

Syllabus
Winter 2019

LA 408/508

Synthetic Landscapes:

Detailing Vegetated Roofs and Landscapes on Structure



Roemer Plaza
Boston, MA
Klopper Martin Design Group

Time T, R | 12:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Location Lawrence Hall, Room 231

Credits 4

Instructor Michael Geffel
Department of Landscape Architecture
Lawrence Hall, Room 214
mgeffel@uoregon.edu

Office Hours
T | 2:00-3:00
F | 11:30-12:30 (by request)

Prerequisites LA 366 **OR** ARCH 561

Course Description Over the last two decades, vegetated roofs have been a growing market sector in landscape architecture as municipalities and developers seek to mitigate the environmental impacts of new construction and add landscape amenities in dense urban environments. Their benefits are diverse and well-known, with various incentives subsidizing their construction based on the ecological concerns of the region where they are installed. With this growth in popularity has come a standardization of the industry, allowing for easier – albeit more generic – design and construction. But beyond these “off the shelf” products, landscapes on structure are highly technical, synthetic and site-specific; where landscape becomes its most architectural.

Synthetic Landscapes: Detailing Vegetated Roofs and Landscapes on Structure

As a point of departure, students will study industry standards and critique pre-packaged “green roof” systems while drawing their own designs for a campus building. Through weekly drawing exercises, the designs will be developed at finer and finer scales to reveal the complexity of these landscapes. Planting will be covered – as will walls, earthworks, paving, waterproofing, furnishings, drainage, and maintenance. By the end of the term, each student will have a unique set of details to represent how their landscape is constructed – and how it functions in relation to the structure below.

Eligibility This seminar is open to all upperclass undergraduate students (junior year and above) and all 2nd and 3rd year graduate students at the School of Architecture and Environment who have completed their introductory tech sequence

Class Format Class meeting times will be organized around presentations and detail workshops. Outside of class time, students are required to review readings, research selected topics and case studies, and complete assigned projects.

Learning Objectives By the end of this course, you will have:

1. Become familiar with the industry standards and design context of landscapes on structure.
2. Researched the essential components of roof systems and important case studies to the field.
3. Detailed and represented a landscape on structure for the HEDCO Education Building Courtyard or Frohnmayer Music Hall vegetated roof.

Readings There is no required textbook for this class. Readings will be provided digitally on Canvas and key references will be on reserve in the Design Library.

Grading This class is offered for a letter grade and qualifies as an Advanced Tech Elective in Architecture

Assessment 20% Attendance + discussion participation
20% Schematic Design Concept and Site Sections
20% Design Development of Plan and Sections
40% Development of Details and Rendering of Design

Graduate students will also be responsible for presenting research on a particular topic of interest and an associated case study of an important landscape on structure. This assignment will be worth 20% of their grade.