

MPC 550 Metropolitan Greenspaces: Orlando & Portland

Classes Meet 645-915 July 6-August 9, with trip to Portland, Oregon (July 28-August 1).

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Metropolitan Greenspace Planning is key to regional planning. This course will analyze the regional “green infrastructure” of Orlando and Portland, Oregon and conclude with a five-day study of Portland, Oregon. Students will first assess and categorize model greenspaces in the Orlando and Portland region from the neighborhood scale to wilderness preserves. In Portland, special emphasis will be placed on assessing the quality of public and semi-public spaces in the Pearl District and Orenco Station. The criteria for this exercise is adopted from Lund and Chapman, “Housing Density and Livability in Portland, Oregon,” in Osawa, ed., *The Portland Edge: Challenges And Successes In Growing Communities*:

1. The presence of sidewalks and street trees.
2. Access to retail, civic buildings and parks.
3. Connected Street networks.
4. Utilization of alleys and home placement to enhance pedestrian environment.
5. The diversity of spaces and users.
6. Spaces that provide for wildlife and/or native plant species.
7. Access to transit

TEXTS

Connie Osawa ed., *The Portland Edge: Challenges And Successes In Growing Communities* ISBN 978-1559636957, \$39.50.

Eugenie L. Birch and Susan M. Wachter, Eds., *Growing Greener Cities Urban Sustainability in the Twenty-First Century*, ISBN 978-0-8122-2037-7, \$34.95.

City of Portland, *Forest Park Management Plan*

Mike Houck, *Ecological Landscape: Connecting Neighborhood to City and City to Region*

Mike Houck, *Respecting Nature’s Design in Metropolitan Portland, Oregon.*

Bruce Stephenson, *A Vision of Green: Lewis Mumford’s Legacy in Portland, Oregon.*

GOALS

1. Assessing the elements and layout of a regional Greenspace plan.
2. Analyzing the quality of urban public and semi-public spaces.
3. Assessing the relation between land use and urban greenspaces.

Week 1: Introduction

July 6, *Greener Cities*, Preface, Intro, Chapter 1, Stephenson, *A Vision of Green: Lewis Mumford’s Legacy in Portland, Oregon.* Houck, *Respecting Nature’s Design in Metropolitan Portland, Oregon.*

Week 2: Linking Past & Present

July 11, *Greener Cities*, 2, 4, 14 *ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE

July 13, *Greener Cities*, 16, 19, July 16, Saturday, Bok Sanctuary, 9am-2pm

Week 3: The Portland Model

July 18, *The Portland Edge*, 1, 2, 7 (film)

July 20, *The Portland Edge*, 9, 10.

Week 4: Portland Greenspaces

July 25, Stephenson, Houck, *Ecological Landscape**ASSIGNMENT 2 Due

Trip Agenda

Day One: Sustainable Urbanism I (4 Hours)

Park Blocks

Willamette Greenway

Tanner Park, Jamison Square

Day Two: Sustainable Urbanism II (8 hours)

Pearl District

Portland Chinese Garden

Mike Houck, South Waterfront

Day Three: Historic Urbanism (8 hours)

Ladd's Addition Neighborhood

Laurelhurst Park

Forest Park

Day Four Sustainable Urbanism Part III (8 hours)

Orenco Station,

Washington Park and Portland Japanese Garden

Day Five Review (2 Hours)

Final

August 9th, Presentation, Assignment 3*

Assignments

Assignment 1 (10 points) Write on page on the importance of establishing a Metropolitan Greenspace System in Central Florida. Provide 2 quotes. See the Portland Metropolitan Greenspaces website:

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

Assignment 2 (25 points)

Bok Sanctuary Field Trip

A Group Exercise in landscape analysis

Pinewood Estate: What was the unifying goal of the designer? How was this theme integrated to the design to produce *Unity and Harmony*. Analyze the following items utilizing photos to explain the composition of the design:

1. Settings (identify four)
2. Vistas and Focal Points
3. Elements
 - a. water
 - b. fountains
 - c. pots
 - d. paths
4. Plant Placement
5. Plant Materials

Bok Sanctuary Present the following utilizing photos:

Focal Points
Vistas
Winding Paths
Serpentine Lakes
Buildings as metaphors
Pastoral landscape
Forested border
Organic setting for buildings
Works of landscape art (Picturesque)

Bok Sanctuary as a Wikki Place

Complete a wikki page for Bok Sanctuary based on Greenspace Categories (see <http://newurbannetwork.com/places>)

Assignment 3

1. (15 points) Categorize and assess Metropolitan greenspaces types found in Portland on wikki place model.
2. (50 points) Assess the quality of public and semi-public spaces in the Pearl District and Orenco Station. The criteria for this exercise is adopted from Lund and Chapman, "Housing Density and Livability in Portland, Oregon," in Osawa, ed., *The Portland Edge: Challenges And Successes In Growing Communities*:
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Complete an analysis on the model found in “Housing Density and Livability in Portland, Oregon.” In addition, rank the top 5 spaces that could inform Creative Village. Include photos in a group presentation of your findings.