

Not Your Average Project – Lurah Young, 4th year BLA

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In the Landscape Architecture Program, most courses are project based. We don't take tests. In fact, when we have classes outside of our major and have to study for a test, it's strange, and we don't like it, and we realize we forgot how to study. Needless to say, you have to really enjoy hands-on activities to enjoy this program.

Most of the projects start out the same. Do some research, plan, and then work work work until your final product is awesome. Then you print it out, fix all the mistakes you catch because your project really wasn't that awesome, and print it again. And even though I love working digitally and on paper, my favorite project had me sawing two-by-fours and planting seeds.

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My typography project seemed simple in theory. Pick a subject and a word pertaining to landscape architecture, and portray it in a unique way that has something to do with said subject. Permeable pavers have always interested me, so I chose it as my topic and filter as my word. After lots of doodling and thinking outside the box, I decided to build a planter and grow the word filter out of grass. Easy, right?

I thought I had planned really well and made a list of all the materials I needed from Lowes (I went back 2 times), but building something is tough! And soil and wood is heavy. And you will never know stress until you are literally waiting on grass to grow. For your grade. (Just buy quick grow stuff. It really does grow fast!) But even though I had to stay up all night to build this planter (with wheels so I could roll it around studio), and plant the seeds ASAP so they would have enough time to grow, and explain to my mom why I spent so much money at Lowes, the final outcome was so amazing. I have never been more proud of a project. It just goes to show you that hard work, all nighters, and watering your plants twice a day everyday (even on weekends) really does pay off!

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