This course examines the development of landscape architecture as a distinctive expression of the American experience from the early sacred and communal land manipulations of the Native Americans through to Thomas Jefferson and on into the present. The course traces the intersecting influences of the physical landscape, the cultural attitudes and assumptions of democracy and social justice, technology, and Capitalism, and the immigrant baggage of memory on the form of urban parks, world’s fairs, private and corporate estates, campuses, suburban and public housing, transportation planning, recreation grounds and other contemporary aspects of open space design in which landscape architects have made significant contributions. Course requirements include 1) a midterm and a final exam; 2) a sketchbook documenting the work of a significant American landscape architect, a typical genre associated with the American tradition and a specific landscape detail/or a carefully documented research paper.