

College of Design, Construction and Planning
Office of the Dean

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April 25, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: Bernard Mair
Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs

From: Peggy Carr
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Re: Bachelor of Design: Landscape Architecture

I am attaching a description for a new undergraduate major in landscape architecture along with the proposed catalog wording. The proposal and wording were approved by the faculty of the Department of Landscape Architecture at a meeting in early April and subsequently by the College of Design Construction and Planning's Curriculum Committee at their April meeting.

The sole reason for this new major is to work in tandem with our existing Master of Landscape Architecture to allow for a 4+1 combined degree. Only top undergraduate students will be accepted. To this end our catalog wording suggests a narrow focus and we propose relatively high tracking GPAs in the first five semesters.

We have placed a request for approval of the 4+1 combined degrees on the May 17th Graduate Council agenda, pending approval of this new major by the University Curriculum Committee at its May 15th meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

CC: Ruth Steiner, Chair DCP Curriculum Committee
Tina Gurucharri, Chair Department of Landscape Architecture

Description of Proposed New Major in Landscape Architecture CIP 04.0601

We currently have a 144 credit, 5-year undergraduate, professionally accredited Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) and are proposing another undergraduate major under the same CIP code that will support a 4+1 combined degree with our existing Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA).

The proposed Bachelor of Design (BDes) in Landscape Architecture is a 120 credit hour, four-year non-professionally-accredited major in landscape architecture. This new major will prepare qualified undergraduate students for graduate studies in our professionally accredited MLA. The tracking GPA progresses from a 2.35 in semester 1 to a 3.25 in semester 5, consistent with the academic success that would be expected of a student interested in entering graduate studies.

A five year major is typical for most professionally-accredited undergraduate landscape architecture programs around the country. Similarly our current professionally-accredited 52 credit Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) program is consistent with the national norm. To complete both degrees as they presently exist would be a 5+2 or seven year proposition. Reducing time to undergraduate graduation to four years will make pursuing graduate studies more attractive. This will help increase our graduate enrollment and will make our program competitive with the few other combined degree programs offered nationally.

The University of Florida is the only SUS institution to offer an undergraduate degree in landscape architecture in the state of Florida. Florida International University is the only other SUS institution that has a landscape architecture program. They offer a 3+2 MLA with years 1, 2 and 3 consisting of undergraduate courses and years 4 and 5 consisting of MLA courses. A bachelor degree is not awarded. The FIU MLA program is primarily a commuter-based institution and thus attracts a different demographic than the University of Florida's MLA program.

The proposed BDes will be situated in the College of Design, Construction and Planning's Department of Landscape Architecture. No new courses, no new space and no new faculty are required for this major.

The proposed major will be similar in spirit to the BDes in Architecture that currently exists in the College. It is a non-professionally accredited degree that prepares students to enter graduate study. Because the BDes precedent exists in our College and because no new courses, space, or additional faculty resources are needed, we are targeting a Fall 2012 implementation date for the new degree.

We will maintain our current BLA major as it is the only undergraduate landscape architecture program in the state and it is well suited for students who want a quality professionally-accredited undergraduate education that will qualify them to sit for the licensure exam in landscape architecture.

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Design: Landscape Architecture

The Bachelor of Design in Landscape Architecture is a specialized non-accredited degree that forms the undergraduate foundation for an accelerated 4+1 Masters in Landscape Architecture ([link to 4+1 combined degree](#)).

About This Major

- **College:** Design, Construction and Planning
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Design: Landscape Architecture (a pre-professional degree, BDes)
- **Hours for the Degree:** 120
- **Minor:** No
- **Website:** www.dcp.ufl.edu/landscape

Overview

Students in the major take advantage of nationally and internationally respected faculty. Student work shows strength in ecologically based planning and design, urban issues and conservation-all issues of strategic concern in Florida and elsewhere. The Bachelor of Design: Landscape Architecture prepares students for graduate studies towards a professionally accredited two-year Master of Landscape Architecture degree.

Critical Tracking

To graduate with this major, students must complete all university, college and major requirements.

Equivalent critical tracking courses as determined by the State of Florida [Common Course Prerequisites](#) may be used for transfer students.

All LAA coursework must be completed successfully in no more than two attempts with grades of C or better.

Semester 1

- 2.35 UF GPA required
- Complete LAA 1920 with a grade of C or better
- Complete BSC 2007 or BOT 2010C

Semester 2

- 2.5 UF GPA required
- Complete ARC 1701 or ARC 1720, MAC 1140, and MAC 1114 or MAC 1147

Semester 3

- 2.75 UF GPA required semesters 3-5
- Complete ARC 1301
- Complete LAA 2330, LAA 2376C and LAA 2710 with grades of C or better

Semester 4

- 3.0
- Complete LAA 2360C, LAA 2379C and LAA 2532 with grades of C or better
- Complete Selective Admission Portfolio Review

Semester 5

- 3.25
- Complete LAA 3350C and LAA 3420 with grades of C or better
- Complete ORH 3513C

Recommended Semester Plan

To remain on track, students must complete the appropriate critical-tracking courses, which appear in bold.

Semester 1	Credits
BOT 2010C Introductory Botany (preferred) or BSC 2007 Biological Sciences: Organisms and Genetics	3
LAA 1920 Introduction to Landscape Architecture	3
Composition (GE-C, WR)	3
Mathematics (GE-M)	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences (GE-S)	3
Total	15
Semester 2	Credits
ARC 1720 Survey of Architectural History or ARC 1701 Architectural History 1 (both GE-H, N)	3
MAC 1147 Precalculus: Algebra and Trigonometry or MAC 1140 Precalculus Algebra and MAC 1114 Precalculus Algebra and Trigonometry (all GE-M)	4

Humanities (GE-H)	3
Physical or Biological Science (GE-P or B)	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences (GE-S)	3
Total	16
Semester 3	Credits
ARC 1301 Architectural Design 1	4
LAA 2330 Site Analysis	3
LAA 2376C Design Communication 1	4
LAA 2710 History of Landscape Architecture (GE-H)	3
Total	14
Semester 4	Credits
LAA 2360C Principles of Landscape Architecture	5
LAA 2379C Design Communication 2	4
LAA 2532 Landscape Management	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences (GE-S)	3
Total	15

This program is limited access. During the spring semester of the sophomore year, students must participate in an exhibit of their work in studio courses. Admission to the junior year is based on this exhibit and the pre-professional GPA.

Semester 5	Credits
LAA 3350C Site Design and Planning Studio	5
LAA 3420 Landscape Construction 1	5
ORH 3513C Environmental Plant Identification and Use	3
Total	13
Semester 6	Credits
LAA 3352C Planting Design Studio	5
LAA 3421 Landscape Construction 2	5
PCB 3601C Plant Ecology	3
Elective	2
Total	15

Summer Professional Experience: Complete LAA 4940 Landscape Internship in the summer of the third year of study.

Semester 7	Credits
LAA 4356 Environmental Planning and Design Studio	6
LAA 4450 Landscape Architecture Design Implementation	5
URP 4273 Survey of Planning Information Systems	3
Elective	2
Total	16

Semester 8	Credits
LAA 4353C Urban Design Studio	6
LAA 3230 Theories of Landscape Architecture	3
LAA 4210 Landscape Architecture Professional Practice	4
LAA 4940 Internship	3
Total	16

Academic Learning Compact – Design: Landscape Architecture

The four year bachelor of design: landscape architecture requires you to demonstrate and understand the planning, design, implementation and management of the natural and cultural landscapes in Florida as the basis for professional studies and training.

Additional information is available from your major's website.

Before Graduating You Must

- Satisfy professional, faculty and peer review of studio work.
- Submit internship assessments.
- Complete internships that emphasize application of your design, planning and management knowledge.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Skills You Will Acquire in the Major (SLOs)

1. Demonstrate understanding of design process and essential skills in landscape architecture.
2. Demonstrate understanding of values and ethics in the practice of landscape architecture.
3. Develop a vocabulary illustrating your understanding of the relationship between people's behavior and the built environment.
4. Demonstrate ability to think critically, analytically and logically about design skills in design and construction studios.
5. Demonstrate critical thinking skills and apply design, planning and management knowledge as part of scheduled internships.
6. Demonstrate ability in graphic, oral and written presentations and work to faculty, visiting jurors and clients.

Courses	Content			Critical Thinking		Communication
	SLO 1	SLO 2	SLO 3	SLO 4	SLO 5	SLO 6
LAA 3230			X			
LAA 3350C	X	X	X	X		X
LAA 3352C	X		X	X		X
LAA 3420	X	X	X	X		X
LAA 3421	X	X	X	X		X
LAA 4210		X				
LAA 4353C	X	X	X	X		X
LAA 4359	X	X	X	X		X
LAA 4450	X	X	X	X		X
LAA 4940					X	

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