

Board of Governors, State University System of Florida
**Specialized Admissions Status
Initial Approval Request Form**
In Accordance with Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions

INSTITUTION: University of Florida

DEGREE PROGRAM: Bachelor of Landscape Architecture

CIP CODE: 04.0601

Effective Academic Year: 2023-24

1. Does this request for specialized admissions status apply to the whole degree program? If no, please specify which major(s) or track(s) are seeking the status.

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture

2. Which criteria for specialized admissions status does the program meet?
Limited Resources (if approved, the status will last a maximum of four years)
Minimal Skills (if approved, the status will last a maximum of five years)
Accreditation Requirements (If checked, you must also select either limited resources or minimal skills)
3. Provide a rationale for why the program meets the criteria selected above.
 - If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources, provide details regarding which types of resources are limited and how the current demand for the program outpaces these resources.
 - If seeking specialized admission status based on accrediting body requirements, please include the name of the accrediting body and a direct link to or copies of the specific standard(s) which require the requested status.

We are seeking to continue our specialized admissions status for the bachelor's degree in landscape architecture (BLA) based on **limited resources**. The BLA is a professional degree program that prepares students for licensure and service to the public's health, safety, and welfare. The program is accredited by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board which maintains student/faculty ratios in studios are typically not greater than 15:1. The UF BLA program goal as reported to SACS is 12-18 students per faculty member. The BLA just underwent a curriculum change that took the program from a 5-year to a 4-year degree. Starting in fall 2022, students who are selected to remain and finish the 5-year program will be in the same classes as the four-year students. This overlap of cohorts will challenge limited departmental resources including facilities and faculty. This change impacts the program until 2024-2025. However, the new four-year program is currently advertised in the catalog and is starting in fall 2022 so we anticipate increased enrollments.

4. If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources and/or is a Program of Strategic Emphasis, provide the institution's plan and timeline for increasing program resources. If the institution does not plan to increase capacity over the next few years, please provide a rationale. Not applicable.

We expect to see increased enrollments over the next few years as we advertise the LA four-year program. We believe this will be a much more attractive option to students who were not willing to select a five-year course of study. Currently, space is already an issue for the program with different studio courses having to share studio rooms to provide seats for all enrolled students. This sharing of space creates scheduling and teaching difficulties; however, they are manageable and allows us to increase capacity in our required studio courses. As demand increases, additional sections would need to be added to maintain appropriate student faculty ratios. At this point, both space and teaching resources become critical. As there are no current plans in place to expand studio space for landscape architecture, selective admission to upper division allows us to moderate the students in upper division which provides us the ability to maintain appropriate student/teacher ratios and space needs without increasing space or teaching resources.

5. If approved for specialized admissions status, what will be the program's admissions requirements? Additionally, please indicate how these requirements and procedures ensure equal access for qualified Florida College System Associates in Arts graduates competing for available space in the program.

Currently the FCSAA students are evaluated through the same process to gain entrance into the upper division, and they take the same classes prior to evaluation as students admitted directly to University of Florida. The following procedures and criteria are used in the evaluation/selection of students making application for admission to the Upper Division in the Department of Landscape Architecture. (See attached document)

6. What is the current race and gender profile of the program? Describe the potential impact on the race and gender profiles of the program. What strategies will be implemented to promote and maintain diversity in the program?

The current (2021-22) race profile of the program is:

1.54 % American Indian
15.38 % Hispanic
3.08 % Black (non-Hispanic)
63.08 % Caucasian
9.23 % Asian or Pacific Islander
7.69 % Other

And the current (2021-22) gender profile is 33 males and 32 females

Diversity in the profession of landscape architecture is critical to serve the needs of a diverse society. The UF Landscape Architecture Department embraces diversity and does not use performance-based qualifiers to limit access of a particular individual. The LAE faculty uses a process to ensure fair metrics are applied to all students regardless of race, gender identity, or other characteristics and employs an anonymous review of the application materials so each student has a fair assessment. The primary goal of our conversion from a five-year to four-year program was to make the program more accessible to a broader student population. A more accessible program coupled with a fair assessment process of all students into the upper division promotes diversity in the program.

Required Signatures


Requestor/Initiator

07/14/2022
Date

Chimay J. Anumba
Signature of College Dean

7/15/2022 | 8:55 AM EDT
Date

Signature of Campus EO Officer

Date

Signature of Provost

Date

Signature of Chair of the
Board of Trustees

Date

Date Approved by the Board of Trustees

DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
2022 Selective Admission Guidelines
School of Landscape Architecture and Planning
College of Design, Construction and Planning, University of Florida

The following procedures and criteria are to be used in the evaluation/selection of students making application for admission to the Upper Division in the Department of Landscape Architecture.

Critical Dates

Introduction in class:	February 25, 2022
Packets emailed to students:	March 14, 2022
Email Submission of Written Application:	April 8, 2022
Pin-Up Digital Submission:	April 22, 2022
Pin-up Exhibit & Digital Submission:	April 22-29, 2022
Email Notification of Admission Status:	May 6, 2022

Eligibility

- You must have completed or be one semester away from completing the required pre-professional courses and UF requirements as outlined in the Department of Landscape Architecture Required Undergraduate Curriculum.
- If the lower division Gen Ed requirements and the required courses in Landscape Architecture and Architecture are not completed prior to the close of spring semester 2022, you must indicate the specific deficiencies & planned schedule of completion in your formal letter of application. Other than ORH 3513c you may enter upper division with only one Gen Ed course incomplete. All math must be complete before entering upper division.
- When submitting an application, you must be enrolled or completed LAA 2360 Principles of Landscape Architecture at the University of Florida.
- If your GPA is lower than 2.75 you can not take LAA 2360.

Written Application—Due April 8, 2022

- Prior to submitting your application packet, you must make certain that transcripts for all your transfer course work completed prior to January 1, 2022, has been recorded in the Registrar's Office.
- All application materials must be emailed to Vanessa Niblett vniblett@dcp.ufl.edu (and copy Tina Gurucharri guruch@ufl.edu and Huiqing Kuang hkuang@ufl.edu) by 4:00 pm on Friday, April 8, 2022. Once this is received you will be assigned a numbered space on the 4th floor office wing hallways for the exhibit of your work (pin-up).
- Your application packet must contain:
 1. A current SASS audit (to be provided by the department).
 2. A one-page letter addressed to the Faculty Review Committee, stating your reasons for pursuing a degree in Landscape Architecture.
 3. A second letter describing any deficiencies in lower division requirements and the schedule with specific dates you anticipate completing these courses. Consideration will be given to the feasibility of your projections in the selection process. If there are no deficiencies, state no deficiencies. List your phone number, (current and summer) and e-mail address (UF and non-UF) and where you graduated from High School (name of school and city, county, and state where it is located).
- All application materials must be in one .pdf file, named "2022_BLA2_WrittenApplication_Your Last Name.pdf".

Pin-Up Criteria—Due April 22, 2022

Pin -Up includes three parts. 1) Exhibition; 2) Digital Board; 3) Digital Portfolio. Evaluations are anonymous so students need to cover or conceal their names on all project work.

- Content: The pin-up will consist of a physical board for exhibition and a digital portfolio. The exhibition should include the student's best work (final and process drawings) primarily from LAA 2360 (Principles of Landscape

Architecture), from LAA 2376 (Design Communications 1) and LAA 2379 (Design Communications 2), and work (drawings & models and/or photos of models are acceptable) from ARC 1301 (Architecture Design 1). Students should include 2D process & final drawings, and photos of 3D work such as grading & design models. The exhibition should include a variety of examples illustrating diversity as well as competence. The faculty are especially interested in seeing a student's understanding of the design process & of three-dimensional thinking. Students may only include work in which they are the sole authors.

- **Exhibition Format:** Each exhibition pin-up should be composed on 4'x7.5' white foam board. The board should be secured to the wall under your assigned number. The bottom of the vertical boards should be right above the black floor molding. The horizontal boards should rest on the wood hand rails. Three-dimensional exhibits (models) are encouraged but should not project more than 12" from the wall. No part of the exhibit should hang from the ceiling. The boards can be secured to the wall using pushpins. **No nails or adhesive are permitted.**
 - **Date:** Exhibition of all student work for Landscape Architecture will take place April 22-29, 2022.
 - **Location:** The exhibition will take place on the fourth floor of the administrative wing of the Architecture Building.
 - **Time:** All exhibits of work are to be installed between 7:30 and 10:30 AM on Friday, April 22. You must exhibit within the boundaries of your designated space. **During installation and removal noise in the corridors must be kept to a minimum.** The exhibit is to stay in place through noon on Friday, April 29. The exhibit area will not be accessible after 4:30 PM.
- **Digital Board Format:** Student's work should be composed in the Miro board: https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_lPi87j8=, under your assigned number and follow the template for ordering. You must exhibit all your work within the boundaries of your designated frames.
 - **Due date & time:** The Miro board will be locked on April 22, 2022, 11:59 pm.
 - **Review period:** Faculty will review your board from April 23 to 29, 2022.
- **Digital Portfolio Format:** One pdf file, named "2022_BLA2_Portfolio_Your Last Name.pdf", no more than 20 pages (including cover and table of contents), spread. The dimensions and ratios of the portfolio are up to you but should be large enough that you can see the material and small enough to be comfortable to manage when being held.
 - **Due date & Time:** The Digital Portfolio should be submitted to LAA2360c CANVAS site by April 22, 2022, 11:59pm.

Evaluation Criteria

- This program is limited access. Acceptance into upper division is based on faculty review of the pin-up (exhibit and portfolio), a competitive overall GPA, quality of written statement of interest, and review of performance of all landscape architecture courses.
- While the minimum acceptable GPA is 2.75, students need a minimum GPA of 3.0 to be competitive.
- Evaluations are anonymous so no names should appear on the pin-up exhibit. Faculty members will review and evaluate all exhibits individually. Evaluations are confidential.
- Students who score low on the exhibit, have an overall GPA under 2.75 or are deficient in lower division requirements may be eliminated from further consideration.
- Faculty members may choose to interview students if the composite of the exhibit score, GPA and the balance of the application materials do not provide a sufficient basis for an admissions decision.

Notification

- You will be notified via email (UF email address) of your admission status on Friday, May 6, 2022.
- Any students who are denied admission to the professional program during the Selective Admission process are encouraged to make an appointment with the Departmental Undergraduate Coordinator, Professor Tina Gurucharri, to discuss options and/or alternatives applicable to their academic circumstances.

Questions

- Questions concerning selective admissions should be directed to:
Professor Huiqing Kuang
hkuang@ufl.edu