

# LA302 Planting Design

## Spring 2026

**Studio: MWF 1:00-4:50pm**

College of Architecture and Planning  
Department of Landscape Architecture

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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MITTLEMAN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, PORTLAND, OREGON  
ANNIE STRICKLAND



### COURSE DESCRIPTION

**Catalogue Description: 302 Planting Design. (4)**

Design problems focusing on the functional, ecological, and aesthetic use of plants in the landscape.

Prerequisite LA211, 341. Open only to LA majors and minors.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who successfully complete the course will be able to

- CONSISTENTLY DEMONSTRATE DESIGN ITERATION by selecting and using appropriate methods of design inquiry and problem-solving processes for a variety of assigned projects
- SUCCESSFULLY DEMONSTRATE OVERALL SITE DESIGN AND PLANTING DESIGN SKILLS by exploring and analyzing design problems and solutions to maximize the use of appropriate plantings for multiple purposes and in various styles
- APPROPRIATELY AND EFFECTIVELY USE A VARIETY OF MEANS OF COMMUNICATION including communicating the design problem and solutions both in written and oral form with graphics that exemplify high quality use of media including, but not limited to Photoshop, Sketch-UP, CAD, and Lumion

**NACE COMPETENCIES (National Association of Colleges and Employers)**

By achieving the course outcomes, you simultaneously will develop numerous NACE competencies.

COURSE OUTCOME	NACE COMPETENCIES
Design Iteration	career and self-development, critical thinking, leadership, professionalism, teamwork, technology, communication
Overall Design and Planting Design	career and self-development, communication, critical thinking, professionalism, technology, teamwork, equity and inclusion
Communication	career and self-development, teamwork, professionalism, technology, critical thinking

Students will be guided to develop these competencies:

1. **Career & Self Development:** Develop oneself and one's career through continual personal and professional learning; become aware of one's strengths and weaknesses; navigate career opportunities and expand one's knowledge of the landscape architecture profession and the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in an internship.
2. **Communication:** Clearly and effectively exchange information, ideas, facts, and perspectives using a variety of methods, tools, and programs. Communicate frequently with faculty and peers to maximize learning and progress. Recognize and demonstrate that high level communication skills are an integral part of the design process.
3. **Critical Thinking:** Identify and respond to design problems based upon an understanding of situational context and logical analysis of relevant information to produce creative and relevant design solutions.
4. **Leadership:** Recognize and capitalize on personal and team strengths to achieve organizational goals. Take initiative to meet challenges in a positive and effective manner.
5. **Professionalism:** Demonstrate personal accountability and good work habits including effective use of time, punctuality, collaboration, and scheduling. Recognize the impact that non-verbal communication and attitude have on professional work image and maintain a positive attitude toward challenges and new learning. Demonstrate ethics, act responsibly with the interests of the larger community in mind and be able to learn from mistakes and feedback. Address course difficulties or uncertainties in a timely and professional manner through good communication practices.
6. **Teamwork:** Build and maintain collaborative relationships to work effectively toward common goals, while appreciating diverse viewpoints and shared responsibilities. Be willing to step in as needed to assist faculty and classmates. Be kind.

7. **Technology:** Understand the importance of knowing how to use various technologies ethically to enhance efficiencies, complete tasks with high quality, and accomplish goals.

**TEXTS**

No text is required for the course. The library and internet are good resources for materials on planting design. Sources and readings will be placed on Canvas. Several recommendations will be given to you by the faculty.

**CLASS CONTENT AND FORMAT**

The course will focus on studio projects requiring site specific planting design. Each project will require design of the site, along with the planting design. The process and methods of designing with plants will be stressed throughout the class. Lectures, readings, supporting assignments, and project critiques/reviews will supplement project assignments.

**PARTICIPATION AND EVALUATION**

The class grade will be based on the quality of your work during the process of project completion and your final submitted work. You will lose points if you do not attend class and/or keep up with project schedules. Concerns or a dispute about a grade must be called to our attention within **two** class days after the grade is received to be considered for a grade change.

Take note of the following that may affect your grade:

- Students are expected to attend all class lectures and studio time participation and receive regular desk crits. Participating in frequent desk crits and submitting work on time is essential to do well in this class.
- In team projects, each person will be graded individually based on individual contributions and degree of participation in the project.
- According to department policy, a minimum grade of C- (70%) must be earned to pass this class.
- Grades are assigned on the following percentage basis:

<b>Assignments</b>	<b>90%</b>	
• Project #1 Sunnylands First Design Project	10%	
• Project #2 Neighborhood Park Project	25%	
• Project #3 Herbaceous Plant Booklet	10%	
• Project #4 Comparative Design Firm Project	10%	
• Project #5 Bracken House Residential Project	25%	
• Project #6 Final Design Project	20%	
<b>Participation &amp; Attendance</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>.</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	

**This includes Attending Lectures & Studio time supplying deliverables in a timely way.**

**Collaborating with other classmates in a positive way.**

**Meeting all in-Class deadlines and participating in desk crits on a regular basis.**

**Attendance at any and all field trips.**

A	100% - 94%	B-	82% - 80%	D+	69% - 67%
A-	93% - 90%	C+	79% - 77%	D	66% - 63%
B+	89% - 87%	C	76% - 73%	D-	62% - 60%
B	86% - 83%	C-	72% - 70%	F	below 60%

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A GOOD COURSE EXPERIENCE**

- **View challenges and learning new things in a positive way.** This is a chance to experiment and push your boundaries in design and graphics. Many students find that this is the course in which they create their best graphics and best designs so far. We reward and expect effort to improve and try new things—no matter how good you are! Positiveness = professionalism.
- **Maximize learning from two faculty** by being willing to hear two differing opinions or approaches.
- **Ask questions and be inquisitive. We are available** to answer any questions and concerns.
- **Be proud of yourself!** Always submit work that represents your best effort.
- **Be humble enough** to respond to criticism and suggestions in a productive way.
- **Get excited** and explore the work of new designers and think outside the box. Go to the library and online to browse!
- **Take initiative to expand your plant and design knowledge** by through books and websites.
- **Attend the lectures, take notes, and apply what you learn!**
- **Use studio time wisely for projects and be considerate of your classmates and faculty.**
- **Be familiar with required software** and let us know if you do not have access to the software. Planting plans will be drawn in CAD or Land F/X and planting schedules and estimates will be created in Excel or CAD. Presentations will use PowerPoint at times. Sketch-up, Lumion and Illustrator are effective and great to use on Final renderings.
- **Back up your digital files!! Please.**
- **Send communications to both of the faculty.**
- **Collect** sedum, hydrangea, spirea, astilbe, and other plant materials to dry so that you are ready for the model making. Cut the cost of model materials by sharing materials.
- **Submit work of the correct size** specified on the project statement and not taped together except for draft reviews.

## **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact us as soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or [dsd@bsu.edu](mailto:dsd@bsu.edu).

We are happy to accommodate you when you are attending class regularly, receiving feedback to improve your projects from the faculty, working diligently to complete your work to a high-quality, and communicating on a regular basis with us about your needs. If you have problems with these responsibilities, you must immediately let us know.

## **LATE SUBMITTALS**

This is the late policy for the course:

1. Legitimate university-approved excuses for late work are accommodated, but you must read and know the university policy. Email us prior to the deadline if you have something serious and unavoidable come up that prevents you from getting your work completed on time. Excuses given after the due date will be considered only for circumstances that the student had no knowledge of prior to the project due date.

2. All assignments are due at the specified deadline. Late work will be accepted subject to a deduction of five (5) percentage points (based on a 100% value for each assignment) for EACH DAY beyond the specified due date. For example, a final assignment score of 84%/B would be reduced to 79%/C+ if it was submitted one day late. For the purposes of this course, 5:00pm marks the end of a day.
3. **Any work submitted seven (7) days after the specified due date will not be accepted.**
4. A student who has not participated in a majority of design reviews and/or not submitted a final project by the beginning of presentations will not be allowed to present the project.

### **INCOMPLETE (I) GRADE POLICY**

No incomplete ("I") will be given as a final course grade without sufficient and compelling cause (e.g., documented illness, family crisis, etc.). In such a case, the instructor(s) must be fully informed and agree to the appropriateness and expectations of the "Incomplete."

### **LATE PIN-UP/DISPLAY POLICY**

Occasionally, work will be required to be printed and/or displayed before the start of class. All pin ups will start at the designated start time. All work is expected to be completed well before the start of that designated time and pinned up at the designated location. Work not pinned up may not be allowed to be installed once class starts. Missing items will keep work from receiving valuable feedback from peers and instructors. Late pin-ups will also result in a late work penalty (to be determined by assignment). Printer or other technology malfunctions before class may not be an excuse for late work.

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism, involves violations of procedures which protect the integrity of the coursework completed by a student. Honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental attributes of the University community. Academic dishonesty by a student will not be tolerated, for it threatens the foundation of an institution dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge. To maintain its credibility and reputation, and to equitably assign evaluations of scholastic and creative performance, Ball State University is committed to maintaining a climate that upholds and values the highest standards of academic integrity.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATEMENTS**

### **UNIVERSITY STATEMENT**

We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact the instructor of record as soon as possible. Ball State's [Disability Services Office](#) coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or [dsd@bsu.edu](mailto:dsd@bsu.edu).

### **FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION**

In this course, we are committed to fostering a learning environment that values intellectual diversity, encourages free expression, and promotes open inquiry. As members of the Ball State Community, we treat each person in the Ball State community with civility, courtesy, compassion, and dignity and respect and learn from differences in people, ideas, and opinions. Please review Ball State University's [Statement on Freedom of Expression](#), the resources on Ball State's [Freedom of Expression webpage](#), and [Ball State's Beneficence Pledge](#).

## STUDENT ABSENCES

Absences will be excused for the following reasons: funeral and bereavement leave, jury duty, late course addition, military absences, observance of religious holidays, pregnancy leave, student-athletes participating in University- or department-approved activities, and university advisories. Students may encounter other circumstances (e.g., car accidents, job interviews) that result in course absences. Only faculty members for this course can excuse these absences and adjustments are at the sole discretion of the instructors of this course. (<https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/student-conduct/policiesandprocedures/studentcode>) The bottom line is that students are expected to notify all their instructors once they anticipate being absent for any reason or as soon as possible after the absence begins (e.g., unexpected injury or illness). The student may need to provide documentation (with confidential information redacted when appropriate) to each instructor if requested.

## DISABILITY STATEMENT

If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact your instructor(s) as soon as possible. The BSU Office of Disability Services coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or [dsd@bsu.edu](mailto:dsd@bsu.edu) or SC116.

Please note that instructors are not authorized to determine disability, provide certification of disability, or to arrange for a determination of disability. Any student who needs a determination or statement of disability should contact the Disability Services immediately. (<http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/disability-services>)

## TITLE IX

Ball State University is committed to providing a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual harassment—including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, please know that you are not alone. The University offers support services and resources. For more information or to report an incident, please visit [bsu.edu/titleix](http://bsu.edu/titleix) or contact the Title IX Coordinator at 765-285-1545 or at [titleix@bsu.edu](mailto:titleix@bsu.edu)

**As your instructors, we are mandatory reporters under the Title IX policy and required to report any information either of us receive about possible sexual harassment.** This includes information shared in class discussions, assignments, or private conversations.

**What happens after I report?** The Title IX Coordinator will email the person who experienced sexual harassment (complainant) and invite them to schedule a meeting. If the complainant **chooses** to meet with the Title IX Coordinator,

- Title IX Coordinator will offer supportive measures (e.g., counseling, extensions on deadlines, course-related adjustments, changes to work or class schedules, and/or referrals to campus offices), review the policy, and discuss options to move forward.
- If a complaint is filed by the complainant or the University, an investigation will begin following University policy.

## UNIVERSITY GRADE APPEAL POLICY

If you believe you received a final course grade that does not reflect your performance due to fairness or a procedural issue, you have the right to file an appeal within 5 school days after final grades are posted by the Office of the Registrar. Review the [University Grade Appeal Policy and Process.](#)]

## STUDENT ACADEMIC ETHICS POLICY

Honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental attributes of the university community. Academic dishonesty and other forms of academic misconduct threaten the foundation of an institution dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and will not be tolerated. To maintain its credibility and reputation, and to equitably assign evaluations of scholastic and creative performance, Ball State University is committed to maintaining a climate that upholds and values the highest standards of academic integrity. Visit the VPAA's [academic integrity website](#) (Students tab) for resources on understanding academic integrity, citing sources properly, and avoiding inadvertent academic dishonesty. To learn about BSU's academic integrity expectations and students' rights, please read the University [Student Academic Ethics Policy](#). Academic integrity violations include giving or receiving an unfair academic advantage (cheating), presenting someone else's ideas or work as your own (plagiarism), and falsifying academic records. Unless otherwise indicated, you must work independently by yourself. Check with me if you are unsure whether something constitutes academic dishonesty. Examples of academic integrity violations include but are not limited to:

- Using resources not authorized by the faculty member (including devices, AI tools, hidden notes, and open books)
- Using commercial study websites to find answers to graded assignments (Chegg, Course Hero, StudyPool, OneClass, etc.).
- Without the instructor's written permission, giving away, buying, or selling graded assignments class notes, exams, study guides, or other course materials to other students or to third-party vendors (Course Hero, Chegg, 24HourAnswers, etc.).
- Working with another person on any assignment other than authorized group projects.
- Sharing or allowing others to access your files, whether done with permission or not.
- Reusing your own work from another semester, course, or section.
- Sharing answers with others during exams (passing notes, texting, whispering, gesturing)
- Discussing exam questions and answers with students who have not taken the exam.
- Soliciting others to complete work for you.

## GENERATIVE AI STATEMENT

All work conducted and/or submitted in this course must be your own, completed in accordance with the Ball State University's [Student Academic Ethics Policy](#). You may not collaborate with or make use of ChatGPT or any other generative AI applications at any time to develop materials submitted in this course **unless your instructors explicitly give you permission in writing**. You will be informed as to when, where, and how these tools are permitted to be used, along with guidance for attribution. Any use outside of this permission constitutes a violation of Ball State University's Student Academic Ethics Policy. If Generative AI is allowed for use, full citations must be provided. Be aware that current AI tools often provide invalid references, so it is the student's responsibility to check any references provided by any generative AI tool to ensure they are valid and reputable. Grade deductions will be made for any erroneous citations or reference information.

## STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

### STUDENT SUCCESS COACH

Larisa Rathinasamy ([larisa.rathinasamy@bsu.edu](mailto:larisa.rathinasamy@bsu.edu)) is the Student Success Coach for the College of Architecture and Planning. You can reach Larisa directly at 765-285-1167 or via the email listed above. Students may meet with Larisa or any of the other student success coaches. Success coaches can talk to any student about issues related to adapting to college life, procrastination, motivation, interpersonal relationships, etc. They assist students in making plans for each semester by supporting them in achieving their goals. This relationship is student-driven and strengths-based.

### **THE LEARNING CENTER**

The Learning Center offers free Tutoring and Academic Coaching for many courses at Ball State. Students can make appointments for online (Zoom) or in-person (NQ 350) appointments. For more information about all Learning Center programming, visit [bsu.edu/learningcenter](https://www.bsu.edu/learningcenter) or call 765-285-1006.

### **THE WRITING CENTER**

The Writing Center is a community of trained Ball State students and faculty who value all types of writing. If a student needs help with writing, she/he should seriously consider making an appointment to meet one-to-one with one of their enthusiastic and supportive staff. It is located in RB 291, 285-8387. To make an appointment go to [ballstate.mywconline.com. \(https://www.bsu.edu/academics/centersandinstitutes/writingcenter\)](https://www.bsu.edu/academics/centersandinstitutes/writingcenter)

### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

If a student needs technical assistance with Canvas or other IT/hardware/software issues, she/he should contact the BSU Help Desk at 765-285-1517 or toll-free at 1-866-771-3276. The student may also visit the link below and follow the *Knowledge Base* link to find useful how-to videos and answers to many frequently asked questions. They are available for walk-in support at Tech Center, Bracken Library, room 101. (<https://bsu.service-now.com/helpdesk>)

### **OTHER IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STUDENT RESOURCES**

- Ball State Beneficence Pledge: <https://www.bsu.edu/about/beneficence> (academic excellence and high standards of scholarship, academic integrity and honesty, social responsibility, and respecting our differences)
- Counseling Center: <https://www.bsu.edu/campuslife/counseling-center>
- Grade Appeal policy: <https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/vice-provost/student-services/grade-appeals>