Graduate Degree Programs

The Department of Landscape Architecture offers work leading to the Master of Landscape Architecture (M.L.A.) degree and the Ph.D. 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. The M.L.A. 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 and design. Joint M.L.A./M.U.P and joint M.L.A./M.B.A programs are available. The Ph.D. program is jointly administered with the School of Architecture and emphasizes both interdisciplinary study and cross-disciplinary inquiry. Areas of concentration include history and theory, technology and environment, and behavioral and cultural factors in design. Before submitting an application, students should consult the department website for information regarding the specific areas of study and the time needed to complete the requirements.

Several faculty members in the department also participate in the doctoral program administered by the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. See the program description under the Department of Urban and Regional Planning for more information.

Admission

The Graduate College admission requirements apply, except that higher Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores are required for international students. All students are required to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test. 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 M.L.A. 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. The doctoral program prefers candidates with master's degrees: M.L.A., M.Arch., or related fields such as art history, ecology, geography, or planning. All graduate students must begin their studies in the fall semester.

Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate experience in this program.

Financial Aid

Students compete for fellowships, tuition and service fee waivers, and assistantships. Selection is based on the academic achievement and qualifications of the student.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LA 438</td>
<td>Design Workshop Studio II</td>
<td>3 to 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA 470</td>
<td>Social/Cultural Design Issues</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA 501</td>
<td>Landscape Arch Theory &amp; Prac</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA 597</td>
<td>Research Design &amp; Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA 599</td>
<td>Thesis Research</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coursework 23

Additional undergraduate coursework will be required of students without a BLA. These prerequisites do not count toward the graduate degree.

Internship required 0

Total Hours 48

Other Requirements 1

Internship required

Other requirements may overlap

Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit: 48

Minimum 500-level Hours Required: 24

Overall:

Minimum GPA: 3.0

Master of Landscape Architecture-Specialization Option

Specific courses to be taken are determined in consultation with an adviser. Students develop a specialization through elective coursework and design studios. In their final semester, they prepare a document that describes their specialization.

Required Courses 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LA 438</td>
<td>Design Workshop Studio II (taken twice)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA 470</td>
<td>Social/Cultural Design Issues</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA 501</td>
<td>Landscape Arch Theory &amp; Prac</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA 597</td>
<td>Research Design &amp; Methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coursework, including specialization electives 2 30
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.

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 06/2016

### Master of Landscape Architecture and Master of Urban Planning

For the joint program, at least 40 hours must be in Urban Planning, including all core courses and capstone requirements. The two programs must total a minimum of the sum of 40 Urban Planning hours plus the required number of hours for the Master of Landscape Architecture, 48. (However, Landscape Architecture may at its discretion count up to 8 hours of Urban Planning courses as electives in meeting its degree requirements as long as students are required to take no fewer than 40 additional hours in Landscape Architecture.) The MUP capstone requirement may be waived for a thesis completed in Landscape Architecture provided faculty from both programs participate on the thesis committee.

Urban Planning core capstone and area requirements 40
LA 470 Social/Cultural Design Issues 3
LA 501 Landscape Arch Theory & Prac 2
Specialization area coursework 27-35
Internship
Additional undergraduate coursework will be required of students without a BLA. These prerequisites do not count toward the graduate degree.
LA 599 Thesis Research (min/max applied toward degree) 8

Total Hours 80-88

### Other Requirements

Other requirements may overlap
Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit 24
Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall: 18
Enrollment in each program at least 2 semesters
Up to 8 hours of UP coursework may be applied to the LA degree at the department's discretion.

If pursuing the thesis option, the thesis committee chair must be full-time in Landscape Architecture and one committee member must be from Urban Planning.

Minimum GPA: 3.0

For additional details and requirements contact the department.

M.B.A. and Master of Landscape Architecture

Students in this unit may choose to earn their major degree and simultaneously complete an M.B.A., with 12 fewer required hours than when pursuing both degrees independently. Students must be enrolled in the M.B.A. program for three terms and complete all the requirements
of their primary degree. Interested students should see the joint program requirements (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/bus-admin-mba/joint-mba) and contact the M.B.A. program and their major department office for more information.