LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, B.L.A.

Begin Campus: University Park

End Campus: University Park

Program Description

Landscape architecture is the art of design, planning, or management of the land and of the natural and built elements upon it. As an academic discipline, it embodies creative, cultural, philosophical, and scientific knowledge bases. As a professional discipline, the practice of landscape architecture includes site design, urban design, master planning, community planning, regional planning, resource conservation, and stewardship.

The program currently is a nine-semester curriculum leading to a professionally accredited Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree. One semester of the curriculum is spent in a required semester abroad. The program prepares graduates for entry into professional offices or pursuit of advanced study in related disciplines. The curriculum develops both the creative insight and the technical skills essential to practice and fulfills the education requirement needed in all states to be eligible to take the professional licensing examination.

What is Landscape Architecture?

Landscape Architecture is a design profession focused on natural and built environments and people’s experiences within them. Landscape architects create spaces and places that artistically, functionally, and ethically blend nature and technology to impact experiences, opportunities, activities, and events at individual, community, and even global scales. Landscape architects plan and design parks, plazas, arboreta, campuses, gardens, memorials, green roofs, interactive installations, commercial centers, transportation corridors, waterfront developments, and so much more. Landscape architects also play a critical role in protecting the environment. Restoring natural places and creating sustainable landscapes contributes to healthy communities. Landscape architects develop landscapes that sequester carbon, clean the air and water, increase energy efficiency, restore habitats, and deliver economic, social, and environmental benefits.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You are creative, active, involved.
- You want to be an agent of change and solve problems.
- You are passionate about sustainability.
- You are fascinated by people and cultures; inspired by history and traveling.
- You like technology and hands-on work.
- You enjoy working with a team and you want to design for the ‘big’ issues.
- You want to engage with art, nature, and design to unlock powerful solutions for the complex issues of today and tomorrow.

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree in Landscape Architecture, a minimum of 139 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

21 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 9 credits of GN courses; 6 credits of GA courses; 3 credits of GH courses; 3 credits of GS courses.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Knowledge Domains

- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)

- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits
Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major
To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

LARCH 414 Design and Theory V: Advanced Landscape Architectural Design (5 per semester, maximum of 15)
LARCH 424 Design Theory Seminar
LARCH 499A Design Theory Seminar
LARCH 499B Design and Theory VI: Contemporary/International Landscape Architectural Design Issues
LARCH 499D Contemporary/International Special Topics 3

Additional Courses
Select 6 credits of the following:

Select 6 credits of the following:

Select 3 credits of the following:

Select 3 credits of the following:

Select 3 credits of the following:

Select 3 credits of the following:

Select 3 credits of the following:
Architecture.

Stuckeman School and the Graduate Coordinator in Landscape
periodically with both the Undergraduate Academic Advisor in the
the entire time period of the IUG program. The plan should be reviewed
Architecture, the applicant should prepare a plan of study that covers
In consultation with both the Undergraduate Academic Advisor in
Plan of Study

Admission Requirements

proposed IUG plan of study.
of expected conferral of the undergraduate degree, as specified in the
than the end of the second week of the semester preceding the semester
of transfer or AP credits accumulated prior to enrollment) and no later
year program, students shall be admitted no earlier than the beginning of
the seventh semester of undergraduate study at Penn State (regardless
B.L.A. program to complete a master's degree with 6 total years of study
Landscape Architecture/M.S. in Landscape Architecture) provides an
Integrated B.L.A./M.S. in Landscape Architecture

The integrated undergraduate-graduate (IUG) degree program (B.L.A. in
Landscape Architecture/M.S. in Landscape Architecture) provides an
opportunity for strong students in Penn State's Landscape Architecture
B.L.A. program to complete a master's degree with 6 total years of study
(the B.L.A. is a 5-year program).

The number of openings in the integrated B.L.A. /M.S. program is limited.
Admission is selective based on specific criteria set by the Department of
Landscape Architecture (see below). Because the typical B.L.A. is a 5-
year program, students shall be admitted no earlier than the beginning of
the seventh semester of undergraduate study at Penn State (regardless
of transfer or AP credits accumulated prior to enrollment) and no later
than the end of the second week of the semester preceding the semester
expected conferral of the undergraduate degree, as specified in the
proposed IUG plan of study.

Admission Requirements

• Must be enrolled in the Landscape Architecture B.L.A. program.
• Must apply to, and be accepted into, The Graduate School and the
  M.S. program in Landscape Architecture. Students must complete
  the Graduate School application.
• All applicants will submit GRE scores, three letters of
  recommendation, and a personal statement addressing their reasons
  for pursuing a graduate degree in Landscape Architecture and
discussing their plans and goals.
• An applicant will be expected to have a minimum overall GPA of 3.5
  (on a 4.0 scale) in undergraduate coursework and a minimum GPA of
  3.5 in all coursework completed for the major.
• A plan of study must be included identifying undergraduate credits to
  be applied to the M.S. degree elective requirements.

Plan of Study

In consultation with both the Undergraduate Academic Advisor in
the Stuckeman School and the Graduate Coordinator in Landscape
Architecture, the applicant should prepare a plan of study that covers
the entire time period of the IUG program. The plan should be reviewed
periodically with both the Undergraduate Academic Advisor in the
Stuckeman School and the Graduate Coordinator in Landscape
Architecture.

Degree Requirements

Students must fulfill all requirements for each degree in order to be
awarded that degree, subject to the double-counting of credits as outlined
below. Degree requirements for the B.S. in Landscape Architecture
are listed in the Undergraduate Bulletin. Degree requirements for the
M.S. degree are listed in the M.S. in Landscape Architecture Degree
Requirements section above. The program will accept 5 credits of
LARCH 414 from students in the IUG program, in lieu of 3 credits of
LARCH 510 and 3 credits of LARCH 590. Students in the IUG program
must also take an additional 1 credit elective to meet the 40 credit
minimum required for the degree.

Up to 11 credits may be double-counted towards the degree requirements
for both the graduate and undergraduate degrees; a minimum of 50% of
the double-counted courses must be at the 500 or 800 level. Credits
associated with the culminating experience for the graduate degree
cannot be double-counted. The courses that are eligible to double count
for both degrees are: LARCH 414 (5 credits), LARCH 501 (3 credits) and
one elective from the following list: ANTH 559 (3 credits), ECLGY 510 (2
credits), FOR 565 (3 credits), GEODZ 511 (3 credits), GEOG 550 (3 credits),
HDNRE 574 (3 credits), HDNRE 575 (3 credits), RSOC 555 (3 credits).

Students must sequence their courses so all undergraduate degree
requirements are fulfilled before taking courses to count towards
the graduate degree. If students accepted into the IUG program are
unable to complete the M.A. degree, they are still eligible to receive their
undergraduate degree if all the undergraduate degree requirements have
been satisfied.

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help
advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their
intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of
both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they
become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising
relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged
in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the
habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The
advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary
academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of
study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/
policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

University Park

Erica Quinn
Stuckeman School Undergraduate Academic Adviser
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University Park, PA 16802
814-865-5985
stuckemanadviser@psu.edu

Suggested Academic Plan

University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible
ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes
in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any
time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CED 155</td>
<td>Science, Technology and Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 130</td>
<td>Environment, Power, and Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 320</td>
<td>Urban Geography: A Global Perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 22</td>
<td>Politics of the Developing Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RPTM 120</td>
<td>Leisure and Human Behavior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSOC 11</td>
<td>Introductory Rural Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 119</td>
<td>Race and Ethnic Relations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 A student enrolled in this major must receive a grade of C or better
in these courses. In order to graduate, a student in the major must
earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as
a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://
senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-
and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

Integrated B.L.A./M.S. in Landscape Architecture

The integrated undergraduate-graduate (IUG) degree program (B.L.A. in
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opportunity for strong students in Penn State's Landscape Architecture
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of transfer or AP credits accumulated prior to enrollment) and no later
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Admission Requirements

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• An applicant will be expected to have a minimum overall GPA of 3.5
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• A plan of study must be included identifying undergraduate credits to
  be applied to the M.S. degree elective requirements.

Plan of Study

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the Stuckeman School and the Graduate Coordinator in Landscape
Architecture, the applicant should prepare a plan of study that covers
the entire time period of the IUG program. The plan should be reviewed
periodically with both the Undergraduate Academic Advisor in the
Stuckeman School and the Graduate Coordinator in Landscape
Architecture.
(accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15 or 30‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LARCH 116*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 60 (GA,US;IL)†‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LARCH 156*</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 115*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SOILS 101‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 125*</td>
<td>1 Additional Course for Major (see list)*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 145*</td>
<td>3 Additional Course for Major (see list)*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 155*</td>
<td>2 Additional Course for Major (see list)*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Second Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 215*</td>
<td>4 ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 235*</td>
<td>3 LARCH 216*</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 245*</td>
<td>3 LARCH 236*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 255*</td>
<td>2 LARCH 246*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Course for Major (see list)*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LARCH 256*</td>
<td>2</td>
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</table>

Third Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LARCH 414*</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 315*</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>LARCH 336*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 335*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LARCH 386*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 365*</td>
<td>3 Additional Course for Major (see list)*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 375*</td>
<td>3 Additional Course for Major (see list)*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fourth Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 499A*</td>
<td>1 LARCH 414*</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 499B*</td>
<td>5 LARCH 424*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 499D*</td>
<td>3 Additional Course for Major (see list)*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language (Recommended) or Elective*</td>
<td>3 Additional Course for Major (see list)*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fifth Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LARCH 414*</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Course for Major (see list)*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Course for Major (see list)*†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Change of Major Application: A minimum grade point average of 2.0 and an essay submission to be evaluated. Students will be admitted in the fall semester only.

Submission Requirements: https://artsandarchitecture.psu.edu/howtoapply/landscape_architecture

For More Information, please contact:
Erica Quinn, Academic Adviser
Landscape Architecture
814-865-5985
stuckemanadviser@psu.edu

Career Paths
Penn State Landscape Architecture graduates are well-prepared to join our distinguished professional alumni network with a clear path to licensure and making an immediate impact on the world. The Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (B.L.A.) program is designed to prepare graduates for either advanced study or professional careers. A B.L.A. degree provides students with a background in creativity, technical skills, and ethical considerations necessary for professional practice. Careers or graduate study can lead to a diverse array of focus areas, including sustainability, urban planning, research, social or environmental justice, design, ecology, social health and well-being, technology, construction, or community outreach.

Careers
The world is constantly changing, and landscape architects are skilled designers poised to shape, drive, and responsibly steward these changes. Penn State landscape architects are artists, ecologists, engineers, scientists, sociologists, conservationists, and often, leaders. The profession enables you to connect with your passion. Engage with art, nature, and design. Build spaces, places, and experiences. Collaborate. Solve problems. Design a better future. A B.L.A. will prepare you with leading-edge technical design principles and a deep foundation in technologies and design-thinking methods so that you can immediately enter professional practice with a wide range of opportunities.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM (https://stuckeman.psu.edu/jobs)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies
While the accredited B.L.A. prepares students for professional practice, graduates may opt to pursue advanced degrees to gain specialized expertise. Penn State’s M.S. in LA is a research-focused degree in which students hone expertise in a targeted area of the profession. M.S. in LA applicants should hold an accredited professional degree in landscape architecture. Penn State also offers an online graduate certificate and a Master in Professional Studies degree program in Geodesign, an exciting, new, design and planning strategy that harnesses big data to ensure wise decisions grounded in the triple bottom line of sustainability: environmental, social, and economic good.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (http://stuckeman.psu.edu/larch)

Professional Resources
- The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) (https://www.asla.org)