

1.	<b>Programme Title</b>	BA (Hons) Urban Landscape Architecture
2.	<b>Unit Title</b>	Design Studio: Urban and Social Ecologies
3.	<b>HE Level</b>	UG 2 - FHEQ Level 5
4.	<b>Unit Code</b>	ULA16203
5.	<b>Credit Value of Unit</b>	30
6.	<b>Unit Type</b>	Mandatory
7.	<b>Unit Tutor</b>	Tim Waterman

<b>8. Indicative Notional Learning Hours</b>			
<b>Staff – Student Contact</b>		<b>Independent Study Hours</b>	
<b>Classes</b> (e.g. lectures, seminars and supervised group activity)	40	<b>Independent Study</b> (e.g. project development, reading, research and work on online forums)	92
<b>Supervised Access to Resources</b>	35	<b>Preparation for Assessment</b>	73
		<b>Unsupervised Access to Resources</b>	60
<b>Total</b>	75	<b>Total</b>	225

## 9. Unit Introduction

Neighbourhood and community design at the scale of the street and square is the focus of this studio unit. Building upon the ecological design principles elaborated in Site and Ecology, students will work with green infrastructure and ecosystem services, from rain gardens to green roofs in the process of building sustainable design into an urban realm. Ecologies of human interaction add to the layers of complexity in design for urban sites.

Students will work on an individual basis throughout this unit, employing skills in site analysis acquired in Site and Ecology and developing brief and strategy for an urban site at the scale of the block. Detail design, hard landscape and planting plans will be produced for an area of the design. Local planning policy and development control legislation must be brought into consideration.

## 10. Aims of the Unit

- To develop practical, historical, theoretical, and ethical landscape factors through a design proposal at the scale of an urban block

- Consideration of current critical issues surrounding the experience of city life (form, scale, aesthetics, building, narrative, symbolic representation);
- Development of knowledge of urban design, planning and the skills involved in the planning process.
- Development of an understanding of the relationship between people and buildings, and between buildings and their environment, and the need to relate buildings and the spaces between them to human needs and scale. To produce landscape architectural designs to briefs through the creative use of innovative methods, techniques and complex models;
- To develop a knowledge of the principles behind the development of green infrastructure and the provision of ecosystem services;
- To employ the principles of the development of green infrastructure and the provision of ecosystem services to a specific site.

### 11. Indicative Content

- Landscape architectural and urban design strategy and planning for green infrastructure
- The history and context of urban development, including issues of conservation, and understanding of regeneration and the problem of gentrification;
- Regulatory requirements of urban design and planning in landscape architecture;
- Regulatory requirements for disability in landscape;
- Development of detail design including hard landscape and planting plans to European standards;

### 12. Unit Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome	Marking Criteria	
<b>On completion of this unit students will have:</b>		
1. prepared a brief for a streetscape or urban square, with reference to green infrastructure, ecosystem services, and the urban context within which it is located;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Analysis  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subject Knowledge  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Experimentation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical Competence  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communication & Presentation  <input type="checkbox"/> Personal & Professional Development  <input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative and / or Independent Professional working
2. proposed, analysed and understood the structural and	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical Competence

<p>constructional properties of a built landscape of moderate complexity;</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Analysis  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subject Knowledge  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Experimentation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communication & Presentation  <input type="checkbox"/> Personal & Professional Development  <input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative and / or Independent Professional working
<p>3. conceived and designed a complete landscape for a streetscape or urban square, including spatial definition, levels, construction materials (hard landscaping and planting), drainage, and lighting, providing for green infrastructure and ecosystem services.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Analysis  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subject Knowledge  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Experimentation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical Competence  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communication & Presentation  <input type="checkbox"/> Personal & Professional Development  <input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative and / or Independent Professional working

### 13. Learning and Teaching Methods

This unit will be delivered using a combination of:

- Briefings
- Lectures
- Project work
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Group work
- Online activity
- Individual Presentations and critiques
- Group presentations and critiques
- Self-directed independent study
- Other (describe below) :
  - Site Visits
  - Individual Tutorials

### 14. Assessment Methods

The assessment for this unit is weighted. In element-based assessment, you must achieve at least an E grade in each element, and an aggregate grade of at least D- in the overall unit. Failure (F, or F-), or non-submission in any element defaults to Fail for the unit.

This unit is assessed through two elements, weighted as follows:

- 70% - Project Presentation, to include all appropriate models and drawings, verbal presentation, and critique.
- 30% - Evidence of design development and research - sketchbook, journal, development drawings and references.

Assessment will be against the specified marking criteria.

## **15. Reading and Resource List**

### **Essential Reading**

Kostof, Spiro. (1991) *The City Shaped*. Thames and Hudson

Kostof, Spiro. (1992) *The City Assembled*. Thames and Hudson

McLeod, Virginia (2012) *Detail in Contemporary Landscape Architecture*. Laurence King

Robinson, Nick (2011) *The Planting Design Handbook*. Ashgate

Swaffield, Simon. (2002) *Theory in Landscape Architecture*. University of Pennsylvania.

Thompson, Ian. (2009) *Rethinking Landscape*. Routledge.

Waterman, Tim (2009) *Basics Landscape Architecture: Urban Design*. Ava Publishing

### **Further Reading and Resources**

Cooper Marcus, Clare (1997). *People Places: Design Guidelines for Urban Open Space, 2nd Edition*. Wiley.

Mehta, Vikas (2013). *The Street: A Quintessential Social Public Space*. Routledge.

More reading and resources will be identified in your Unit Handbook / Project Brief.

Moughtin, Cliff (2003). *Urban Design: Street and Square*, 3rd Edition. Routledge.