

GRADUATE PROGRAM IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

University of Maryland

Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA)

Initiation date: Fall 2008 (3-year MLA), Fall 2009 (2-year MLA)

MLA CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Three-Year First Professional Degree Curriculum (70 Credits + 9 credits @ 200-level, if required).

Students will be advised to take remedial courses at the 200-level prior to arrival. The 200-level courses are not part of the MLA but are required for accreditation.

Courses in Theory and History

3	LARC 263 History of Landscape Architecture (remedial)
3	LARC 661 Landscape and Human Behavior
3	LARC 670 Landscape Architecture Theory & Criticism
3	LARC 671 Landscape Architecture Research Methods
2	LARC 698 Landscape Architecture Colloquium
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14	Credits Subtotal

Courses in Studio Design and Planning

5	LARC 640 Graduate Studio I
5	LARC 641 Graduate Studio II
5	LARC 642 Graduate Studio III
5	LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV*
6	LARC 748 Graduate Studio V*
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26	Credits Subtotal

Courses in Graphic Communication and Practice Technology

3	LARC 420 Professional Practice
3	LARC 620 Graphic Tools for Landscape Representation
3	LARC 621 Digital Mapping and Drafting
3	LARC 720 Environmental Analysis and Site Engineering
3	LARC 721 Landscape Construction Methods and Materials
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15	Credits Subtotal

Courses in Ecology and Plant and Soil Sciences

3	PLSC 253 Woody Plant Materials I (remedial)
3	PLSC 254 Woody Plant Materials II (remedial)
3	LARC 450 Environmental Resources
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9	Credits Subtotal

Courses in Independent Study and Research

9	Specialization electives
6	LARC 799 Masters Thesis/Creative Project
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15	Credits Subtotal

Two-Year Post-Professional Degree Curriculum (42 credits)

This curriculum is for those students with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture or other approved environmental design degree. Students will be admitted in the second year of the program (2009-2010).

Courses in Theory and History

3	LARC 670 Landscape Architecture Theory & Criticism
3	LARC 671 Landscape Architecture Research Methods
2	LARC 698 Landscape Architecture Colloquium
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8	Credits Subtotal

Courses in Studio Design and Planning

5	LARC 642 Graduate Studio III
5	LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV*
6	LARC 748 Graduate Studio V*
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16	Credits Subtotal

Courses in Independent Study and Research

12	Specialization electives (four courses)
6	LARC 799 Masters Thesis/Creative Project
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18	Credits Subtotal

*MLA candidates will choose a special topic studio from two options (A or B). They may also substitute advanced studios in the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, with permission of the instructor (on a space-available basis), for the Graduate Studio IV or Graduate Studio V requirement. Possible studios include:

- ARCH 601 Topical Studio
- ARCH 700 Urban Design Studio

Landscape Architecture Graduate Studios. In the second and third year of the 3-year curriculum and in the first and second year of the 2-year curriculum, MLA students will choose studios from a list that will be generated by faculty in the Landscape Architecture Program. MLA students may choose studios that will help them focus solely on a specialization track, or they may choose studios that broaden their understanding of the field of landscape architecture and related disciplines. These studios will also be available to qualified graduate students in the Department of Environmental Science and Technology, the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, and other programs that focus on the design of ecological systems and environmental design and planning.

All Landscape Architecture studio courses will meet the criteria for instructional content established by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board. Studio projects may vary year to year according to faculty interests. Landscape Architecture Studio topics may include, but are not limited to the following: Roof Gardens in the Ecologically Sound City; Applied GIS and Regional Planning; Open Space and Recreation Landscapes; The Changing Landscape of Transnational Communities; Parks, Greenways and Transportation Alternatives; Sustainable Urban Landscapes; Brownfields in Marginal Communities; Green Infrastructure; Landscape Ecology and Restoration; Ethnoburbs and the Urban Edge; and Waterfront Landscapes and Responsible Redevelopment.

MLA curriculum for the 3-year First Professional degree (70 credits + 9 remedial)*

FIRST YEAR

Fall Semester	<u>Credit</u>
LARC 640 Graduate Studio I	5
LARC 450 Environmental Resources	3
LARC 620 Graphic Tools for Landscape Representation	3
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Remedial Requirements

LARC 263 History of Landscape Arch.	3
PLSC 253 Woody Plant Materials I	3
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	(18)

Spring Semester

LARC 641 Graduate Studio II	5
LARC 720 Environmental Analysis and Site Engineering	3
LARC 621 Digital Mapping and Drawing	3
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Remedial Requirements

PLSC 253 Woody Plant Materials II	3
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	(14)

SECOND YEAR

Fall Semester	<u>Credit</u>
LARC 642 Graduate Studio III	5
LARC 670 Land. Arch. Theory/ Criticism	3
LARC 721 Landscape Construction Methods and Materials	3
Specialization Elective	3
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Spring Semester

LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV (choice)	5
LARC 671 Land. Arch. Research Methods	3
LARC 661 Landscape and Human Behavior	3
LARC 698 Land. Arch. Colloquium	2
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THIRD YEAR

Fall Semester	<u>Credit</u>
LARC 748 Graduate Studio V (choice)	6
Specialization elective	3
LARC 420 Professional Practice	3
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Spring Semester

LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project	6
Specialization elective	3
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	9

* Student may take remedial courses prior to application to the program.

MLA curriculum for the 2-year Post-Professional degree (42 credits)

FIRST YEAR

Fall Semester	<u>Credit</u>
LARC 642 Graduate Studio I	5
LARC 670 Land. Arch. Theory/ Criticism	3
PLSC 798 Required Department Seminar	1
Specialization elective	3
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Spring Semester

LARC 648 Graduate Studio II (choice)	5
LARC 671 Land. Arch. Research Methods	3
LARC 698 Land. Arch. Colloquium	2
Specialization elective	3
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SECOND YEAR

Fall Semester	<u>Credit</u>
LARC 748 Graduate Studio III (choice)	6
Specialization elective	3
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Spring Semester

LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project	6
Specialization elective	3
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Course Descriptions:

LARC 263 History of Landscape Architecture (3 credits) Two hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week. A survey of landscape architecture history from the ancient Western civilizations to the twentieth century with consideration of parallel developments in the Eastern World, European Africa and the Americas.

PLSC 253 Woody Plants for Mid-Atlantic Landscapes I (3 credits) Two hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. A field and laboratory study of trees, shrubs, and vines used in ornamental plantings. Major emphasis is placed on native deciduous plant materials.

PLSC 254 Woody Plants for Mid-Atlantic Landscape II (3 credits) Two hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. A field and laboratory study of trees, shrubs, and vines used in ornamental plantings. Major emphasis is placed on introduced and evergreen plant materials.

LARC 420 Professional Practice (3 credits) One hour of lecture and two hours of discussion per week. An introduction to the practice of Landscape Architecture and a comparative study of the professional concerns of design firms. Focus on planning, legal, ethical, marketing and management considerations of interdisciplinary practices.

LARC 450 Environmental Resources (3 credits) Two hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week. A review of ecosystems and an examination of planning strategies for preservation, conservation, management and development of sensitive natural and cultural landscape resources in the mid-Atlantic region.

LARC 451 Sustainable Communities (3 credits) Two hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week. An exploration of the concepts, strategies and examples of community design which address the needs of a growing population while preserving the environment and its resources.

LARC 620 Graphic Tools for Landscape Representation (3 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 4 hours of laboratory per week. Methods of digital and analog modes of communication, providing an introduction to computer tools and techniques commonly used in landscape architecture practice. Non-drafting software programs orient students to basic digital image capture, manipulation, and presentation formatting. Students experiment with traditional and innovative drawing techniques in a variety of graphic media.

LARC 621 Digital Mapping and Drawing (3 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 4 hours of laboratory per week. The development and application of computing tools used by the landscape architecture profession, including Computer-Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Students are introduced to drafting techniques and industry standards, mapping technologies, computational representations, and modeling of landscape processes.

LARC 640 Graduate Studio I (5 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of studio per week. Principles and techniques of design as applied to shaping the landscape; developing concepts in visual thinking, environmental awareness, and design intervention through studio exercises and projects.

LARC 641 Graduate Studio II (5 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of studio per week. Principles and techniques of site analysis, environmental design and site development for human settlements and interaction with natural systems. This course will expand analytical skills through complex site design problems. Students will research, observe and apply low impact and sustainable development practices, investigate alternative site arrangements, and incorporate user needs for diverse populations with a range of abilities.

LARC 642 Graduate Studio III (5 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of studio per week. A comprehensive studio that explores the interaction of landscape science with the necessities and mechanisms of human settlements, emphasizing innovative solutions to urbanization and ecological problems. Topics of study include landscape analysis, recreational planning and design, community development, resource management, spatial organization, and landscape character

LARC 648A Graduate Studio IV (5 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of studio per week. A special topic comprehensive landscape architecture studio that explores issues such as campus planning, urban housing and recreation, and neighborhood preservation, restoration and development. Projects will emphasize the value of responsible academic and civic landscapes, the place of historic resources in contemporary life, and innovative solutions for the integration of past and future landscapes.

LARC 648B Graduate Studio IV (5 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of studio per week. A special topic comprehensive landscape architecture studio that explores issues such as brownfield rehabilitation and development, stream and wetland restoration in the urban environment, innovation in stormwater control and management, and the integration of landscape systems in urban planning and design.

LARC 661 Landscape and Human Behavior (3 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week. Analysis and discussion of human behavior in both natural and designed landscapes. Students learn methods of observation and recording of behavioral activities with respect to individuals, groups, families, neighborhoods, communities, ethnic groups, and groups with special needs. Through lectures, case studies, field trips, readings, and discussions students explore concepts in the field of environmental psychology and post-occupancy evaluation of outdoor environments.

LARC 670 Landscape Architecture Theory & Criticism (3 credits): Review and analysis of the body of literature concerning landscape architecture and relationships between humans and both natural and designed environments.

Topics may include: rationalism, ethics, aesthetics, social and economic values, postmodernism, feminist, multiculturalism, ecological determinism, preservation/conservation, and sustainability and ecological design. Each week students will lead a debate and discussion on a different theoretical issue based on the assigned readings for that week.

LARC 671 Landscape Architecture Research Methods (3 credits): Investigation and discussion of a broad scope of research methods and the development of landscape design and planning research techniques and skills. The urban environment will be viewed primarily as a social and psychological environment, with concern for who uses these environments and the conflicts that can arise between user groups

LARC 698 Landscape Architecture Colloquium (2 credit): This colloquium is an informal lecture series with speakers from academic and professional backgrounds addressing ecological design, landscape ecology, landscape design, urban design, environmental restoration, sustainable planning and environmental justice. Speakers will present national and international perspectives.

LARC 720 Environmental Analysis and Site Engineering (3 credits): Two hours of lecture and 2 hours of laboratory per week. Techniques for prediction of alterations in social and natural processes brought about by human use of the land; application of such assessments to environmental management; basic methods of landscape alteration, augmentation, and control including grading, drainage, road and trail design, and stormwater management.

LARC 721 Landscape Construction Methods and Materials (3 credits): Two hours of lecture and 2 hours of laboratory per week. Basic methods of constructing landscapes and manipulating the appropriate plant and inorganic materials for the creation of ecologically sustainable environments for human use. An examination of the use, properties, and detailing of materials used in landscape construction.

LARC 748A Graduate Studio V (6 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 8 hours of studio per week. Advanced special topic comprehensive landscape architecture studio (variable and not repeatable). This studio exploration will focus on cultural and behavioral issues in the physical planning and design of urban landscapes.

LARC 748B Graduate Studio V (6 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 8 hours of studio per week. Advanced special topic comprehensive landscape architecture studio (variable and not repeatable). This studio exploration will focus on ecological design and restoration issues in the physical planning and design of urban landscapes.

LARC 799 Thesis (6 credits): Development of a terminal thesis on a problem in landscape architecture, designed to demonstrate comprehensive skills and knowledge achieved in the graduate program. The subject will be selected in consultation with an advisor and periodically reviewed with a committee headed by the advisor.

Electives Courses Offered in Contributing Departments

The following courses will be available to MLA candidates (depending on pre-requisites, space availability, and instructor approval) to augment each student's specialization.

American Studies

AMST601 Introductory Theories and History in American Studies; (3 credits) Struna, N.
AMST603 Current Approaches to American Studies; (3 credits) Sies, M.
AMST628B Seminar in American Studies: Diasporic Cultures; (3 credits) Williams-Forson, P.
AMST628C Seminar in American Studies: Teaching and Learning American Studies; (3 credits) Paoletti, J.
AMST628F Seminar in American Studies: Marginality Popular Culture; (3 credits) Parks, S.
AMST628Y Seminar in American Studies: Cinema and the City; (3 credits) Lounsbury, M
AMST629V Seminar in American Studies: Los Angeles: Media and Urban Space; (3 cr) Lounsbury, M. AMST 650
Material Culture Studies Theory; (3 credits)
AMST 851 Interpretation of Cultural Landscapes; (3 credits) Sies, M.

Architecture

ARCH433 History of Renaissance Architecture; (3 credits) Schumacher, T.
ARCH434 History of Modern Architecture; (3 credits) Etlin, R.
ARCH601 Topical Studio; (6 credits) (faculty varies)
ARCH635 Seminar in the History of Modern Architecture; (3 credits) Etlin, R.
ARCH654 Urban Development Design and Theory: (3 credits) DuPuy, K.
ARCH655 Urban Design Seminar: (3 credits) Bell, M.
ARCH678D Urban Dialogues: Form, Space & Culture in the Chesapeake Region; (3 credits) Wortham, B
ARCH678Q Social and Behavioral Factors in Architecture & Urban Design; (3 credits) Francescato, G. ARCH700
Urban Design Studio; (6 credits) Faculty varies).

Environmental Science and Technology

ENVT453 Introduction to Biological Materials; (3 credits) Wilson, O.
ENVT462 Nonpoint Source Pollution Assessment Techniques; (3 credits) Felton, G.
ENVT440 Crops, Soils and Civilization; (3 credits) James, B.
ENVT454 Environmental Issues in Plant and Soil Sciences; (3 credits) Phillips, W.
ENVT461 Hydric and Hydromorphic Soils; (3 credits) Rabenhorst, M.

Historic Preservation

HISP600 Introduction to Historic Preservation: (3 credits) Linebaugh, D.
HISP610 Documentation and Research Methods: (3 credits) Nieves, A.
HISP628E Social and Ethnic Issues in Historic Preservation Practice; (3 credits) Nieves, A.
HISP630 Preservation Policy and Planning: (3 credits) Ramirez, C
HISP640 Preservation Law Mayes, T.
HISP660 Preservation Studio: (6 credits) Konsoulis, M.
HISP619A Archaeology and Preservation: (3 credits) Linebaugh, D.
HISP635 Heritage Tourism: (3 credits) Nieves, A.
HISP619V American Vernacular Architecture: (3 credits) Linebaugh, D.
HISP619M Case Studies in Adaptive Use: (3 credits) Konsoulis, M.

Geography

GEOG614 Seminar in Cultural Geography: Human Dimensions of Global Change; (3 credits) Geores, M
GEOG615 Land Use, Climate Change, and Sustainability; (3 credits) Justice, C.
GEOG632 Economic Geography; (3 credits) 0101(34998) Dibble, C.

Geology

GEOL437 Global Climate Change: Past and Present; (3 credits) Farquhar, J.
GEOL451 Groundwater; (3 credits) Prestegaard, K.
GEOL452 Watershed and Wetland Hydrology; (3 credits) Prestegaard, K.
GEOL652 Advanced Watershed and Wetland Hydrology; (3 credits) Prestegaard, K.

Natural Resources Management

NRMT450 Wetland Ecology; (3 credits) Baldwin, A.
NRMT451 Water Quality: Field and Lab Analysis Methods; (3 credits) Baldwin, A.
NRMT460 Principles of Wildlife Management; (3 credits) Adams, L.
NRMT461 Urban Wildlife Management; (3 credits) Adams, L.
NRMT470 Natural Resources Management; (4 credits) Kangas, P.

Plant Science

PLSC 402 Environmental Plant Physiology; (3 credits) Deitzer, G.
PLSC 410 Principles of Plant Pathology; (4 credits) Grybauskas, Arv.
PLSC452 Principles of Landscape Establishment and Maintenance; (3 credits) Cohan, S.
PLSC 471 Forest Ecology; (3 credits) Sullivan, Joseph.
PLSC 473 Woody Plant Physiology; (3 credits) Coleman, G.
PLSC 499D Special Topics in PSLA: Low Maintenance Plant Design; (3 credits) Cohan, S.
PLSC 689F Special Topics: Urban Forestry; (3 credits) McIntosh, Marla.

Urban Studies and Planning

URSP 607 Human Behavior and the Physical Environment (3 credits) Brower, S.
URSP631 Transportation and Land Use; (3 credits) Ewing, R..
URSP640 Growth Management and Environmental Planning; (3 credits) Cohen, J.
URSP688A The Politics of Smart Growth; (3 credits) Frece, J.
URSP688C Designing for Community (3 credits) Brower, S.
URSP688F Urban Transportation Planning; (3 credits) Clifton, K.
URSP688P Readings in Urban Design (3 credits) Brower, S.
URSP688R Planning for the Baltimore-Washington Region; (3 credits) Knaap, G.