Course Description

The first in a sequence of two classes covering the history of landscape architecture, this class explores the history and theory of the designed landscape from the beginnings of human settlement to the 19th century. The course operates from the principle that every designed landscape can be understood as a product of contemporary context(s) and/or historical traditions, situated (or not) in a particular site. Lectures, readings, projects, essays, and presentations will address the expression of various cultural themes and ideas at a range of scales, from the garden to the city, leading to a critical and literate appreciation of the designed landscape.
Winter 2018

LA 410/510
History of Landscape Architecture I

Prerequisite
None. Open to all undergraduate and graduate students in all departments.

Curricular Context
This class is required for BLA and MLA (First Professional MLA) students. The class also fulfills the Prehistoric-Gothic (B.Arch) and Ancient and Renaissance (M.Arch) Architectural History requirement for architecture students.

Grading
Landscape Architecture students (minors, BLA, and MLA degree) are required to take the class for a letter grade. All other students may take the class for a letter grade or as Pass/No Pass.

Class Format
Class meeting times are primarily structured around lectures, group discussions, and occasional guest presentations. Outside of class time, students are required to analytically review and take weekly quizzes on selected readings and to complete assigned projects.

Learning Objectives
By the end of this course, you will have:
1. Understood that landscape design is a cultural expression situated in time and place.
2. Understood the difference between, and demonstrated proficiency in, historiographic description and interpretation.
3. Demonstrated verbal and written skills for thoughtfully critical analysis of the designed landscape.

Required Textbook
The following is the required textbook for this class:


The textbook is available from The Duck Store bookstore. A copy will be available on reserve at the A&AA library. Note that this textbook is the same as that required for LA 410/510: History of Landscape Architecture II (offered in Spring 2018).