

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MA Landscape Architecture (with Conversion year)
2	Course Code	PT1208
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
	<p>This MA Landscape Architecture Conversion course enables applicants who don't have a degree in Landscape Architecture an opportunity to take the first steps in becoming a Chartered member of the Landscape Institute.</p> <p>This 2-years programme has two stages, stage one covers the foundation modules in the first year and stage two in the second year you will be joining students who have an accredited degree in Landscape Architecture. This conversion MA LA is structured so that year one is a foundation course. It introduces you to design skills and techniques used to respond to the project briefs and year two of the course you will join with students who have an accredited degree in Landscape Architecture. The MA LA promotes solutions to environmental and community problems in a creative studio environment. The project profiles provide an opportunity to work closely with Landscape Institute policy and demonstrate the authority of Landscape Architecture as a design tool that reshapes our designed ecologies and designed geographies across the full range of scales.</p> <p>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>Year 1 is structured to develop key design and communication skills that support all aspects of projects in a studio-based learning environment which is underpinned by landscape history and theory lectures. Students build upon their 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 of the profession communication skills. Students will learn that landscape is a sequence of interrelated designed environments connected by land, ecology, water, climate and infrastructure, sitting in a cultural context that extends from Parish to global political and economic systems.</p> <p>Year 2 builds on the foundation of knowledge and skills acquired in year 1. The format of studio learning is continued with an increased emphasis on research and 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</p>

	<p>infrastructure schemes like High Speed 2 (HS2) and systems scale interventions</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> <p>The design skills will develop process led narratives using industry standard visual communication and analysis techniques which include digital mapping and three dimensional modelling, model making, virtual reality, visualisation, rendering, sketching and drawing, infographics and design across the range of scales.</p> <p>Employment opportunities and flexible leaning</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 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 two years (the second year is two days a week) or continuing with a one day a week model and complete the MA LA in three years</p> <p>Professional standards</p> <p>Each year 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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7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Masters of Arts Landscape Architecture	6 and 7	300
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Postgraduate Diploma Landscape Architecture stage 2	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)
Full Time	City Centre	2 years Year 1 one day/week, Year 2 two days per week	PT1208
Part Time	City Centre	3 years 1 day per week	PT 1208 and PT1085

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 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	<p>Year 1 <i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LAN 6109</td> <td>Skills</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAN 6110</td> <td>Designed Ecologies</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAN 7340</td> <td>Designed Geographies</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAN 7343</td> <td>Landscape Culture and Nature</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Year 2 <i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 180 credits):</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LAN 7341</td> <td>Design Theory and Practice</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAN 7342</td> <td>Personal Research</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAN 7339</td> <td>Co.Lab</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAN 7344</td> <td>Synthesis to Detail</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAN 7345</td> <td>Thesis Design Project</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LAN 7346</td> <td>Praxis</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	LAN 6109	Skills	20	LAN 6110	Designed Ecologies	40	LAN 7340	Designed Geographies	40	LAN 7343	Landscape Culture and Nature	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	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
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12b Structure Diagram

Year 1, Stage 1		
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
Core: LAN6110 Designed Ecologies (40 credits)	Core: LAN7340 Designed Geographies (40 credits)	
Core: LAN6109 Skills (20 credits)		
Core: LAN7343 Landscape Culture and Nature (20 credits)		
Year 2, Stage 2		
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)	
Core: LAN7345 Design Thesis (60 credits)		
	Core: LAN7346 Praxis (20 credits)	
Core: LAN7342 Personal Research part 2 (20 credits)		