

National Garden Clubs, Inc. Landscape Design Schools COURSE IV CURRICULUM

a) *Development of Landscape Architecture from World War II to Present:* Briefly summarize major movements as a foundation for contemporary landscape design (Olmsted, Jensen). Include the shapers of contemporary landscape design by professionals such as Eckbo, Kiley, Rose, Church, as well as others. Consider large-scale land-use planning, resource management, conservation, the impact of high-density housing, mass transportation systems, and the information age. Explain the expanding scope of inter-professional disciplines in planning.

b) *Contemporary Landscape Design:* Explain the difference between the modern movement (1930-40's) and contemporary design. Cover integration of landscape design and architecture, particularly in regard to residential landscapes; show contemporary uses of soft-soaped and hardscape materials; emphasize trends in conservation of non-renewable materials and use of indigenous plants. Include the use of new landscape construction materials and plants.

c) *Designs for the Future:* Discuss the challenges in design for urban planners, landscape architects, landscape designers, and all others concerned in landscape design. Describe the ways the aging and growing population will affect the design of both public and private sectors. Discuss how the conservation movement will affect landscape design, especially in the wise use of natural resources and regional expression. Illustrate how plant growth will affect designs, especially those on private property where space is more limited. Provide plans or sketches for potential design changes.

d) *Redesign of Areas:* Discuss the various conditions which call for a redesign of a site; these include but are not limited to defective materials; overgrown plantings; changes in life styles, social patterns, and neighborhood; maintenance capabilities; safety and security measures, etc. Provide illustrative examples of public landscape and private garden redesign.

e) *Community Participation—Organization and Individual Responsibility:* Outline the steps by which concerned citizens and groups can initiate and extend civic projects. Suggest suitable types of design projects that might be undertaken by community groups and list common factors that should be considered. Point out pitfalls to avoid, such as the over-ambitious leader, a landscape design project without endowment for continuing maintenance, a project with potential for vandalism, etc. Point out the importance of utilizing professional design collaboration for major civic works. Provide an example of a theoretical or actual project for case study with students' participation.

f) *History and Development of Community Gardens:* Acknowledging the many benefits that are currently associated with community garden programs, it is also important to frame community gardening in the context of over 100 years of advocacy and programs. Describe the evolution of community gardening from the 1890s to present. While past phases tended to be opportunistic or temporary responses to social and environmental concerns, today's programs are increasingly framed as permanent resources to serve individuals and communities. Developing and sustaining gardens that in turn sustain communities requires attention to land tenure, community outreach, and engagement of a wider network of support.

g) *Evaluating the Landscape Designs of Residential, Public, and Business Property:* Use design plans, photographs, and/or sketches, and/or an optional tour to a home landscape and/or public site(s) to serve as example(s) for review in order to evaluate private/residential landscapes, public and business property designs. Practice, using the guidelines (LDS 14) for evaluating design (lecture/tour 3 hours).

h) *Special Interest Lecture:* LDS 20 lists suggested topics. NGC LDS Instructors' Chairman must approve any others.