

-002

ARCH 685: Altered Landscapes: Understanding the Role, Impacts, and Factors to Rural Tourist Communities.

1115

TERM: Spring Term 2011

Course Instructor: Dr. Jeff Lederer, School of Architecture

Course Description:

With today's economic and environmental uncertainty glooming, it is now more important than ever to analyze our built environments and infrastructures in order to ensure they are being designed and built sustainably. Rural development, especially from a tourist perspective, has received much criticism over the past decade for its detrimental effects on community identity, environmental sustainability, and social conscience.

This course will look to evaluate the design and development of typical rural communities in the post-modern era. Selected readings (10 text and 30 journal articles) will be reviewed to determine appropriate strategies/models for tourist-related development in small communities as well as outline design, development, and revitalization concerns as it relates to policy, buildings, and marketing. It will also investigate potential role that architects and architectural design can play in creating more efficient, self-sustaining, and interactive communities.

The course evaluation will be based on the following two components:

1. Annotated Bibliography (50%): Due: Monday, June 13, 2011

An annotated bibliography (approximately 20 pages) will be developed to examine general themes relating to the various concepts, ideas, and strategies employed in tourist-related rural communities. Specific attention will be placed on architectural interventions and design strategies as they relate to tourist towns. A conceptual framework outlining responsive design strategies to mitigate challenges and strengthen opportunities will be developed. A list of books and journals will be reviewed between the student and instructor prior to developing the bibliography.

2. Research Paper (50%): Due: Friday, August 5, 2011

Students will prepare a 12-15 pg. research paper that will outline findings and general themes articulated from the annotated bibliography. Part of this paper, will propose strategies and design guidelines supported by the literature on developing/redeveloping downtowns, supporting community identity, and mitigating challenges associated with such developments. A personal reflection will be included that considers the impact of such work to the architectural field of practice and study.