Landscape Performance Knowledge and Familiarity Questionnaire

LA 402 DESIGN THEORY AND EXPLORATION FOCUS STUDIO

fall 2016

california polytechnic state university
landscape architecture department
la402 fall2016

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Technical Module Pre-Survey

- Anonymous, online questionnaire (Polylearn/Moodle "Poll" feature)

- Available for 7 days, during first week of quarter

- Course Enrollment 12 / 7 Responses Gathered

Technical Module Follow-Up Survey

- Anonymous, online questionnaire (Polylearn/Moodle "Poll" feature)

- Available for 7 days, last week of quarter

- Course Enrollment 11 / 8 Responses Gathered

Technical Module Pre-Survey

1   **How familiar are you with the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF)?**

Response	Average	Total
Have never heard of it, prior to it being mentioned on the first day of class.	29%	2
Have heard of it (prior to this studio) but can't recall any specifics	57%	4
Have some idea of the organization (developed prior to this studio), and could explain some basics	14%	1
Total	100%	7/7

Technical Module Follow-Up Survey

1   **How familiar are you with the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF)?**

Response	Average	Total
Have heard of it but can't recall any specifics	12%	1
Have some idea of the organization and could explain some basics	12%	1
Have a good idea of the organization and could confidently explain what they are about.	12%	1
Have a strong idea of this organization and have interacted with them, their resources and their references.	62%	5
Total	100%	8/8

Technical Module Pre-Survey

2	My first impressions of the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF) are:
	Response
	The organization supports young professionals entering the field.
	I'm sure they are knowledgable
	not much..
	I have heard of them, but do not understand what they are responsibile or striving for.
	Probably something important I should look into
	It is a good organization that continues to advocate for the use of Landscape Architecture as a way to improve the landscape.
	not sure

Technical Module Follow-Up Survey

2	My impressions of the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF) are:
	Response
	This organization is leading the way for the profession to engage in environmental issues and to be part of the solution.
	excellent
	They advocate for the landscape architecture profession through the promotion of landscape performance.
	Helpful Encouraging Engaging
	none
	A trustworthy organization that simplifies the use of some cutting-edge tools to be used in professional practice.
	awesome resource

Technical Module Pre-Survey

3	How familiar are you with landscape performance?		
Response		**Average**	**Total**
Have never heard of it, prior to it being mentioned on the first day.		29%	2
Have heard of it (outside or prior to this studio) but don't remember any specifics.		14%	1
Have some idea of the it (outside or prior to this studio), but not too clearly		29%	2
I know what it is, and could explain what the basics		29%	2
Total		100%	7/7

Technical Module Follow-Up Survey

3	How familiar are you with landscape performance?		
Response		**Average**	**Total**
I know what it is, and could explain what the basics		12%	1
I know what it is and how to utilize it, and could utilize it within the studio project.		88%	7
Total		100%	8/8

Technical Module Pre-Survey

4	My first impressions of landscape performance are:

Response

Green infrastructure: bioswales, constructed wetlands, urban food production, green roofs, etc.

Unsure

unknown

Understand that the total success of a site is a good indicator of landscape performance.

Making a landscape do more than just "look pretty," provide eco services and facilitate desired growth and change in society

It's the ability of a landscape to perform the jobs a particular landscape was meant to or designed to.

not sure, probably concerned with the technical and logical ways a site is organized

Technical Module Follow-Up Survey

4	My impressions of landscape performance are:

Response

Landscape performance is vital to the health of a site and its impact on the greater area around it.

A great way to quantify and add value to any project

Landscape performance is an interesting way to look at landscape architecture, and seems like it would be a very effective way to "sell" people on a project or project elements you have designed.

Multifunctionality Measured

Seems that it is becoming a topic that is necessary when creating a design

Theories that should be put into practice whenever possible, as they ground the profession and bring us into the technical world as opposed to more vague ideas of beauty and aesthetics.

something that really grounds designs

it's useful to the design process and marketing/promotion of it to the clients

Technical Module Pre-Survey

5

Have you utilized concepts of landscape performance in past studio projects, courses or work?

Response	Average	Total
Yes	29%	2
No	71%	5
Total	100%	7/7

6

If you marked YES, to the previous question (using landscape performance previously) please state how:

Response

I have used bioswales and rain gardens in my projects.

Designed Playground to strenghthen relationships between children and the elderly

Technical Module Follow-Up Survey

	5	Have you utilized concepts of landscape performance in your studio projects, courses or work?

Response	Average	Total
Yes	100%	8
No		0
Total	100%	8/8

	6	If you marked YES, to the previous question (used landscape performance previously) please state how:

Response

I have used green infrastructure, heat island mitigation, and added cultural value to my projects.

Water Foilage Social

I have used the national tree benefits tree calculator at http://www.treebenefits.com/calculator/

Greatly improving the social and ecological performances of the site through site analysis of both existing and proposed sites

I implemented performance goals in my studio project this quarter to emphasize my design.

Stormwater management, environmental issue awareness, water filtration, heat island reduction

utilized the concept of landscape infrastructure

designed performative landscape on campus

Technical Module Pre-Survey

7   **In what ways could landscape performance be utilized in design projects, please list any early thoughts?**

Response

Landscape infrastructure should be utilized to address storm water, and environmental issues such as biodiversity, air quality, and heat island effect.

It can be used to keep the purpose of a project on task.

Technical Module Follow-Up Survey

7   **In what ways could landscape performance be utilized in design projects?**

Response

There are MANY ways to implement landscape performance. There are categories of land, water, habitat, carbon, energy, air quality, materials, waste, social, and economic. Whatever issue can, and should, be addressed in the site design

all ways

You might advocate for an element within your design by presenting the benefits gained its implementation i.e. rain water retention, mitigating stream bed erosion, carbon sequestration etc etc

Addressing the performance measures of things such as social, ecological, or circulation for example could alter the design outcome. So by analyzing the existing sites failures or deficiencies in these types of performance categories, that information can be used in the design phase to become important goals to meet when designing

Any way that may benefit the user or environment

Designs do not have to be purely for aesthetic purposes. We can design for the user by making beautiful spaces, but design for "others" by making these spaces perform for us. E.g. mimicking ecological services

being able to confidently display and sell a design in favor of certain outcomes

to sell a project/ make design decisions based on acual numbers

Technical Module Pre-Survey

8	The importance of landscape performance to the profession of landscape architecture is:		
Response	**Average**		**Total**
A very important and critical skill	43%		3
Very Important	14%		1
Important	14%		1
I don't have enough information	29%		2
Total	100%		7/7

Technical Module Follow-Up Survey

8	The importance of landscape performance to the profession of landscape architecture is:		
Response	**Average**		**Total**
A very important and critical skill	62%		5
Very Important	38%		3
Total	100%		8/8

Technical Module Pre-Survey

9 | **How familiar are you with metrics?**

Response	Average	Total
Have never heard of it?	14%	1
Have heard of it, but don't remember what it is	29%	2
Have some idea what it is, but not too clearly	43%	3
I know what it is, could provide an example and could use it within project work.	14%	1
Total	100%	7/7

10 | **Have you utilized metrics in past school work, courses or work?**

Response	Average	Total
Yes	14%	1
No	86%	6
Total	100%	7/7

11 | **If you marked YES, to the previous question (using metrics previously) please state how:**

Response

Like, the metric system? Or measurements in general?

In school, everyday life, ...

Technical Module Follow-Up Survey

9   How familiar are you with metrics?

Response	Average	Total
Have heard of it, but don't remember what it is	▬ 12%	1
I know what it is, and could explain what it is about	▬ 25%	2
I know what it is, could provide an example and could use it within project work.	▬▬▬ 62%	5
Total	▬▬▬▬▬ 100%	8/8

10   Have you utilized metrics in past school work, courses or work?

Response	Average	Total
Yes	▬▬▬▬ 75%	6
No	▬ 25%	2
Total	▬▬▬▬▬ 100%	8/8

11   If you marked YES, to the previous question (using metrics previously) please state how:

Response

Stormwater management and carbon sequestration.

quantification

The carbon sequestration numbers provided at http://www.treebenefits.com/calculator/ have been used in several of my class projects.

Calculating things such as annual percipitation on a given site, water infiltration, hardscape vs soft scale materials, etc

Individual trees can reduce maintenance costs through water absorption, carbon sequestration, erosion control, and insulation. This value can be quantified into a liquid dollar amount.

this past quarter throughout our design project

Technical Module Follow-Up Survey

12 **Please list any suggestions you have regarding:**
   a) the inclusion of aspects of landscape performance into the design studio and landscape architecture curriculum
   b) suggestions for assignments, teaching tools and references that would be helpful to your understanding of landscape performance concepts.

Response

The seminar readings took a lot of time and so having the extra time on the final project by removing the "transfer" assignment would have enabled more metrics to be researched and utilized. I would have liked to have found metrics to assist in the design of my infiltration basins to ensure their size was adequate for runoff amounts. Same issue for the heat island mitigation. The case studies take a lot of time to browse and I wasn't able to locate comparable sources.

We need better software/apps. Students, and I suspect practicing landscape architects, are calculation adverse. The easier it is for me to plug in areas or measurements and get out usable data, the more likely I am to use that data. There is a whole field dedicated to metrics within architecture (architectural engineering), but I dont feel that there is any analogous field in landscape architecture. There is no single profession I can go to to ask what the landscape is doing in a technical sense. In lieu of this, it would be nice to have as much of this as automated as possible.

Look at current design examples and see the performances of those sites as well to see how other places are performing and are measured

I feel that by giving us a better understanding of why we need to be utilizing landscapes for more than just a space to be pretty would be important

More accessible readings regarding the topic of landscape performance in seminar would help.

A) good

B) mini precedents module? to help students understand importance

promote landscape performance not only in this class but also in classes like LA 101 or other intro classes