Meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1–4pm in 3556 Dana and 2nd Year Studio
For the first 4 weeks of class, we will begin in 3556 Dana, then move to the studio or into the field after lecture. Always be prepared for scheduled field activities, rain or shine.

Instructors:
Dr. MaryCarol Hunter mchunter@umich.edu office: 3572 Dana 734-645-8007
GSI: Tiantong Gu (Simba) simbagu@umich.edu 559-495-8107
Our office hours are ‘by arrangement’ and flexibly set to best meet studio needs.

Course Description You will learn the basic principles of planting design with an emphasis on integrating aesthetic and ecological goals in the creation of sustainable landscapes that a) bring wellbeing to all and b) fuel a sense of stewardship because they engage in a way that creates attachment. Learning objectives aim to help you achieve mastery of ...
1) the use of living materials to create aesthetically commanding and psychologically engaging environments that support ecosystem function & services, especially biodiversity;
2) combining plants to produce aesthetically pleasing spatial configurations and seasonal presence;
3) a research process to select plant materials to meet specific environmental and aesthetic goals;
4) an expansion of your knowledge of Great Lakes native plants and other ecologically acceptable ornamental plants;
5) the conventions and notations to professionally communicate a planting plan to others.

Class Format This course is highly interdisciplinary, organized to combine learning about the horticultural use of plants and gaining proficient in using plants as the medium for sensory engagement. Most class meetings will include multiple learning goals. We will often open in a classroom setting (3556) then move to the studio or the field for application. These opening lectures will deal with theory and its application from fields of design, ecology, and environmental psychology, along with horticulture and plant character profiling. Interactive learning will come with class discussion, pin ups, presentations, some assignments, and file sharing.

General Course Outline
Part 1 (4 weeks) The focus will be on plant profiling, small scale planting design and essential tools for communicating the design to the client and allied professionals. Integrating lectures and short studio assignments will help you put aesthetic and ecological lessons into practice. Plant Profiling will introduce an array of native species suited for horticultural use as well as popular and ecologically suitable non-native ornamentals. While there will be no quizzes, you are expected to learn these plants – their key features, how they combine ecologically and aesthetically with one another, and the correct spelling of both botanical and common names.

Part 2 (6 weeks)
You will bring all you’ve learned in this and previous classes to bear on a set of planting designs for a civic engagement project in Detroit. You will learn to how to design with The New Perennial Style of Piet Oudolf, (e.g., High Line, NYC and Millennium Park, Chicago) while simultaneously meeting goals of ecological resilience through attentive plant palette choices. Projects will be formally presented to professionals and client.

Part 3 (3 weeks)
We will engage in a 3-week charette to develop design visions for the Dana Garden. Lisa Del Place, CEO of Oehme van Sweden and accomplished designer, will bring her talent, knowledge and professional experience to the mix through this period.
**Readings:**
Required readings serve as a premise for design, discussion and technical know-how. Always come to class prepared to discuss and apply the reading assignments to design. While you won’t be tested on content, you just won’t design as well without reading them. All materials not found in required texts will be posted on Canvas.

**REQUIRED BOOKS:**
#2 Diblik, Roy. 2014. The Know Maintenance Perennial Garden. Timber Press. 216 pp. Amazon $18
#3 Steiner, Lynn. 2006. *Landscaping with Native Plants of Michigan*. Amazon: $20
#5 NRE 691 Course Pack from Dollar Bill on Church Street

**Evaluation:**
You can earn up to 100 points in this course. See distributions below.
Where warranted, grading criteria will be stated in the assignment.
% of total
- **ASSIGNMENTS**
  - 10% Sketchbook
  - 5% Experience of garden
  - 5% Communicating a planting design
  - 10% Design for all seasons
  - 50% Project: Detroit (including 5% for Performance Traits assignment – mini #4 2013)
  - 20% Project: Dana Garden (charette)

In general, grades will be assigned on this basis: A: excellent, substantially above expectations; B: very good, above expectations; C: average, acceptable, meets expectations; D: marginally acceptable; F: not acceptable

**Late Assignment Policy**
For the sake of fairness to all students in the course, deadlines will be strictly enforced. Unless you’ve made prior arrangements, lateness will impact your grade. If you have trouble completing a particular assignment, this must be discussed with me before the deadline. At the end of the semester, students with will be assigned a letter grade on the basis of the work that has been completed. “Incompletes” will be given only in extenuating circumstances under special permission.

**Academic Honesty:**
All students are responsible for maintaining the highest standards of honesty and integrity in every phase of their academic career. The penalties for academic dishonesty are severe; ignorance of what constitutes dishonesty is not an acceptable defense.

**Please have these design supplies on hand in the studio**
Sketchbook - https://www.amazon.com/Stillman-Birn-Alpha-Hardbound-
Sketchbook/dp/B0006YGL352/ref=sr_1_24?ie=UTF8&qid=1503363445&sr=8-24&keywords=stillman+and+birn+sketchbook
Set of black ink pens at least 3 thicknesses for line hierarchy; recommended - black Micron pens
Colored pencils (a wide assortment of colors including at least one set of grays; cover the range of available percentages (french grays are very useful)
Recommended: Sakura-XNCW-30N-Assorted-Watercolors
Pencil sharpener (electric is best)
Trace Paper
Drafting Tape/Dots
Engineering Scale and Architect Scale
Calculator