

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

The Landscape Architecture program offers courses of study leading to the Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) degree. The MLA program is designed for students with a previous degree in a field unrelated to landscape architecture; for students who hold other professional degrees in architecture, planning and engineering; and for students who have received a BLA degree and are interested in advanced education in a particular area of landscape architecture. The MLA program emphasizes research, analysis, planning, design and management of landscapes ranging in scale from individual sites to entire communities and regions. The MLA program is accredited by the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects. This accreditation is also recognized by the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Administrative Staff

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Graduate Faculty

This list may include Regular Graduate Faculty, Associated Graduate Faculty and/or Graduate Faculty from other universities.

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BLA, MUD Toronto, PhD Univ College London, CSLA, OALA - Associate Professor
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BLA, M.Sc. Guelph, CSLA, OALA, ASLA - Associate Professor and Director
Graduate Faculty

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BLA, M.Sc. Guelph, PhD Queen's, OPPI - Professor
Graduate Faculty

Cecelia Paine

BLA Illinois, MLA Michigan, FCSLA, FASLA, OALA - Professor Emeritus
Associated Graduate Faculty

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BLA Guelph, MLA UC Berkeley, CSLA, OALA, CAHP - Associate Professor
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James R. Taylor

B.Sc.LA Iowa State, MLA UC Berkeley, FCSLA, FASLA, FCELA, OALA - Professor Emeritus
Associated Graduate Faculty

MLA Program

Admission Requirements

Admission to the MLA program is not restricted to holders of the BLA degree. Strongly motivated graduates of honours programs in a variety of disciplines may be admissible under the normal Faculty of Graduate Studies admission requirements, which is at least B- in the last two years of undergraduate study. Well-prepared applicants will have studied broadly in their undergraduate programs.

Applicants whose first language is not English are required to submit evidence of proficiency in the English language using one of the University's approved tests. Admissible scores for entry to the MLA are as follows:

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): overall score of 93 with no individual component below 23
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS): overall average of at least 6.5, with no individual component below 6.5
- Canadian Academic English Language (CAEL): overall score of 70 with a minimum of 60 in each of the categories
- PTE-A: overall score of 63 with a minimum of 57 (listening), 61 (reading), 54 (speaking) and 74 (writing)
- Duolingo: overall score of 125
- Advanced Level for the UoG English Language Certificate
- Advanced Level for the UoG Graduate Preparation Program

Application deadline and additional information on the MLA program at the University of Guelph can be obtained from our webpage at: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/sedrd/>.

Program Requirements

Students in the MLA program will focus on developing their skills and knowledge through successive studios and coursework, culminating in a capstone design project studio, LARC*6700. The MLA program prides itself on the diverse backgrounds and interests that make up each of our entering classes, and the opportunities for learning that this diversity creates. Students are encouraged to share the expertise they have developed in their undergraduate studies and professional experience and integrate it into the studio learning environment at Guelph. A student may opt to complete a Thesis Project (LARC*6730) instead of the capstone design project, pending successful approval of a thesis proposal and identification of an Advisor and Advisory Committee member.

The program offers opportunities for students to take electives drawing from the wealth of offerings in adjacent disciplines on campus. Recommended elective courses are listed in the MLA program handbook, and students are encouraged to select courses in consultation with the Graduate Program Coordinator and in subjects that support their focus

areas within landscape architecture. Students may take no more than 4.00 credits in senior undergraduate classes.

The MLA program requires successful completion of 12.00 credits, as follows:

Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1: Foundations		
LARC*6010	Studio I - Foundational Design and Communications	1.00
LARC*2240	Plants in the Landscape	0.50
LARC*6430	Landscape Resource Analysis	0.50
Semester 2: Site		
LARC*6030	Studio II - Site Design	1.00
LARC*6340	Landscape History	0.50
LARC*6470	Integrative Environmental Planning	0.50
Semester 3: Environment and Application		
LARC*6440	Studio III - Environmental Design	1.00
LARC*6360	Professional Practice	0.50
LARC*6610	Design Inquiry	0.50
1 elective		0.50
Semester 4: Design and Detail		
LARC*6040	Studio IV - Landscape Design and Construction	1.00
LARC*6020	Site Engineering	0.50
LARC*2420	Materials and Techniques	0.50
Semester 5: Community and Place		
LARC*6120	Studio V - Community Design	1.00
1 elective		0.50
<i>Design Project Option</i>		
LARC*6510	Advanced Digital Representation	0.50
<i>Thesis Project Option</i>		
LARC*6710	Special Study	0.50
Semester 6: Capstone		
1 elective		0.50
<i>Design Project Option</i>		
LARC*6700	Studio VI - Capstone Project	1.00
<i>Thesis Project Option</i>		
LARC*6730	Thesis Project	1.00

Holders of a BLA

Students who have previously completed a **Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA)** program accredited by Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB, American Society of Landscape Architects) and Landscape Architecture Accreditation Council (LAAC; Canadian Association of Landscape Architects) will be exempt from 4.50 credits of MLA coursework and be able to complete the program over four semesters, as follows:

Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1: Environment and Application		
LARC*6440	Studio III - Environmental Design	1.00
LARC*6430	Landscape Resource Analysis	0.50
LARC*6610	Design Inquiry	0.50
1 elective		0.50
Semester 2: Design and Detail		

LARC*6040	Studio IV - Landscape Design and Construction	1.00
LARC*6470	Integrative Environmental Planning	0.50
Semester 3: Community and Place		
LARC*6120	Studio V - Community Design	1.00
1 elective		0.50
<i>Design Project Option</i>		
LARC*6510	Advanced Digital Representation	0.50
<i>Thesis Project Option</i>		
LARC*6710	Special Study	0.50
Semester 4: Capstone		
1 elective		0.50
<i>Design Project Option</i>		
LARC*6700	Studio VI - Capstone Project	1.00
<i>Thesis Project Option</i>		
LARC*6730	Thesis Project	1.00

For those with other accredited BLA degrees, please contact the MLA Graduate Program Assistant as exemptions may be available on a case-by-case basis.

Thesis Project Option

Students interested in doing a thesis must approach a potential advisor in Semester 4. It is also recommended that thesis students will take an additional research methods course in Semester 4 or 5 as their elective. A proposal should be prepared and approved by their Advisory Committee (advisor plus one other member) by the end of Semester 4. For holders of a BLA, a proposal will be required at the end of Semester 2.

Courses

LARC*6010 Studio I - Foundational Design and Communications Fall Only [1.00]

Studio and field instruction introduces the student to professional skills and knowledge, including design theory, landscape inventory and analysis, and application of the design process to projects at the site scale. Graphic and oral communication includes the development of design and spatial literacy, use of two-dimensional and three-dimensional visual representation, and use of analogue and digital media.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6020 Site Engineering Winter Only [0.50]

Lecture and field instruction introduces the student to basic knowledge and skills of site engineering as it relates to landscape architecture. Topics include surveying, principles of site grading and drainage, introduction to materials and methods of construction, and graphic communication.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6030 Studio II - Site Design Winter Only [1.00]

Studio and field instruction continues the student's development of design knowledge and landscape representational skills applied at the site scale. The studio takes as its central focus the creation of space and form through landform manipulation and vegetation design to create varied human-scaled experiences within the context of a site.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6040 Studio IV - Landscape Design and Construction Winter Only [1.00]

Studio instruction emphasizes design implementation, materials and methods of construction, introduction to green infrastructure, construction specifications and graphic communication using computer applications.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6120 Studio V - Community Design Fall Only [1.00]

Studio and field instruction emphasizes integration of ecological, social, cultural and historical factors in the comprehensive design of community landscapes. Students will consider issues of decolonization, spatial justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6340 Landscape History Winter Only [0.50]

This course focuses on the history of Landscape Architecture. The development of oral and writing skills is emphasized.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6360 Professional Practice Fall Only [0.50]

This course focuses on the legal, business, ethical and professional practices of Landscape Architecture professionals. The development of oral and writing skills is also emphasized.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6380 Research Seminar Winter Only [0.25]

A seminar course focussed on the process and communication of research, influenced by the current research of the participants. Participants organize a conference to present their research results.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6430 Landscape Resource Analysis Fall Only [0.50]

Integrated field and classroom instruction introduces the student to inventory and analysis of biological, physical, social and cultural elements of the landscape. Projects incorporate principles of landscape ecology and landscape planning. Field study requires some travel at student's expense.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6440 Studio III - Environmental Design Fall Only [1.00]

This course integrates field studio and classroom study to apply landscape ecology to current landscape problems, including analysis of regional landscapes, restoration of degraded landscapes, and application of aesthetic and ecological principles across spatial scales in site to regional settings. Case studies component require some travel at students' expense.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6470 Integrative Environmental Planning Winter Only [0.50]

This course focuses on landscape planning, emphasizing the integration and interrelationships between biophysical and cultural resources, with application at a regional landscape planning scale. This course typically incorporates community-outreach projects.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6510 Advanced Digital Representation Fall Only [0.50]

This course further develops students' visual communication knowledge and skills through the methods, media and terminology of digital design communication, and provides an opportunity to exercise and develop modes of creative visual representation, through specialized research topics and seminars, and workshops.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6600 Critical Inquiry & Research Analysis Winter Only [0.50]

Students are introduced to critical inquiry and research analysis in order to evaluate information related to landscape architecture. The focus of the course is on qualitative and quantitative analysis and interpretation. Students will review, critique, summarize, and explain academic research that is relevant for landscape architecture.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6610 Design Inquiry Fall Only [0.50]

In preparation for the capstone design or thesis project, students will be introduced to a broad array of research methods as they are introduced as they apply to landscape planning and design, with a focus on the connections between research and design. The course includes qualitative and quantitative analysis and interpretation. Students will review, critique, summarize, and explain academic research that is relevant for landscape architecture.

Restriction(s): Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6700 Studio VI - Capstone Project Winter Only [1.00]

This studio course reinforces the preparation of independent student landscape architectural design projects. Students develop a project work-plan proposal, prepare professional design and presentation drawings, and provide formal presentations of their work. Students are encouraged to select problem topics that require an interdisciplinary approach and that integrate the skills and knowledge obtained in previous courses to produce a comprehensive final design project.

Prerequisite(s): LARC*6610

Restriction(s): Credit may only be obtained for one of LARC*6700 or LARC*6730. Available only to students registered in the MLA program.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6710 Special Study Summer, Fall, and Winter [0.50]

Independent study. A proposal for the content and product required for this course must be developed in conjunction with the student's Advisory Committee.

Restriction(s): Instructor consent required.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

LARC*6730 Thesis Project Winter Only [1.00]

Students carry out original and independent research on a topic related to landscape architecture. Students interested in doing a thesis must approach a potential supervisor in semester 4 (semester 2 if holder of BLA) and have a proposal approved by their advisory committee to enrol in this course.

Prerequisite(s): LARC*6610, LARC*6710

Restriction(s): Instructor consent required. Credit may be obtained for only one of LARC*6700 or LARC*6730.

Department(s): School of Environmental Design and Rural Development

Location(s): Guelph

Code	Title	Credits
EDRD*6000	Qualitative Analysis in Rural Development	0.50
RPD*6170	Rural Research Methods	0.50