

Final Project Contemplations and Preparation

Project 6 February 9, 2004

Believe it or not...it's time to begin thinking about and planning for your final studio project of the semester! This introductory activity is designed to allow you select from among three broad types of final project design-types. The first two emphasize regional design. The third emphasizes landscape change research.

The regional design option will occur on a 5000-acre tract of land in your section's study area, as defined by your instructor. Each person in a section will individually design one of two component parts of the site—urban and agricultural themes. Our main theme is to create a local food system community (and the needed support for this “community”) to feed approximately 20,000 people for 6 months of the year.

Your job at this early stage in the project is to identify a first and second choice from these design options:

Agriculture / Local Food System:

Design for food production agriculture using sustainable agriculture practices (includes vegetables, protein/meat, grains, fruits, food processing, amenities), and recreation.

Alternative Housing for Working Class:

Design urban-rural transitional community adjacent to above food production area, including a housing, commercial nodes, recreation, and institutional program. Des

Landscape Change Research: choose from among the following options for the 5000-acre study area. This alternative is an environmental planning option (rather than a “design” project) and builds on skills you've developed over the semester (photo interpretation of landscape change, digitizing, ArcView...). Your project must include comparisons from at least two different time periods.

- Stream channel length changes + riparian land cover changes (1938-present) for creeks in your study watershed
- Land cover changes and ecological impacts (1938-present)
- Agricultural Change: analyze changes in two or more land characteristics including (but not limited to) field size, ownership/farm size, fence rows, conservation practices, agricultural census data.

DUE FRIDAY, February 13th AT THE BEGINNING OF STUDIO:

a one-page word-processed proposal for your first and second choices from the above list. Contemplate these choices by quick web and literature searches. Include any specific interests you have relating to the topics you are choosing and precedents you are interested in exploring. Explain how your background or interests integrate with your choices.