circular thinking: Geographies of Transit-Oriented Development”, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 43(4), 786-793.

Duncan, J. S., & Duncan, N. G. (2001). The aestheticization of the politics of landscape preservation. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 91(2), 387-409.

Hocking, B., Sturgeon, B., Dixon, J., Jarman, N., Bryan, D., Huck, J., Whatt, D., & Davis, G. (2019). “Place-identity and urban policy: Sharing leisure spaces in the 'post-conflict' city”. In: R. Piazza (Ed.), *Discourses of identity in liminal places and spaces* (pp. 166-192). New York: Routledge.

Recommended reading

Brown, K M. (2017). “The haptic pleasures of ground-feel: The role of textured terrain in motivating regular exercise”. *Health & Place*, 46, 307–314. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthplace.2016.08.012>

Fischer, A., & Marshall, K. (2009). “Framing the landscape: Discourses of woodland restoration and moorland management in Scotland”, Journal of Rural Studies, 26(2), 185–193

Ley, D. (1995). “Between Europe and Asia: the case of the missing sequoias”, *Ecumene*, 2(2), 185-210.

Taplin, D H., Scheld, S., Low, S M. (2002). “Rapid ethnographic assessment in urban parks: a case study of Independence national historical park”, *Human organization*, 61, 80 – 93.

# The schedule

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Time** | **Activity** | **Lecturer** |
| Monday,  31/8 | 13:00–14:15 | **Introduction** to the course | MQ (BT) |
| 14:20–14:50 | **Lecture**: Experiences of the course | HP |
| 15.15 – 16.00 | **Lecture**: How to read? | AB |
| Wednesday,  2/9 | 09:00–12:00 | **Seminar 1**: Ways of seeing, ways of doing: why does the definition of landscape matter? | AB |
| 13:00–14.30 | **Lecture 1**: Ways of seeing, ways of doing: why does the definition of landscape matter? | AB |
| Monday,  7/9 | 09:00–12:00 | **Seminar 2**: Landscape as a materialised discourse | MQ |
| 13:00–14.30 | **Lecture** **2** Shifting ideas of landscape in landscape planning | MQ |
| Wednesday, 9/9 | 9.00 – 12.00 | **Seminar 3**: Nature, culture and wilderness | VV |
| 13:00–14.30 | **Lecture**: Nature, culture and wilderness | VV |
| Friday,  11/9 | 09:00–12:00 | **Workshop**: The nature of landscape planning | VV |
| Monday,  14/9 | 13:00–14:00 | **Lecture**: The culture of nature | MÅ |
| Tuesday,  15/9 | 09:00–12:00 | **Seminar 4**: Landscape, mapping and the claims of objectivity | MQ |
| Wednesday,  16/9 | 9:00 – 10.30 | **Lecture ¤**: How to lie with maps | MQ |
| Friday,  18/9 | 09:00–12:00  13:00 – 14:30 | **Seminar 5** Going back to place in planning  **Lecture 5** Going back to place in planning | BT |
| Wednesday, 23/9 | 13.00 – 16.00  16.30 – 18.00 | **Seminar 6** Scrutinizing Landscape planning  **Lecture 6** Scrutinizing Landscape planning | NL |
| Thursday, 24/9 | 09:00–11.00 | **Introduction to paper writing**  Lecture/workshop: How to write? | MQ/TA |
|  |  | **Paper supervision** (individually and/or in group), once/week: dates and times TBD by supervisor | BT, TA |
| Friday,  23/10 | 13.00 | **Deadline for handing in papers** |  |
| Wednesday,  29/10 | 09:00–17:00 | **Final seminar** and **course critique** | BT, MQ/TA |

AB = Andrew Butler

BT = Burcu Yigit Turan

HP = Hanna Peinert

MA = Mia Ågren

MQ = Mattias Qviström

NL = Nik Luka

TA = Therese Andersson

VV = Vera Vicenzotti

# The literature seminars

The **first part of the course** is based on compulsory literature seminars on different themes. You are expected to read the texts for each seminar (“Compulsory reading”). In addition, we would like to encourage you to read the recommended literature (“Recommended reading”). The texts critically discuss the themes and concepts from different perspectives and give historical and philosophical background to the concepts and themes.

The **aim of the seminars** is to support you in acquiring a thorough understanding of the different concepts and themes. Written assignments on and oral presentations of the texts (see further information below) together with discussions in groups at the seminars all aim to enable an active, in-depth and critical understanding of texts. We will encourage you to share your insights and inspiration as well as your struggles with understanding the texts or if you are critical to the text in some way or the other. The texts are written in an academic style and the written assignments, oral presentations and the discussions in the group will also help you to learn to “translate” the content of the texts into a language that is more accessible to you.

## Oral presentations

While you are expected to have read and be prepared to discuss all of the required reading for each seminar, each of the compulsory texts will be presented by *one* student in each seminar. The texts will be divided amongst the students (this will happen during the course introduction).

The presentations should ideally be 8 - 10 minutes, and max 12 minutes. It is crucial that you stick to the time limit so there will be enough time for discussions following the presentations. Your presentation should not just be a summary of the text. You should also say something about how it relates, or does not relate, to your own professional or academic interests, previous understanding and the practice of landscape architecture and planning. You should use your presentation to help generate a discussion. Other ways to do this could be to share your struggles with understanding parts of the text or describe if there were, for example points, of departures or conclusions with which you did not agree.

The presentation should be supported with (not more than) a handful of slides, to make the structure of the summary and the analysis more easy to grasp for the other students. This could be done with for instance PowerPoint or Prezi, by sharing your screen. Your presentations should be e-mailed to Mattias ([Mattias.qvistrom@slu.se](mailto:Mattias.qvistrom@slu.se)).

## Written assignments

The written assignments are primarily a pedagogic tool to make you really engage with the readings, and to make you take notes of the texts. These notes will be useful in writing the course paper.

For each literature seminar you are expected to send in **either**

1. a **summary** of **the compulsory reading**, which outlines the main arguments of the texts on a total of 2–4 pages.

or

1. an **imaginary letter** (ca 2 pages) to the author of **one** of the texts. The letters may be written in more exploratory style and should contain the following parts:

* a ‘Thank you’-paragraph, in which you thank the author for an aspect well explained, for an insight conveyed or a position well expressed etc.
* a ‘Could you please explain this better’-paragraph, in which you refer (with a literal quotation, giving a reference) to a concept or argument that you have not understood, explaining why that was difficult to understand.
* a ‘Your text will help me to improve my professional praxis’-paragraph, in which you outline how the text’s theories and concepts will do just that.

The assignments should be sent to Mattias (Mattias.qvistrom@slu.se).

We strongly encourage you to ***write* your assignments *before* the seminar** – this will help you get the most of the discussion in the group, enhance your understanding of the texts, which in turn will help you with finding a theme for and writing your final paper. You are welcome *revise and send in* your assignment *after* the seminar, and use the discussion at the seminar as a source of inspiration for your notes.

# The course paper

## Formalities

The paper’s **length** should be roughly 10–15 pages (including the reference list and optional images), with no less than 3 000 and no more than 5 000 words (excluding the reference list). The paper should be written **in English**; only by way of exception and after discussion with your supervisor in Swedish.

## Structure

We are not too strict in terms of the **structure** of the paper, but to make sure you don’t get stuck on how to structure the paper we would argue the paper should have (at least) the following sections in this order:

1. **Introduction** (in which the questions or aims with the paper is clearly stated),
2. a section that introduces the **theory and/or methods** used,
3. a section which presents and discusses the **empirical material** studied (“empirical material” can range from concrete landscapes, via plans, policies and programmes, to interview material, newspaper articles, academic literature—depending on your interest and the aims of your paper),
4. a final section in which you return to the questions and sums up the findings (**Discussion and/or Conclusion**),
5. **References**.

There might be reasons to divert from this structure, but if that is the case, please discuss it with your supervisor.

## Content

In the paper you are asked to **apply the theoretical discussions from the course literature, the lectures, and the workshops on a specific case**. The case could be, for instance, a specific place, a plan, an interview, or a (limited) discourse. Since the empirical study as such is not the main focus, it is advisable to choose a limited case, or perhaps to study a project or a place which you are already familiar with. Your supervisor will help you to limit the case.

The paper should illustrate your ability to **use the concepts and theories discussed in the course**. Please make sure to explicitly refer to the course literature (and the recommended literature) in your paper. We don’t expect that you use *all* the literature, but we *do* expect that you use at least a few texts, in an informed manner.

## Supervision

We will **supervise** you most likely in smaller groups and/or individually, with approximately one meeting per week. The dates and time will be decided by the supervisor and communicated at the beginning of the course’s second phase.

# Grading criteria

The requirements for attaining different grades are described below. The scale of grades is as follows: 5:  Pass with distinction, 4: Pass with credit, 3:  Pass, U: Fail

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Course component | **Final paper** | **Literature seminars** | **Written assignments** |
| Weight | 60% | 20% | 20% |
| Marked by | Examiner | Examiner | Examiner |
| Associated course objectives | …communicate an understanding of the wide fields of landscape and planning theory  … apply the conceptual framework offered in the course for a critical examination of a landscape planning project  …apply academic writing  … reflect upon the rhetorical use of concepts and theories within the field of landscape planning, and its consequences for the practice. | …communicate an understanding of the wide fields of landscape and planning theory  …explain the role of cartography for how landscape planning has been and is practiced today, and strategies for moving beyond or enriching this dominant perspective  …define and describe different ideas on key concepts within landscape planning;  … reflect upon the rhetorical use of concepts and theories within the field of landscape planning, and its consequences for the practice,  …reflect upon the needs for a sustainability shift within planning and what it requires in terms of new or revised theories within landscape planning. | |

## The final paper

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **5** | The student is able to identify and critically discuss issues within the selected topic and formulate and justify his/her case in a convincing way. The student refers to relevant literature in a correct way. The student is able to handle the complex and dynamic character of key concepts of the course, in the theoretical discussion and in relation to the case. The student engages with several of the key concepts, or with literature beyond just a couple of sets of compulsory reading (e.g. also recommended reading). The student is able to write a well-structured paper in a clear language within the given word-limit (3000–5000 words incl. references). |
| **4** | The student is able to identify and critically discuss issues within the selected topic and formulate and justify his/her case. The student refers to relevant course literature in a correct way. The student is able to handle the complex and dynamic character of the concepts of the course, in the theoretical discussion and/or in a case. The student is able to write a well-structured paper in a clear language within or close to the given word-limit (3000–5000 words incl. references). |
| **3** | The student is able to identify and formulate questions within the selected topic, and to refer to course literature in a correct way. The student demonstrates an understanding of key concepts of the course, and she/he is able to present the paper in an understandable language within or close to the word limit (3000–5000 words incl. references). |
| **U** |  |

## The literature seminars

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **4/5** | The student is active in all seminars and puts relevant questions and listens actively to ideas and comments of others. The questions and comments reveal that the student has read the texts carefully (this does not rule out occasional misunderstandings, and certainly not questions concerning the theories and ideas of the paper in question). The student contributes with presentations which are clearly structured, capture the main content of the paper, raise interesting questions for the discussion, and is done within the given time frame. |
| **3** | The student is active in all seminars, puts questions and listens to ideas and comments of others. The questions and comments reveal that the student has read the texts. The student contributes with oral presentations, within the given time frame. |
| **U** |  |

## The written assignments (excl. the final paper)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **4/5** | The student is able to present and critically discuss the content of the literature, and set it in a wider context (i.e. in relation to other literature of the course and/or practical examples) in a convincing way. The student refers to the course literature in a correct way. The student is able to write well-structured assignments in a clear language within the given page-limit. |
| **3** | The student is able to present and discuss the content of the literature. The student refers to the course literature in a correct way. The student is able to write assignments in a clear language within the given page-limit. |
| **U** |  |

# Obligatory course moments

The **literature seminars**—including (a) preparation, active participation and hand-in of written assignments for all seminars and (b) oral presentations of one text at assigned seminars—and the **final paper** are **obligatory** moments of the course.

We strongly recommend that you participate at all seminars, and are well prepared. Experience shows that the more seminars a student misses, the higher the likelihood that she/he won’t pass the course. For the very same reason, we also recommend that you attend the lectures and profit from the opportunity for supervision for your final papers.

If you miss a literature seminar, you will have to hand in extra assignments. These assignments will get more work intensive the more seminars you will miss in order for you to catch up on the discussions at the missed seminars. Please get in touch with Mattias ([Mattias.qvistrom@slu.se](mailto:Mattias.qvistrom@slu.se)) if you miss a seminar.