Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	MA Landscape Architecture (part time)
2	**Course Code**	PT1085
3	**Awarding Institution**	Birmingham City University
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)	
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)	The Landscape Institute International Federation of Landscape Architects

6	**Course Description**

This MA Landscape Architecture enables applicants who have an accredited degree in Landscape Architecture an opportunity to progress their studies and take the next step towards being a Chartered Landscape Architect.

What's covered in the course?
Year 1
The course is structured using a studio format, with year 1 studio delivering three design projects that explore issues that are defined by Landscape Institute policy and the International agenda. Projects explore design as a process led narrative that develops theory and builds on the knowledge and skills acquired in your degree. The format of studio learning is continued with an increased emphasis on research and design experimentation. Our links to practices and our Co.Lab partners offer an opportunity for being involved in the complex nature and the challenges of being a landscape architect in the real world, to collaborate with local stakeholders and institutions and work alongside colleagues across the university on projects that demonstrate the authority of Landscape Architecture to improve the quality of urban and rural living. These include research-led design projects investigating public health and well-being, habitat creation and biodiversity, and climate change resilience, settlement design, food security and large infrastructure schemes like High Speed 2 (HS2) and systems scale interventions.

Year 2
The second year continues the ethos of the course and through your Design Thesis project you will investigate landscape architecture as a sequence of interrelated designed environments. These provide scope for a design laboratory connected by land, ecology, water, climate and infrastructure, linked to a cultural context that extends from parish to global political and economic systems across the full range of scales.

You will build on your management and design skills through Praxis and Personal Research

assignments which together deliver creative, artistic, technical and intellectual abilities that are applied to the investigation of contemporary issues and problems. The learning experience reflects the diversity of projects which grow in complexity whilst gaining an understanding of the design process and attainment of professional level communication skills.

Employment opportunities and flexible leaning

The course has very strong links with regional and national employers with many students opting to work in practice and study part time after year one. To help with managing the MA with your existing commitments we have structured the course to provide some flexibility so that you have the option to complete the MA LA in one year or two years part time.

Professional standards

The course is assessed yearly to evaluate how it meets the accreditation standards set by the Landscape Institute especially the curriculum and how this facilitates employment ready students. To ensure the academic rigor and creative flair is maintained the course is reviewed annually by External Examiners.

Our MA LA courses are fully accredited by the Landscape Institute and recognised by the International Federation of Landscape Architects. We are also an active member of the European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools.

7	Course Awards		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	Masters of Arts Landscape Architecture	7	180
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) Landscape Architecture	7	120

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	Not applicable

9	Delivery Patterns

Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
Part time	City Centre	2 years , one day per week	PT1085

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10	**Entry Requirements**

The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at

https://www.bcu.ac.uk/ .

11	**Course Learning Outcomes**
	Knowledge & Understanding
1	Design theories and processes and their application to design proposals in space and time, including research and reflective analysis.
2	Environmental systems and natural processes and their application and deployment in design proposals to achieve environmentally responsible and visually appropriate solutions in complex spatial and temporal situations.
3	The histories, practices and cultural context of landscape design, the analysis and use of precedents in design practice.
4	The properties of construction and planting materials and their use in design proposals.
	Cognitive & Intellectual Skills
5	To engage students with the current research in the discipline currently being undertaken within the Birmingham School of Architecture and Design.
6	To provide a supportive learning environment for experimentation and risk taking that enables students to develop their creative and critical judgement of their own explorations of the process.
7	Critical thinking and reflection – the ability to understand and employ, criticise and evaluate new ideas, articulate valid methods and alternative approaches.
8	Communication – the ability to communicate ideas clearly and effectively in a variety of professional contexts and to a range of different audiences, using appropriate media and techniques and the ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing.
	Practical & Professional Skills
9	To give students the confidence and enthusiasm to work within and take on the challenges of an expanding and increasingly diverse profession.
10	To provide a challenging and stimulating framework within which students can consolidate and take forward to a high level of design excellence using a variety of communication techniques to articulate design proposals in a variety of media and forms to a diverse audience.
11	To develop skills in the design and specification of construction of hard landscapes and planting proposals.
12	Provide skillsets in the inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary interface between the different areas of the profession, and between landscape architecture and other professions.
	Key Transferable Skills
13	Develop the ability to define and analyse problems and issues, think independently, exercise judgement and develop creative and innovative solutions.
14	Team and independent working – ability to work effectively both independently and collaboratively with others to achieve outcomes.
15	Self/career management skills – the ability to plan, reflect and review own learning and achievements identify opportunities for development; set personal and professional goals; ability

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16	to prioritise and manage own time.
16	Information technology – awareness of and ability to use IT packages and tools commonly encountered in the professional workplaces.

12	**Course Requirements**
12a	**Year 1 module matrix** **In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 180 credits):**

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
LAN 7341	Design Theory and Practice	20
LAN 7342	Personal Research part 1	20
LAN 7339	Co.Lab	20
LAN 7344	Synthesis to Detail	20

Year 2 module matrix

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
LAN 7342	Personal Research Part 2	20
LAN 7345	Thesis Design Project	60
LAN 7346	Praxis	20

12b   Structure Diagram   Level 7

Year 1		
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
Core: LAN7341 Design Theory and Practice (20 credits)	Core: LAN7339 CoLAB (20 credits)	
Core: LAN7342 Personal research part 1 (20 credits)	Core: LAN7344 Synthesis to Detail (20 credits)	

Year 2		
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
Core: LAN7345 Design Thesis (60 credits)		
	Core: LAN7346 Praxis (20 credits)	
Core: LAN7342 Personal Research part 2 (20 credits)		