Clemson University 2017-2018 Undergraduate Catalog

Landscape Architecture, BLA

Program Requirements

The profession of landscape architecture is broad and complex, and deals with multiple scales that range from the site to the region. Practicing landscape architects work on a wide range of project types, including, but not limited to, urban design, community design, historic preservation, ecological restoration, parks and park systems, infrastructure and storm water management, institutional landscapes, memorials, cemeteries, industrial site reclaims, golf courses, wilderness areas and trails, residential landscapes, and gardens.

The profession is both an art and a science. Successful landscape architects are creative professionals who hold an environmental imperative and a social conscience. They are also excellent facilitators, able to bring numerous disciplines and professions together to work on complex projects in the landscape. In the first two years of the program, students learn critical thinking, core principles and communications skills needed to pursue higher level work. In the junior year, students are required to select an off-campus, location-specific studio and co-required course work in order to fulfill their off-campus study requirement. In the students’ spring semester of their senior year, the final studio focuses on the synthesis of a final independent project.

Clemson’s Landscape Architecture program is noted for a special emphasis on the art of design. Consequently, the landscape architecture design studio experience is at the center of the student's education—42 hours of studio are required. The program leads to a nationally accredited Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree. The program is generalist, covering the major areas of practice and building from design basics to sophisticated studio experiences, such as large scale landscape planning; parks, recreation, and open space planning; and regional, urban, and community design. The studio experience is supported by other courses inside and outside the Landscape Architecture curriculum that provide the necessary grounding in landscape history and social, cultural, environmental, and aesthetic theories. Outstanding final year students may apply for admission into a shortened Master of City and Regional Planning, Master of Landscape Architecture, or Master of Real Estate Development program.

Accreditation and Registration

In the United States, most state registration boards require a degree from an accredited professional degree program as a prerequisite for licensure. The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB), which is the sole agency authorized to accredit U.S. professional degrees in landscape architecture, recognizes two types of degrees, the First Professional Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) and the First Professional Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA).

The Clemson University College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities, Department of Landscape Architecture, offers both LAAB accredited First Professional programs: BLA (124 credits) and MLA (81 credits).

The next BLA accreditation takes place fall 2019 and the next MLA accreditation takes place fall 2016.

Any undergraduate student who meets the Academic Eligibility Policy after attempting 12 credit hours at Clemson University (or who is allowed to continue by virtue of a semester 2.4 grade-point average on 12 earned credits or who is allowed to continue through appeal to the Appeals Committee on Academic Eligibility or by other authorization of this committee) may transfer from one major to another. Any college or department that seeks an exception to this policy must have the approval of the collegiate dean and the provost.

Freshman Year

First Semester

- ART 2100 - Art Appreciation 3 Credits
- ENGL 1030 - Composition and Rhetoric 3 Credits
First Semester

- LARC 1150 - Introduction to Landscape Architecture 3 Credits
- LARC 1280 - Technical Graphics 3 Credits
- LARC 1510 - Basic Design 1 3 Credits

Credit Hours: 15

Second Semester

- LARC 1160 - History of Landscape Architecture 3 Credits
- LARC 1520 - Basic Design II 6 Credits
- LARC 4280 - Landscape Architecture Computer-Aided Design 3 Credits
- MATH 1020 - Business Calculus 1 3 Credits

Credit Hours: 15

Sophomore Year

First Semester

- COMM 1500 - Introduction to Human Communication 3 Credits or
- COMM 2500 - Public Speaking 3 Credits

- HORT 3030 - Landscape Plants 3 Credits
- LARC 2510 - Landscape Architecture Design Fundamentals 6 Credits
- LARC 2620 - Design Implementation I 3 Credits

Credit Hours: 15

Second Semester

- BIOL 1030 - General Biology I 3 Credits
- BIOL 1050 - General Biology Laboratory I 1 Credits
- FOR (HORT) 4270 - Urban Tree Care 3 Credits
- LARC 2550 - Community Design Studio 6 Credits
- LARC 3620 - Design Implementation II 3 Credits

Credit Hours: 16

Junior Year

First Semester

- LARC 3510 - Regional Design and Ecology 6 Credits
- LARC 4620 - Design Implementation III 3 Credits
- Mathematics or Natural Science Requirement 3 Credits
- Social Science Requirement 3 Credits
- Elective 3 Credits

Credit Hours: 18
Second Semester

- LARC 3190 - Off-Campus Field Study 3 Credits
- LARC 3210 - Landscape Architectural Seminar 3 Credits
- LARC 3550 - Off-Campus Studio 6 Credits
- Elective 3 Credits

Credit Hours: 15

Senior Year

First Semester

- LARC 4530 - Key Issues in Landscape Architecture 3 Credits
- LARC 4540 - Urban Design Studio 6 Credits
- Arts and Humanities (Literature) Requirement 3 Credits
- Elective 3 Credits

Credit Hours: 15

Second Semester

- LARC 4550 - Landscape Architecture Exit Project 6 Credits
- LARC 4810 - Landscape Architecture Professional Practice 3 Credits
- Cross-Cultural Awareness Requirement 3 Credits
- Elective 3 Credits

Credit Hours: 15

Total Semester Hours: 124

1 See General Education Requirements.