LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, MLA

For the degree of Master of Landscape Architecture in Landscape Architecture

The Department of Landscape Architecture offers the Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) degree, the Master of Sustainable Urban Design degree (MSUD), and the PhD degree. The programs enable students to gain fresh insights and to conduct new research pertaining to land and its use by people. Courses and faculty research activities range from on-site to regional scales, and include environmental planning and design as well as community design, cultural heritage, and history.

In their final year of the program, MLA students may take one of two paths: advanced design studio sequence or thesis.

The MLA is an accredited first professional degree. Students may pursue specialized areas that reflect their interests and career aspirations. This may include ecological design, community design, and cultural heritage history and design. Joint MLA/MUP is available.

Admission
The Graduate College admission requirements apply. Students are admitted on an individual basis according to a review of their prior accomplishments with an emphasis on academic achievement. MLA candidates from undergraduate design programs must submit portfolios with applications to the MLA program. Candidates without undergraduate preparation in landscape architecture will be admitted on limited status and must complete undergraduate prerequisite courses in addition to graduate work. All students must begin their studies in the fall semester.

Financial Aid
Students compete for fellowships, assistantships and tuition/service fee waivers. Some awards are determined during admissions review and students are informed through the acceptance letter. There are also some financial aid opportunities during the course of study (e.g., semester-long TA positions when available).

Master of Landscape Architecture-Thesis Option

Specific courses to be taken are determined in consultation with an adviser. Some students complete a master’s thesis (LA 599), others develop a specialization through additional coursework.

For additional details and requirements refer to the department's Graduate Handbook (http://www.landarch.illinois.edu/) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/).

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 12/2022
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Required Coursework</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Design Studio Coursework</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA 438</td>
<td>Design Workshop Studio II (taken twice)</td>
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<tr>
<td>LA 470</td>
<td>Social/Cultural Design Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>LA 501</td>
<td>Landscape Arch Theory &amp; Prac</td>
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<tr>
<td>LA 597</td>
<td>Research Design &amp; Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coursework, including specialization electives²</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional undergraduate coursework will be required of students without a BLA. These prerequisites do not count toward the graduate degree. Required internship credit does not count towards the required 48 hours of graduate-level credit.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>48</td>
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Other Requirements

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Hours within the Unit</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 500-level hours required overall</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internship required</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum GPA</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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Master of Landscape Architecture students will:

1. **Design Thinking.** Use a variety of processes to discover and frame opportunities, generate multiple possibilities, evaluate and refine ideas, rapidly prototype and test your proposal, and share your ideas in a compelling manner.

2. **Communicate with Skill.** Use a variety of digital tools to generate design proposals, test those proposals, and share your ideas with others.

3. **Tap into Existing Knowledge.** Incorporate our best understanding of natural resources, environmental systems, human development, social systems, professional practice and professional ethics into your work.

4. **Technical Competence.** Demonstrate the technical competence to translate design proposals into built work.

5. **Responsibility and Leadership.** Develop and demonstrate a sense of responsibility to the land and the people for whom we design.

Graduate Degree Programs in Landscape Architecture

- Landscape Architecture, PhD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/minor/heritage-studies/)
- Landscape Architecture, MLA
- Sustainable Urban Design, MSUD
- Heritage Studies Graduate Minor

joint programs:
- Landscape Architecture, MLA & Urban Planning, MUP (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/joint-degree/landscape-architecture-mla-urban-planning-mup/)

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Landscape Architecture
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Landscape Architecture Faculty (https://landarch.illinois.edu/faculty/)
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Landscape Architecture email (LADept@illinois.edu)

College of Fine & Applied Arts
Fine & Applied Arts (https://faa.illinois.edu)

Admissions
FAA PhD Admissions & Requirements (http://phd.faa.illinois.edu/application/)
Graduate College Admissions & Requirements (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/)