

MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Updated Spring 2023

The MLA is an accredited professional degree for students with or without an undergraduate degree in landscape architecture. The degree provides knowledge and skills for students intending to practice or pursue a scholarly career. Graduates meet the academic expectations for professional licensure as measured by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB). A post-professional MLA 2-year advanced status program is available to American and Canadian students holding a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree from an accredited program. Advanced standing will be determined by the MLA application review committee (see 2-year program of study link on MLA website).

The program offers students the ability to concentrate in an area of interest—such as – Theory/Urbanism, Technology/Ecology, Advocacy/Community — through 12-18 credits of elective coursework and/or an optional thesis and creative component. Students' concentrations will be determined by the student in conjunction with their adviser/major professor and electives may be selected from department, college, and university courses. In their final year students may pursue independent research through a 6-credit Creative Component or Thesis option, also undertaken under the supervision of a major professor.

Students may also pursue dual degrees with Community and Regional Planning and with the interdisciplinary programs of Master of Urban Design (MUD) and Master in Design of Sustainable Environment (Mdes SE), upon acceptance into those programs. These programs may require an additional time to complete. Students interested in the double degree programs should contact the departments to receive a detailed description of requirements. Concentration electives may also be used toward requirements for master's certificates in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Historic Preservation.

3-Year Program of Study Proposed Path

Shown: 82 credits (NB: Minimum of 79 credits needed for the MLA degree)

Yr 1			
Core Design and Critical Thinking: Understanding LA			
Fall		Spring	
6	LA 601: Design Representation	6	LA 602: Studio I – Landform & Plantscape
3	LA 578B: Native Plants of The Midwest	3	<i>Elective</i>
3	LA 578D: History of Landscape Architecture, 1750-Present	3	LA 559: Digital Design Methods
	<i>Optional Elective/Remedial English</i>		<i>Optional Elective/Remedial English</i>
		1	LA 543: Colloquium (P/NP)
12	Credits	13	Credits

Yr 1	
<i>Summer Options</i>	
3	<i>Elective(s)</i>

Yr 2			
Design Application			
Fall		Spring	
6	LA 603: Studio II—Performative Landscape	6	LA 604: Studio III—CityMatters
3	LA 583: Landscape TopoGraphics	3	LA 594: Justice in Built Environment
3	LA 541: Design Inquiry or DSNS 501: Introduction to Research Design	3	LA 587: Landscape Structures
3	LA 571: Landscape Architecture Theory	3	<i>Elective</i>
		1-2 (option)	LA 580: Thesis/CC Prep/Tutorial
15	Credits	15	Credits

Yr 3			
Design Implementation & Specialization			
Fall		Spring	
6	LA 605: Studio IV: LandWorks & LandDigits	6 or 4	DSN S 546: Option Studio (Interdisciplinary) or LA 599: Creative Comp. or LA 699: Thesis
1-2 (option)	LA 599: Creative Component or LA 699: Thesis	2	LA 542: Professional Practice
3	LA 522: Advanced Plant & Soil Technology	3	CRP 5XX: Planning Elective (not GIS)
3	<i>Elective</i>	3	<i>Elective</i>
12	Credits	14/12	Credits

Design and Planning

- 6 cr. LA 601: Design Representation or LA 597x: Creative Placemaking
- 6 cr. LA 602: Studio I – Land/Form & Plant/Scape
- 6 cr. LA 603: Studio II— Living Systems
- 6 cr. LA 604: Studio III—City Matters
- 6 cr. LA 605: Studio IV –LandWorks/LandDigits
- 6 cr. DSN S 546: Option Studio or 6 credits of LA 580/599/699 Thesis/Creative Component
- 36 cr Subtotal

Theory/History/Research

- 3cr. LA 571: Landscape Theory I
- 1 cr LA 543: Research Colloquium
- 3 cr. LA 578D: LA History, 1750-present
- 3 cr. LA 541: Design Research Inquiry or DSNS 501: Introduction to Research Design
- 10 cr. Subtotal

Technology/Ecology/Materials

- 3 cr. LA 559: Digital Design Methods
- 3 cr LA 578B: Native Plants of the Midwest
- 3 cr. LA 583: Landscape TopoGraphics
- 3 cr. LA 587: Landscape Structures
- 3 cr. LA 522: Advanced Plant/Soil Technology
- 15 cr. Subtotal

Advocacy/Planning/Professional

- 3 cr. LA 594: Environmental Justice in built environments
- 2 cr. LA 542: Professional Practice
- 3 cr. Planning Elective (choose from CRP 566, CRP 568, CRP 591, CRP 592--GIS courses not allowed)
- 8 cr. Subtotal

Electives. *Chosen in conjunction with your advisor/major professor in an area of concentration (e.g., digital media/visualization, GIS, ecology, hydrology, urbanism, theory, etc) that supports your future professional practice in LA and/or a proposed thesis or creative component.*

- 3 cr. Additional elective course from the LA Department, e.g., LA 578 A-N, LA 509,
- 9 cr. Electives from CRP, Arch, NREM, EEOB, ENG, ArtIS, Sus Ag, etc.
- ? cr Optional additional electives beyond 12-15 credits per semester.
- 12 cr. Subtotal

79 cr. Minimum Total