

## Course Specification

| Course Summary Information |   |   |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| 1                          | <b>Course Title</b>   | MA Landscape Architecture (MA LA)   |
| 2                          | <b>Course Code</b>  | PT1204  |
| 3                          | <b>Awarding Institution</b>   | Birmingham City University  |
| 4                          | <b>Teaching Institution(s)</b><br>(if different from point 3)                         |   |
| 5                          | <b>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation</b> (if applicable) | The Landscape Institute<br>International Federation of Landscape Architects |

| 6 | Course Description  |
|---|---|
|   | <p>This MA Landscape Architecture enables applicants who have an accredited degree in Landscape Architecture, or completed a MA LA conversion year an opportunity to progress their studies and take the next step towards being a Chartered Landscape Architect.</p> <p><b>What's covered in the course?</b></p> <p>The course is structured so that two studios run in parallel. The first studio design series is explored 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. These include research-led design projects relating to 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. The ethos of the course is that landscape is a sequence of interrelated designed environments that provides the 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.</p> <p>You will build on your existing skills and develop creative, artistic, technical and intellectual abilities through a range of design projects that explore contemporary issues and problems. The learning experience reflects the diversity of projects which grow in scale and complexity whilst gaining an understanding of the design process and attainment of professional level communication skills.</p> <p>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 and involves projects that facilitate Landscape Institute policy.</p> |

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|  | <p><b>Employment opportunities and flexible leaning</b></p> <p>The course has very strong links with regional and national employers with many students opting to work in practice and study part time. 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 full time or two years part time.</p> <p><b>Professional standards</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> |
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| <b>7</b>  | <b>Course Awards</b>                                |              |                        |
| <b>7a</b> | <b>Name of Final Award</b>                          | <b>Level</b> | <b>Credits Awarded</b> |
|           | Masters of Arts Landscape Architecture              | 7            | 180                    |
| <b>7b</b> | <b>Exit Awards and Credits Awarded</b>              |              |                        |
|           | Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) Landscape Architecture | 7            | 120                    |

|          |   |
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| <b>8</b> | <b>Derogation from the University Regulations</b> |
|          | Not applicable                                    |

|          |                          |                             |                          |                |
|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| <b>9</b> | <b>Delivery Patterns</b> |                             |                          |                |
|          | <b>Mode(s) of Study</b>  | <b>Location(s) of Study</b> | <b>Duration of Study</b> | <b>Code(s)</b> |
|          | Full Time                | City Centre                 | 1 year, two days/ week   | PT1204         |
|          | Part time                | City Centre                 | 2 years, one day/ week   | PT 1085        |

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| <b>10</b> | <b>Entry Requirements</b>   |
|           | <p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at <a href="https://www.bcu.ac.uk/">https://www.bcu.ac.uk/</a> .</p> |

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| <b>11</b> | <b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>  |
|           | <b>Knowledge &amp; Understanding</b>   |
| <b>1</b>  | Design theories and processes and their application to design proposals in space and time, including research and reflective analysis.   |
| <b>2</b>  | 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.   |
| <b>3</b>  | The histories, practices and cultural context of landscape design, the analysis and use of precedents in design practice.  |
| <b>4</b>  | The properties of construction and planting materials and their use in design proposals.   |
|           | <b>Cognitive &amp; Intellectual Skills</b>   |
| <b>5</b>  | To engage students with the current research in the discipline currently being undertaken within the Birmingham School of Architecture and Design.   |
| <b>6</b>  | 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.  |
| <b>7</b>  | Critical thinking and reflection – the ability to understand and employ, criticise and evaluate new ideas, articulate valid methods and alternative approaches.  |
| <b>8</b>  | 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.                   |
|           | <b>Practical &amp; Professional Skills</b>   |
| <b>9</b>  | To give students the confidence and enthusiasm to work within and take on the challenges of an expanding and increasingly diverse profession.  |
| <b>10</b> | 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. |
| <b>11</b> | To develop skills in the design and specification of construction of hard landscapes and planting proposals.   |
| <b>12</b> | Provide skillsets in the inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary interface between the different areas of the profession, and between landscape architecture and other professions.  |
|           | <b>Key Transferable Skills</b>   |
| <b>13</b> | Develop the ability to define and analyse problems and issues, think independently, exercise judgement and develop creative and innovative solutions.  |
| <b>14</b> | Team and independent working – ability to work effectively both independently and collaboratively with others to achieve outcomes.   |
| <b>15</b> | 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 to prioritise and manage own time.  |
| <b>16</b> | Information technology – awareness of and ability to use IT packages and tools commonly encountered in the professional workplaces.  |

| <b>12</b>          | <b>Course Requirements</b>   |                     |                    |                     |          |                            |    |          |                   |    |          |        |    |          |                     |    |          |                       |    |          |        |    |
|--------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|----------------------------|----|----------|-------------------|----|----------|--------|----|----------|---------------------|----|----------|-----------------------|----|----------|--------|----|
| <b>12a</b>         | <p><b>MA LA module matrix</b></p> <p><b>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 180 credits):</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="193 488 1370 768"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="193 488 440 555"><b>Module Code</b></th> <th data-bbox="440 488 1123 555"><b>Module Name</b></th> <th data-bbox="1123 488 1370 555"><b>Credit Value</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="193 555 440 591">LAN 7341</td> <td data-bbox="440 555 1123 591">Design Theory and Practice</td> <td data-bbox="1123 555 1370 591">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="193 591 440 627">LAN 7342</td> <td data-bbox="440 591 1123 627">Personal Research</td> <td data-bbox="1123 591 1370 627">40</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="193 627 440 663">LAN 7339</td> <td data-bbox="440 627 1123 663">Co.Lab</td> <td data-bbox="1123 627 1370 663">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="193 663 440 698">LAN 7344</td> <td data-bbox="440 663 1123 698">Synthesis to Detail</td> <td data-bbox="1123 663 1370 698">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="193 698 440 734">LAN 7345</td> <td data-bbox="440 698 1123 734">Thesis Design Project</td> <td data-bbox="1123 698 1370 734">60</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="193 734 440 768">LAN 7346</td> <td data-bbox="440 734 1123 768">Praxis</td> <td data-bbox="1123 734 1370 768">20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | <b>Module Code</b>  | <b>Module Name</b> | <b>Credit Value</b> | LAN 7341 | Design Theory and Practice | 20 | LAN 7342 | Personal Research | 40 | LAN 7339 | Co.Lab | 20 | LAN 7344 | Synthesis to Detail | 20 | LAN 7345 | Thesis Design Project | 60 | LAN 7346 | Praxis | 20 |
| <b>Module Code</b> | <b>Module Name</b>   | <b>Credit Value</b> |                    |                     |          |                            |    |          |                   |    |          |        |    |          |                     |    |          |                       |    |          |        |    |
| LAN 7341           | Design Theory and Practice   | 20                  |                    |                     |          |                            |    |          |                   |    |          |        |    |          |                     |    |          |                       |    |          |        |    |
| LAN 7342           | Personal Research  | 40                  |                    |                     |          |                            |    |          |                   |    |          |        |    |          |                     |    |          |                       |    |          |        |    |
| LAN 7339           | Co.Lab   | 20                  |                    |                     |          |                            |    |          |                   |    |          |        |    |          |                     |    |          |                       |    |          |        |    |
| LAN 7344           | Synthesis to Detail  | 20                  |                    |                     |          |                            |    |          |                   |    |          |        |    |          |                     |    |          |                       |    |          |        |    |
| LAN 7345           | Thesis Design Project  | 60                  |                    |                     |          |                            |    |          |                   |    |          |        |    |          |                     |    |          |                       |    |          |        |    |
| LAN 7346           | Praxis   | 20                  |                    |                     |          |                            |    |          |                   |    |          |        |    |          |                     |    |          |                       |    |          |        |    |

**12b Structure Diagram**

Level 7

| Semester 1  | Semester 2   | Semester 3 |
|---|--|------------|
| Core: LAN7341<br>Design Theory and Practice<br>( 20 credits ) | Core: LAN7339<br>CoLAB<br>( 20 credits )               |            |
| Core: LAN7342<br>Personal Research part 1<br>( 20 credits )   | Core: LAN7344<br>Synthesis to Detail<br>( 20 credits ) |            |
| Core: LAN7345<br>Design Thesis<br>( 60 credits )              |  |            |
|   | Core: LAN7346<br>Praxis<br>( 20 credits )              |            |
| Core: LAN7342<br>Personal Research part 2 ( 20 credits )      |  |            |