

Spring 2014 – UC Davis

## LDA 202 – Methods in Design & Landscape Research – Community Participation

Instructor: Sheryl-Ann Simpson

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Course Site: [lda202.wordpress.com](http://lda202.wordpress.com)

### Course Overview and Objectives

Incorporating community in design and planning processes is not a new idea, but there is a renewed enthusiasm with terms like tactical urbanism, creative placemaking and DIY urbanism popping up all over. But how do these new trends connect to older traditions of community design, advocacy planning, participatory action research, and community organizing, or to the everyday neighboring acts and autoconstrucción practices of people in their communities.

In this course we will explore these connections by looking at research methods and ideas for working with communities in design/planning. Case studies will be discussed throughout the course alongside specific skills and theories for incorporating research and community participation into design/planning processes, as well as methods for researching and evaluating the outcomes of these processes.

Through this course participants will gain a knowledge and understanding of:

1. a range of participatory research and community design methods;
2. critical engagement with theoretical debates around knowledge claims in research;
3. connections between practice and theoretical debates;
4. the planning and execution of social justice-focused community design projects;
5. discussing research issues with peers; and sharing ideas and results with various audiences;

### Course Requirements

Visual + Behavioral Analysis	due April 22	20%
Group Report	due June 7	50%
Annotated Bibliography	due June 10	25%

Diversity and Accessibility in the Classroom: Students with all types of learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. If you have a consideration that might require accommodation, please do not hesitate to approach me or to consult with the Student Disability Center: <http://sdc.ucdavis.edu/>

Academic Integrity: Honesty, trust and integrity are absolutely essential in this course, and in research and practice in general. As such UC Davis treats any academic dishonesty violations with the utmost seriousness. Please familiarize yourself with UC Davis' policies on academic integrity and dishonesty, and when in doubt please ask! <http://sja.ucdavis.edu/>

### Resources

Readings can be found on the course SmartSite.

A full bibliography for the course can be found at [lda202.wordpress.com/biblio/](http://lda202.wordpress.com/biblio/)

Additional online community design and research resources:

Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility (ADPSR) – <http://www.adpsr.org/>

The Asset-Based Community Development Institute <http://www.abcdinstitute.org/>

Association for Community Design – <http://www.communitydesign.org/>

Community Planning – <http://www.communityplanning.net/index.php>

Design for Planning – <http://www.design4planning.org/>

Planners Network: The Organization of Progressive Planning – <http://www.plannersnetwork.org/>

## Reading and Course Schedule

### Introductions

week 1 (April 1): Course Introduction

- Fleming, Ronald Lee (1990) Questions to Ask a Space. *Places* 6(4):12-13.
- Khan, Si (2010) Top 20 Principles for Community Organizing. *Social Policy* (Summer): 23-24.

in class: a combination of Theck's "Teaching Notes: 4-Dimensional Design" + Hester's "I am someone who..." introduction to research partners

week 2 (April 8): Research + Design/Planning + Community

- Swaffield, Simon and M. Ellen Deming (2011) Research strategies in landscape architecture: Mapping the terrain. *Journal of Landscape Architecture* (spring): 34-45.
- Inam, Aseem (2002) Meaningful Urban Design: Teleological/ Catalytic/ Relevant. *Journal of Urban Design*, 7(1): 35-58.
- Introduction p1-14 + Fairness p77-96  
in Hester, Randolph (2006) *Design for Ecological Democracy*. MIT Press: Cambridge.
- Umemoto, Karen (2001) Walking in another's shoes : Epistemological challenges in participatory planning. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 21:17-31.
- Tate Shots: Abraham Cruzvillegas – Autoconstrucción 2008  
<http://www.tate.org.uk/context-comment/video/tateshots-abraham-cruzvillegas>

additional references:

- Greenwood and Levin (2007) *Introduction to Action Research: Social Research for Social Change* pp 1-34.
- Swaffield, Simon and M. Ellen Deming (2011) *Landscape Architecture Research: Inquiry, Strategy, Design*. John Wiley & Sons, NJ.

### Places: Making and Meaning

week 3 (April 15): Design in Davis

- Gathering Places - Central Park, Davis, California - Stanton Jones and Cheryl Sullivan p193-210.
- Transforming Retail Space into Community Space - Davis Commons, Davis California - Cheryl Sullivan p211-228.  
in Goltsman, Susan and Daniel Iacofano eds. (2007) *The Inclusive City: Design Solutions for Buildings, Neighborhoods and Urban Spaces*. MIG Communication: Berkeley.
- Chapt 8 – Observing Physical Traces p159-182
- Chapt 9 – Observing Environmental Behavior p191-220
- Chapt 11 – title: visual responses p270-278  
in Zeisel, John (2006) *Inquiry by Design*. W.W. Norton & Company: New York.

in class: Davis site observations

week 4 (April 22): Designs Beyond Davis

- The West Philadelphia Landscape Project  
<http://www.wplp.net/>
- A People's Plan for the East River Waterfront. O.U.R. Waterfront Coalition (2009) via Hester Street Collective.
- Architecture and Community Engagement: Design for Childcare within Inner North Neighbourhoods. School of Architecture and Design, University of Ulster: Londonderry, Northern Ireland. (2013)
- Chen, Caroline (2010) Dancing in the Streets of Beijing: Improvised Uses within the Urban System. in Jefferey Hou (ed) *Insurgent Public Space: Guerrilla Urbanism and the Remaking of Contemporary Cities*.

in class: Visual and Behavioral Analysis due

week 5 (April 29): How Do We Know What We Know

- Agrawal, Arun (1995) Dismantling the divide between indigenous and scientific knowledge. *Development and Change*, 26: 413-439.
- Haraway, Donna (1988) Situated knowledge: The science question in feminism and the privilege of partial perspective. *Feminist Studies*, 14(3): 575-599.
- Norberg-Schultz, Christian (2003) The Phenomenon of place. in *Designing Cities: Critical Readings in Urban Design*. ed Alexander R. Cuthbert. Blackwell. p116-127.
- Tate Shots: Julian Opie – On landscapes 2013  
<http://www.tate.org.uk/context-comment/video/tateshots-julian-opie-on-landscape>

### Methodologies + Methods

week 6 – 9 (May 6 – May 27): Seeing, Hearing + Doing With

We will decide together which specific skills and methods we want to examine during these weeks.

A sample of possible readings is included at the end of the syllabus, and topics we don't discuss in class might make good starting points for your annotated bibliographies.

Possible skills and methods include, but are not limited to:

community histories, iconology/iconography, surveys, focus groups, interviews, community mapping, community design, use of numbers and models, group process, craft and play, web-based tools and apps, citizen science, experiential research, community organizing, conflict management, participation along the life cycle, evaluation

week 10 (June 3): Analysis + Synthesis

- Jackson, Suzanne F. (2008) A participatory group process to analyze qualitative data. *Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action*, 2(2):161-170.
- Nind, Melanie (2011) Participatory data analysis: A step too far? *Qualitative Research*, 11: 349.

## Course Requirements

I will provide more detailed assignment prompts throughout the quarter, but here are some short descriptions to give you a flavor of each project.

### Visual + Behavioral Analysis

due April 22

This assignment is an opportunity to begin to bring together the three main elements of the course research, design and community. In short reports, and using some of the methods and background reading presented in the readings for week 3 you will describe, analyze and evaluate two spaces in Davis: Central Park and the Davis commons. Additionally, you will use the information gained in this exercise to think about ideas for new design and research questions and interventions.

### Group Report

due June 7

We are fortunate to have two research partners for the course: Fathers and Families of San Joaquin a community-based organization in Stockton CA is beginning to do more thinking and evaluation around their programs, along with their role in various aspects of neighborhood design and development. We will be partnering with them to start this work.

Additionally, there is the potential to work with staff at the Center for Regional Change at UC Davis to support work around their Mapping Regional Change tool, and specifically thinking about how to support communities that want to use the tool in organizing, development and design work.

As with any community-based project the final product will be determined as the quarter unfolds to match our partners needs and our capacities.

### Annotated Bibliography

due June 10

The annotated bibliographies are an opportunity for you to explore a specific methodology, skill, idea or case in greater detail. This project could be used to enhance your general knowledge of an area/topic, or specifically to support the development of your own thesis and dissertation proposals and projects.

resources:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/03/>

<http://guides.library.cornell.edu/content.php?pid=448160&sid=3672381>

week 6 – 9 (May 6 – May 27): Seeing, Hearing + Doing With  
A sample of possible readings:

Aitken, Stuart C. and James Craine (2009) Into the image and beyond: Affective visual geographies and GIScience. In Meghan Cope and Sarah Elwood (eds) *Qualitative GIS: A Mixed Methods Approach*. Sage: London.

Amoroso, Nadia (2010) Graphic integrity and mapping complexity: The works of Lynch, Wurman and Tufte. Chapt 2 *The Exposed City: Mapping the Urban Invisibles*. Routledge: London.

Bishop, Claire (2004) Antagonism and Relational Aesthetics. *October Magazine*. 110:51-79.

Clifford, Nicholas, Shaun French, Gill Valentine (2010) *Key Methods in Geography*. Sage: London.

Cope, Meghan and Sarah Elwood (eds) (2009) *Qualitative GIS: A Mixed Methods Approach*. Sage: London.

DeFilippis, James, Robert Fisher and Eric Shragge (2010) *Contesting Community: The Limits and Potential of Local Organizing*. Rutgers University Press: Rutgers NJ.

Enfield, R. P. and P. E. Owens. (2009). Building and Sustaining Community-Based Youth Development Collaboratives. *Community Development*, 40(4), 381-397.

Forsyth, Ann, J. Jacobson, and K. Thering (2010) Six assessments of the same places: Comparing views of urban design. *Journal of Urban Design* 15 (1): 21-48.

Hester, Randolph (1984) Site planning by archetypes and idiosyncrasies. in Randolph Hester, *Planning Neighborhood Space with People*. Chapt 5 – p135.

Hester, Randolph (1990) *Community Design Primer*, Ridge Times Press: Mendocino, California.

Husbergen, Edward and Pity van der Schaaf (2005) 159 Ex ante research. in Taeke de Jong and Theo van der Voordt (eds), *Ways to Study and Research Urban, Architectural and Technical Design*.

Kolko, Jon (2010) Abductive thinking and sensemaking: The drivers of design synthesis. *MIT's Design Issues* 26(1). <http://jonkolko.com/writingAbductiveThinking.php>

Moudon, Anne Vernez (1992) A catholic approach to organizing: What urban designers should know. *Journal of Planning Literature* 6(4):331-348.

Reardon, Kenneth (1998) Enhancing the capacity of community-based organizations in East St. Louis. *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 17: 4.

Rios, Michael (2008) Envisioning citizenship: Toward a polity approach in urban design. *Journal of Urban Design*. 13(2):213-229.

Rubin, Herbert J, and Irene S. Rubin (2012) *Qualitative Interviewing: The Art of Hearing Data*. Sage: London.

Ryan, Robert L. and Robert E. Grese (2005) Urban volunteers and the environment: Forest and prairie restoration. in Peggy F. Barlett. (ed) *Urban Place, Reconnecting with the Natural World*. MIT Press: Cambridge MA. P173-188.

Stokols, Daniel (2011) Transdisciplinary action research in landscape architecture and planning: Prospects and challenges. *Landscape Journal: Design, Planning, and Management of the Land*, 30(1):1-5.

Timmel, Sally and Anne Hope (1985) *Training for Transformation: Book 1-3*.

Trell, Elen-Maarja & Bettina Van Hoven (2010). Making sense of place: exploring creative and (inter)active research methods with young people. *Fennia* 188: 1, pp. 91–104. Helsinki. ISSN 0015-0010.

van der Voordt, Theo and Herman van Wegen (2005) Ex post evaluation of buildings. in Taeke de Jong and Theo van der Voordt (eds), *Ways to Study and Research Urban, Architectural and Technical Design*. P151.

van der Voordt, Theo and Taeke de Jong (2005) Types of study by design. in Taeke de Jong and Theo van der Voordt (eds), *Ways to Study and Research Urban, Architectural and Technical Design*. p455.

von Hassell, Malve (2005) Community gardens in new york city: Place, community, and individuality. in Peggy F. Barlett. (ed) *Urban Place, Reconnecting with the Natural World*. MIT Press: Cambridge MA. p91-116.