

1. **Principle Investigator:** Jeremy Merrill, PhD
2. **Project Title:** Brief Traces: LAND 112 Spring 2017
Student Land Art at the Schob Nature Preserve: read, reveal, invent
3. **Project Abstract:** Beginning design students are often given abstract and “site-less” projects with which to wrestle with basic design elements and principles. This approach provides the pedagogical advantage of leading design students through spatial compositions while allowing students to work out ideas without the constraints of context. As students advance in their design skills, the concept of designing within a site is vital. This proposal outlines a design project for students enrolled in LAND 112 Landscape Architecture Communication II, during the Spring of 2017 using the Schob Nature Preserve as the site for their final design project. As it is currently home to multiple projects, students will be exposed to a variety of processes, biotic and abiotic, within a spatially compressed outdoor laboratory with which to design and build temporary art installations within the Preserve. The project will end with an in situ exhibit of student work open to the university and public.
4. **Objectives of the Project**
 - Expose students and the public to the natural processes occurring within the Schob Nature Preserve.
 - Demonstrate the importance of standard graphic methods and procedures in communicating design intent.
 - Create temporary art installations within a given context.
 - Allow students to engage with a real world site to develop observation and analytical skills.
 - Maintain existing edible landscape test plots.
5. **Work Plan**
 - **Maintain edible landscape test plots:** During the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters, leading up to the design project, the existing edible landscape test plots will need to be maintained. The course instructor will replace plants as needed.
 - **LAND 112 Design Work:** During this phase of the project the students will engage in design activities which will include: site visits, site explorations, outside research, preliminary design, scale model construction, design documentation, construction of installation, and creating as-built documents. Design activities will take place at the Schob Nature Preserve as well as in the design studio.
 - **Student Exhibit Preparation:** This phase will include preparing promotional materials prior to the exhibit including: posters, fliers, PowerPoint presentation

for screens in Langford. This work will be completed by select students in studio or a TA assigned to the course. Refreshments and other accommodations for the exhibit will be coordinated by the course instructors.

- **Final Documentation Catalog:** Following the exhibit student work will be compiled by the course instructors into a catalog documenting the students' work. A copy of the catalog will be placed in the TRC for future students.
- 6. Student Learning Outcomes:** This project will directly contribute to the overall learning objectives for LAND 112 course. At the end of this project,
- To develop students' creative problem-solving skills.
 - To develop students' form-making and space-making skills in outdoor environments.
 - To apply and improve students' design communication skills.
 - To explore the sources of landscape design inspirations.
 - To develop students' learning and research skills.

Additional outcomes specific to this project also include:

- Familiarity with different ecological and human processes related to a site.
- Familiarity with the various research projects undertaken at the Schob Nature Preserve.
- Demonstration of designing, constructing, and documenting throughout the design and construction process.
- Familiarity with the public presentation format.
- Understanding of the land art movement through the lens of landscape architecture.

7. Schedule of Activities:

Nov 2016 – March, 2017: Maintenance of edible landscape test plots.

The project schedule will be coordinated with the overall course schedule for LAND 112 and is anticipated to adhere to the following dates in 2017:

April 3-7	Site Exploration
April 10-14	Design Work
April 17-21	Design Documentation
April 24-26	Construction/Observation
April 28	Exhibit of Student Work
May-July	Final Documentation Catalog

8. Anticipated Deliverables:

- Event Catalog documenting the design project from launch to the public exhibit. Emphasis will be placed on student drawings, photos, and reflections. The Event Catalog will be available in electronic format as well as a physical hardcopy.

9. Funds Request Breakdown

Maintenance of edible landscape test plots	\$500
Final Exhibit:	
Refreshments	\$700
Promotional Materials	\$100
Equipment Rental	\$300
Studio Supplies	
Moleskin Notebooks	\$150
Pencils	\$150
Model Making Supplies	\$200
Event Catalog Layout/Printing	\$400
Instructor time reimbursement	\$500
Total	\$3,000