National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Landscape Design Study Program

CURRICULUM – COURSE IV

Development of Landscape Architecture from World War II to Present (A):
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.

Contemporary Landscape Design (B):
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 softscape 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.

Designs for the Future(C):
Discuss the challenges in design for urban planners,
landscape architects, landscape designers, and all others concerned in
landscape design. Describe the ways the ageing 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.

Special Interest Lecture (D):

Redesign of Areas (E):
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.

Herbaceous Materials in the Landscape (F):
Discuss seasonal displays, color
schemes, and succession of blooms for their landscape effect. Note the special
maintenance requirements for herbaceous materials, including wildflowers. Point
out the need for knowledgeable personnel in continuing plant care and how
changes in maintenance budgets and/or personnel often destroy the effect of a
complex design if required horticultural practices are not continued.
Community Participation – Organization and Individual Responsibility (G): 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 which should be considered. Point out certain pitfalls which should be avoided, 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.

Evaluating the Landscape Designs of Residential, Public, and Business Property (H): 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 for evaluating design (see Course textbook). [Lecture, 3 hours]