

What is environmental design?

Efthimios Zervas
Professor

Director of the MSc Program “Environmental Design” of Hellenic Open University

Dictionary definitions

Dictionary definitions

- www.dictionary.com, www.collinsdictionary.com, *Random House Unabridged Dictionary*

noun

- the ordering of the large-scale aspects of the environment by means of architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, urban planning, regional planning, etc., usually in combination.
- the study or practice of this.

Dictionary definitions

- www.encyclopedia.com

Environmental design is a new approach in planning consumer products and industrial processes that are ecologically intelligent, sustainable, and healthy for both humans and our environment.

Scholars' definitions

Scholars' definitions

- Environmental design is the process of addressing surrounding environmental parameters when devising plans, programs, policies, buildings, or products. It seeks to create spaces that will enhance the natural, social, cultural and physical environment of particular areas.
 - Caves, R. W. (2004). *Encyclopedia of the City*. Routledge. p. 225.

Education

Education

- University at Buffalo (Graduate Program)
- Environmental design refers to the physical surroundings that provide the setting for human activity, ranging in scale from buildings and parks, green space to neighborhoods, the local community, as well as supporting infrastructure, such as roads and expressways.

Education

- University of California, Berkley, Sustainable Environmental Design, (Bachelor of Arts)
- The major offers students a critical understanding of the sustainability challenges facing urban regions in California and around the globe, and equips them with the technical, analytic and design tools key to devising creative solutions.

Education

- Hellenic Open University, Environmental Design, MSc
- The target of the MSc is the development of critical thinking, the acquisition of advanced knowledge and the development of skills related to the sustainable management and protection of the environment from the scientists dealing with the design, the control and the management of technical infrastructure, buildings, urban public space, landscape, cities, productive activities, as well as the control of climate change or the adaptation to it.

Similar terms

Similar terms

- Environmental impacts design
- Design for the environment
- Sustainable design
- Green design
- Sustainable environmental design
- ...

Our approach

Our approach

- 1. Definition of “environment”
- 2. Definition of “design”
- 3. Definition of “environmental design”

Our approach, environment

- Natural and anthropogenic environment
 - Natural environment: soil, sea, atmosphere, biosphere
 - Anthropogenic environment
 - Build environment
 - Infrastructure (roads, factories,...)
 - Energy
 - Agriculture, animal husbandry, fishing, foresting
 - Mining, quarrying
 - Tourism, commerce, construction, services
 - Pollution, pollution control
 - Climate change and mitigation
 - Human health and ecosystems impacts
 - Wellbeing, heritage, culture, justice, equity, etc cannot be excluded for the above

Our approach, design

- Definition of design (www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/design)
 - *transitive verb*
 - 4a: to make a drawing, pattern, or sketch of...
 - 4b: to draw the plans for
 - *intransitive verb*
 - 1: to conceive or execute a plan
 - 2: to draw, lay out, or prepare

Our approach, design

- A design (drawing) has lines, distances (and colors)
- => Numbers
- => Optimal numbers

Our approach, environmental design

- The optimal solution
- for the conception, design, planning, construction, operation and management of the end of life
- of every human activity having (or may have) an impact on the natural and/or anthropogenic environment



I thank you very much

And I wish you a fruitful Conference!