INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION:
David Spooner, Assistant Professor
Phone Number: (706) 542-0063   Email Address: spoonerd@uga.edu   Office: #604 Caldwell Hall
Meeting Times: Mon. & Fri. (8:00-11:00 am) and Wed. (8:00-9:55 am)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
A studio inquiry into the concept of ‘place’ and how it translates into the practice of urban and community design. This studio includes studies in design theory and practice including: perception and behavior in urban environments, urban imageability, place-making, community planning and architecture. Through a series of studio projects, students will investigate individual spaces, cities and communities, their overall development, physical structure, image, spatial configuration and details to better understand how these integral parts define ‘place’ and relate to the field of landscape architecture. Studio projects will investigate alternative design strategies at a variety of scales and densities of living, from individual units to an entire city district.

THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS:
In a book titled The American Landscape (1965) Ian Narin writes “It seems a commonplace that almost everyone is born with the need for identification with his surroundings and a relationship to them - with the need to be in a recognizable place. So sense of place is not a fine extra art, it is something we cannot afford to do without”.

The concept of place can be traced back to the ancient philosophical writings of Aristotle, Place or ‘topos’ in his view, was the ‘where’ dimension in people’s relationship to the physical environment, conjuring up a feeling of ‘belonging’. The Romans, centuries later, used the term ‘Genius Loci’ or the ‘spirit of place’ to describe a similar phenomenon. Recently, there has been a revival of the concept of place in the theoretical discussion of certain academics within architecture, landscape architecture, geography and psychology.

This class is taught from the perspective of the “human being” engaging the built environment. We have all been to places that we consider “good” and many that would best be described as “bad”. The central question this studio tries to address is “How does a space become a place for people?”

Images from Architecture: Choice or Fate by Leon Krier
Components of Place

1. Activity – Pedestrian Flow, Behavior, Use Patterns, People Watching, Café Culture, Noise and Smell
2. Image – Legibility, Cultural Associations, Symbolism, Sensory Experience, Perception, Cognition
3. Form – Townscape, Built Form, Permeability, Scale, Landmarks, Enclosure Ratios, Building Stock

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Knowledge:
- Demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between architecture, landscape architecture and urban design.
- Demonstrate a comprehension of spatial concepts, organizational frameworks and ordering principles in architecture and urban design.
- Knowledge of urban conditions and pressures that affect the built environment.
- Ability to distinguish between appropriate and sustainable design elements and inappropriate, unsustainable elements in urban environments.

Skills:
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize, analyze and reinforce spatial structure in an urban context.
- Demonstrate the ability to site buildings and structures, adaptively reusing existing features and incorporate related circulation systems into a responsive urban design plan.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply urban design concepts through a range of design projects.
- Explore and study the human being and his/her relationship with urban space.
- Explore the concept of a team approach in urban design.
- Excellence in drawing and graphic communication

Methods:
- This is a design studio with lots of pin-ups, sketching, design iterations and final presentation drawings. In addition there are lectures, demonstrations, fieldtrips and readings associated with the theoretical content of the class. My hope is that this studio will be a collaborative experience with significant conversation and real physical design solutions.
READINGS:
There is a required text for this class. Each student will need to obtain a copy of *A Pattern Language* by Christopher Alexander. In addition to this text, there will be numerous supplemental readings issued throughout the semester. All supplemental readings will be posted in the Owens Library, CED Server, and WebCT.

**Supplemental Readings/References:**
Bacon, Ed. *Design of Cities.*
Barnett, James. *Redesigning Cities*
Bell, et al. *Environmental Psychology*
Bentley. *Responsive Environments*
Calmona, Matthew. *Public Places – Urban Spaces*
Calthorpe, Peter. *The Next American Metropolis.*
Carr, Stephen. *Public Space*
Cooper Marcus, Claire. *People Places.*
Cullen, Gordon. *Townscape*
French, Jere Stuart. *Urban Space: A Brief History of the City Square*
Hester, Randolph. *Design for Ecological Democracy*
Hiss, Tony. *The Experience of Place*
Hough, Michael. *Cities and Natural Processes*
Jacobs, Allen. *Great Streets*
Lynch, Kevin. *Image of the City.*
Moughtin, Cliff. *Urban Design: Street and Square*
Relph, Edward. *Place and Placelessness*
Sitte, Camillo. *City Planning According to Artistic Principles*
Sorvig and Thompson. *Sustainable Construction Practice.*
Spirn, Anne Whiston. *The Granite Garden*
Tibbalds, Francis. *Making People Friendly Towns*
Tuan, Yi-Fi. *Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience*
Zucker, Paul. *Town and Square: From Agora to the Village Green*

COURSE POLICIES:

**Class Participation**
All students shall participate in class activities, complete reading and drawing assignments prior to due date and come to class prepared so that work can be accomplished during class hours. All students are expected to work in studio during class hours to advance their projects. One-on-One critique time during studio hours is crucial to completing projects correctly and on time.
LAND 6040  
Community and Place  
The University of Georgia  
Class Syllabus

Attendance Policy
Each student is allowed three “sick days” per semester. Additional absences above the three days are considered unexcused and points will be deducted from your final grade. If illness is a problem for you and you anticipate the need to be out more than three days, you must indicate that to me in writing.

Late Work
No late work will be accepted. Assignments must be submitted on the stated due date. If work is not submitted as specified by the instructor a score of zero will be assigned. It is the responsibility of the student to contact their instructor if they know they will be absent for studio deadlines.

Grading System
The following is a breakdown of the components that make up your final grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Place of My Own</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Urban Space</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Infill</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For this class, you will be evaluated based on the following grade scale:

- A = 90.00 to 100.00
- A- = 88.00 to 89.99
- B+ = 85.00 to 87.99
- B = 80.00 to 84.99
- B- = 78.00 to 79.99
- C+ = 75.00 to 77.99
- C = 70.00 to 74.99
- C- = 68.00 to 69.99
- D = 60.00 to 67.99
- F = 59.99 and below

PRELIMINARY STUDIO SCHEDULE:

Week 1 through Week 3  
Project #1 – A Place of My Own

Week 4 through Week 7  
Project #2 – Small Urban Space

Week 8  
Spring Break

Week 9 through 16  
Project #3 – Urban and Campus Design