



Landscape Architecture

2139 Plant Sciences Building

(301) 405-4359

www.larch.umd.edu

Key Features of a Landscape Architecture Major

- Encompasses the analysis, planning, design, management, and stewardship of the natural and built environment.
- Emphasizes regional, local and site-specific issues influenced by rapid urbanization and the danger to fragile ecosystems, particularly in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
- Disseminates information in a manner that makes students aware of their environmental and social responsibility within a global perspective.
- Uses the design studio experience to focus the students on the ecological and cultural synthesis of research and observation in the process of site, community, urban and regional design and planning.
- Combines a love of people, nature, art, and hard work.

Career Options & Salaries with a Landscape Architecture Major

As a landscape architect, you would plan and design traditional places such as parks, residential developments, campuses, gardens, cemeteries, commercial centers, resorts, transportation facilities, corporate and institutional centers and waterfront developments. You might also design and plan the restoration of natural places disturbed by humans, such as wetlands, stream corridors, mined areas, and forested land. Appreciation for historic landscapes and cultural resources enables landscape architects to undertake preservation planning projects for national, regional, and local historic sites and areas. Working with architects, city planners, civil engineers and other professionals, landscape architects play an important role in environmental protection by designing and implementing projects that respect both the needs of people and of our environment.

Median annual earnings for a Landscape Architect in May 2015 were \$63,810 (from *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2016-17* <http://stats.bls.gov/oco/>).

Advising

If you are not yet a Landscape Architecture student but are interested in becoming one please contact Diana Cortez, Coordinator of Academic Programs, for any questions. In addition, you will also need to see your primary advisor if your primary major is not LARC. You may email Diana at dcortez@umd.edu to set up a time to meet. Include your UID# as well.

Diana Cortez, Coordinator of Academic Programs

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For more information visit, <https://larch.umd.edu/academics/advising>

Declaring a Landscape Architecture Major

Landscape Architecture is not a Limited Enrollment Program (LEP). If you are interested in a Landscape Architecture major, you can declare immediately!

Four Year Plan (Gen Ed)

First Year:

ENGL 101(AW)	3	LARC 140	4
MATH 113 or 115 (MA)	3	PLSC 100 (NL)	4
LARC 120	2	Gen Ed (NS)	3
LARC 160 (SP)	3	<u>Gen Ed (OC)</u>	<u>3</u>
Gen Ed (AR)	3		14 credits
<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>		
	17 credits		

Second Year:

LARC 141	4	LARC 221	3
LARC 263 (HU, CC)	3	LARC 240	4
PLSC 253	3	PLSC 254	3
<u>Gen Ed (IS)*</u>	<u>6</u>	ENST 200	4
	16 credits	<u>LARC265</u>	<u>3</u>
			17 credits

Third Year:

LARC 340	5	LARC 341	5
LARC 320	3	LARC 321	3
GEOG 340 or 372	3	LARC489	3
ENGL 393	3	Elective	3
<u>Gen Ed (HU,CC/UP)*</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Gen Ed (HS)</u>	<u>3</u>
	14 credits		17 credits

Fourth Year:

LARC 440	5	LARC 471	5
LARC 420	3	Gen Ed (IS)*	3
LARC 450 or 451	3	Gen Ed (SP non-major)	3
LARC 470	3	<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>LARC 389</u>	<u>3</u>		14 credits
	17 credits		

TOTAL = 126 credits

* All students must complete two Distributive Studies Courses that are approved for I-series courses.

** Must be completed with a minimum grade of B or better

*** Must be completed with a minimum grade of C or better

Students must also have grades of C or better in all required courses with the LARC designation

Four Year Plan (CORE)

First Year:

ENGL 101	3	LARC 140	4
MATH 112	3	PLSC 100 (LL)	4
LARC 120	2	CORE (PS)	3
LARC 160 (HO)	3	<u>CORE (SB)</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>CORE (SH)</u>	<u>3</u>		14 credits
	14 credits		

Second Year:

LARC 141	4	LARC 221	3
LARC 263	3	LARC 240	4
PLSC 253	3	PLSC 254	3
CORE (SB)	3	NRSC 200	4
<u>CORE (HL)</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>CORE (HA)</u>	<u>3</u>
	16 credits		17 credits

Third Year:

LARC 340	5	LARC 341	5
LARC 320	3	LARC 321	3
GEOG 340	3	LARC489	3
ENGL 393	3	<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>CORE or Elective</u>	<u>3</u>		14 credits
	17 credits		

Fourth Year:

LARC 440	5	LARC 471	5
LARC 420	3	LARC 389	3
LARC 450	3	Elective	3
<u>LARC 470</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Elective</u>	<u>3</u>
	14 credits		14 credits

TOTAL = 120 credits

Q & A

Is Landscape Architecture a good alternative to the regular Architecture major?

Yes and no. It's very important to understand that although the word "architecture" is used in both majors, there are some similarities but also many differences between the two majors. A landscape architect employs the same tools as architects, but also acts in regard to the environment in which he or she is working. Landscape Architects don't design buildings; they design the environment of neighborhoods, towns and cities while protecting and managing the natural environment. So, before you choose this major as a possible alternative to Architecture, ask yourself if you're ready to learn about what architects do *and* about plants, soils and the environment. They are very different majors.

What opportunities are there for me to get "real-life" experience in Landscape Architecture?

The Landscape Architecture department offers an array of opportunities for students to get first-hand experience and knowledge of their chosen profession. The "Job Shadow" program allows students to spend time observing and talking with professionals in the field. In past years, as many as eighteen firms participated in this program, providing interested students a unique opportunity to see first-hand exactly what landscape architects do on a day-to-day basis. Through Study Abroad, students have the opportunity to study and work on some of the world's greatest landscape and environmental projects. Seminars provide context and theory, then students apply that knowledge to work in both urban and rural settings, often working with professionals from a variety of disciplines.

Is there a minor in Landscape Architecture?

There is currently no minor available in Landscape Architecture. For those interested in the business side of landscaping and environment, the Department of Plant Sciences offers a minor in **Landscape Management**. This combination of Plant Sciences and Business Management requires 18-19 credits. Interested students should contact Plant Sciences in 2102 Plant Sciences Building, 301-405-4355.