

# OVERLOOK

2017 FIELD SCHOOL UNIVERSITY OF OREGON  
DEPT. OF LANDSCAPE ARCH.



## *The Overlook Field School*

The summer field school at Overlook offers students a unique opportunity to study and live on an evolving cultural landscape. With faculty and a visiting artist in residence, students examine the enduring connections between landscape, culture, and production.

Students earn 8-10 University of Oregon credits, while living and learning for four weeks at Overlook, a 400-acre property in northeastern Pennsylvania designed by the Frederick Law Olmsted firm in the early twentieth century and currently being re-imagined by the fourth-generation owners and landscape architecture firm Nelson Byrd Woltz.

The program includes multi-day site visits to New York and Philadelphia. Weekly activities include design charettes, fieldwork, seminars, expert speakers, and site visits to regional cultural and productive sites.



## *Program Overview*

In 2017, the program focuses on the topic of how we perceive wastelands (those which are unwanted, disused, discarded, and/or considered unusable, worthless, defective), and their potential. This topic will be explored through three thematic courses, all of which reference Overlook, Fuller's Overlook Farm and the property's history:



### **LA 4/507 Field Seminar: Wastelands and Beauty** (2 credits)

Wastelands typically elicit fear and contempt, two emotions commonly associated with the sublime. The sublime aesthetic has been vital in creating picturesque landscapes (especially as it relates to the history of Overlook and the Olmsted Brother's original design). Together, we will speculate on the emotional responses to wastelands, and on how wastelands, fear, contempt and disgust relate to ideas about nature, beauty, and sublimity.



### **LA 4/550 Media: Design Charette** (4-6 credits)

The design charette uses Overlook as a case study to develop ideas from the field seminar. Students will design and build on-site installations that interrogate notions and perceptions of wastelands, and/or will speculate on new relationships between waste, nature, beauty and the picturesque landscape. Research and prototypes will lead to a group or individual final installations on site and in the land, presented at a final show open to the public.



### **LA 4/510 Regional Study Course** (2 credits)

Students will study the designers, theories, and monuments of regional landscapes and landscape architecture through field trips and site visits. In New York and Philadelphia, we visit design firms to discuss contemporary practice, and visit urban parks, infrastructure, and institutions. At Overlook, we explore the geology, ecosystems, and vernacular landscapes of Northeast Pennsylvania, through the lens of landscape perception. Sites visited include gardens and museums in the New York and Philadelphia regions, including Storm King Art Center, DIA Beacon, and Longwood Gardens.



# LANDSCAPES OF WASTE

## Faculty

### **Liska Chan: Program Manager, Overlook Field School**

Chan is an associate professor of landscape architecture at The University of Oregon where she teaches design studios, theory and media classes. She will be leading the summer field school in Pennsylvania and co-teaching this spring's seminar class.

### **Roxi Thoren: Director, Fuller Center for Productive Landscapes**

Thoren is an associate professor of landscape architecture at the University of Oregon, associate dean of the College of Architecture & Allied Arts, and author of the book *Landscapes of Change*. Roxi will be leading the spring seminar course on *Wastelands and Beauty*.

### **Artist in Residence: to be determined**

## Past Faculty

### **Phoebe Lickwar: 2016 artist in residence**

Lickwar is a landscape architect, photographer, and assistant professor of landscape architecture at the University of Arkansas. She teaches design studios as well as courses in theory, representation, and audiovisual research methods.

### **Dee Briggs: 2015 artist in residence**

Briggs is a sculptor whose large-scale site installations have been shown throughout the US. She trained as an architect, and teaches in both architecture and sculpture departments at Carnegie Mellon.

## Costs

Airfare, local travel, and room and board are paid for by the Fuller Center for Productive Landscapes. Local travel includes the field excursions, including travel, hotels, and admission to required sites.

Students pay tuition summer credit hours, according to the Registrar's fee schedule.

Students make their own travel arrangements to and from Overlook. A travel subsidy will be deposited to students' UO accounts. The amount of the subsidy is based on round-trip airfare from Eugene to Scranton, PA, one checked bag fee each way, and shuttle cost from Scranton to Overlook.

## Contact

### **Liska Chan, Associate Professor**

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## 2017 Key Program Dates

<b>7/1</b>	Students arrive
<b>7/2</b>	Orientation + Opening dinner
<b>7/3</b>	Classes start
<b>7/11</b>	New York trip
<b>7/19</b>	Philadelphia trip
<b>7/29</b>	Closing show
<b>7/31</b>	Students depart

## Applications

Admission is through the Landscape Architecture department, and considers academic standing and GPA, as well as relevance of the program to the student's area of study. The application is available online at: <http://blogs.uoregon.edu/fullercenter/ofs/>

### **January 31**

Application deadline for the summer 2017 program.

### **February 15**

Students will be notified of acceptance.

### **February 28**

Student confirmation of offer. All students who are accepted to participate must confirm by this date.

### **Waiting List**

If accepted students decline to participate, wait-listed students will be accepted after the February 28 deadline. These students will have two weeks to confirm their participation.