LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE (LARC)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Agriculture and Natural Resources

Abstract
The Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) is a professional degree program that prepares students for work as academicians and practitioners. The three-year first professional degree curriculum is for students who have a bachelor's degree in a non-design field. The MLA is a degree that is accredited by the LAAB (Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board), which allows graduates to sit for the professional license exam (LARE). The two-year post-professional degree curriculum is for students who have a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture or a related design field. Through the required courses, concentration electives, and individual research, each student will acquire a thorough theoretical basis, grounding in methods and practices, and exposure to contemporary local and global issues. The required studio courses and the thesis or creative project, conducted with faculty and community partners, advances the knowledge base of landscape architecture through research and community outreach activities.

Our extensive hands-on training and real-world creative problem-solving approaches provide you the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to excel and make a difference. The studio experience provides an opportunity to implement ecological design solutions ranging from development, conservation, and restoration. From creating livable communities to solving environmental design problems, Landscape Architects are committed to helping shape the future while protecting the past.

The MLA program is interdisciplinary in its philosophy and its operation. Individual courses convey concepts and tools from diverse disciplines and studio, research, and outreach projects have a multi-discipline association. Project and research advisors come from faculty in Landscape Architecture, Plant Science, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, American Studies, Architecture, Urban Studies and Planning, Historic Preservation, Real Estate Development, and other academic disciplines and professional partnerships.

Financial Assistance
A limited number of Graduate Assistantships are available to qualified students. These include Teaching, Research, and Administration Assistantships. Assistantships can be 9-month or 12-month appointments and include tuition remission (5 to 10 credits each semester, commensurate with GA appointment), an annual salary, health benefits, and in-state tuition, in exchange for 10 to 20 hours of work per week. Scholarships, fellowships, and other funding sources are available through a variety of external agents, such as the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF), the Garden Club of America (GCA), and others, including the following:

- Steven G. King Play Environments Scholarship: undergraduate or graduate students enrolled at LAAB-accredited schools. Award: $5,000.
- The Dangermond Fellowship: graduate students in the United States. Award: Up to three (3) $10,000 fellowships.
- Peridian International, Inc./Rae L. Price, FASLA Scholarship. Award: $5,000.
- The Douglas Dockery Thomas Fellowship in Garden History and Design: graduate student in the United States. Award: $4,000.

Contact
Sharde Davenport
Executive Administrative Assistant
2104 Plant Sciences Building
4291 Fieldhouse Drive
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742
Telephone: 301.405.6244
Fax: 301.314.9308
Email: sdav@umd.edu

Christopher D. Ellis, Ph.D., PLA, ASLA
Associate Professor, Director of Landscape Architecture Programs
Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
2144 Plant Science Building
4291 Fieldhouse Drive
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742
Telephone: 301.405.4350
Fax: 301.314.9308
Email: cdellis@umd.edu

Website: http://larch.umd.edu

Courses: LARC


Admissions
General Requirements
- Statement of Purpose
- Transcript(s)
- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements))

Program-Specific Requirements
- Letters of Recommendation (3)
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- CV/Resume
- Portfolio (Multimedia Requirements section of application)
Portfolios
The portfolio is a compilation of graphic, written or scored work that you have created or observed and recorded. This collection should show your interest and aptitude for the visual language of design. Expertise in design is welcomed but not required. The portfolio should illustrate your interests in a variety of areas related to landscape architecture and environmental design. This portfolio should be uploaded digitally with your application. If you have any questions please email Sharde Davenport at sdav@umd.edu. Portfolios are due no later than the application deadline. PLEASE NOTE: Transcripts and financial information should be sent to: University of Maryland ESO-Graduate Rm 0130 Mitchell Building College Park, MD 20742.

For more admissions information or to apply to the program, please visit our Graduate School website: www.gradschool.umd.edu/admissions

Application Deadlines

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<tr>
<th>Type of Applicant</th>
<th>Fall Deadline</th>
<th>Spring Deadline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Applicants</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Citizens and Permanent Residents</td>
<td>Preferred: 1 Feb / Final: 18 Dec</td>
<td>27 July</td>
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<td>International Applicants</td>
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<td>F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A, E, G, H, I and L visas and immigrants</td>
<td>Preferred: 1 Feb / Final: 28 Sep</td>
<td>15 Mar</td>
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Other Deadlines: Please visit the program website at http://larch.umd.edu

Requirements

- Landscape Architecture, Master of Landscape Architecture (M.L.A.) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduateprograms/landscape-architecture-larc/landscape-architecture-mla)

Facilities and Special Resources

The Master of Landscape Architecture program is accredited by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB) of the American Society of Landscape Architects. The program maintains a balance between design theory and application in a professional degree curriculum. The MLA program builds upon the strengths of the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture (PSLA) and the Landscape Architecture Program (LARC). The PSLA Department is composed of faculty members who specialize in landscape architecture, landscape history, ecology, plant science, urban forestry, turf and golf course management, and landscape management. It provides a strong, comprehensive grounding for landscape design, planning and preservation, landscape assessment, site and ecological systems analysis, plant identification, plant conservation, and plant pathology. Other environmental programs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources offer knowledge and practical insight into the science of ecology, ecological restoration, water and soil conservation, and forest management. The MLA builds on this collaboration through advanced courses, student advising, and the contribution of non-teaching programs such as lectures, symposia and research projects.

The Master of Landscape Architecture Program is located in the Plant Sciences Building on the College Park campus. Advanced individual computing facilities, personal drafting stations, scanning and printing facilities, and a model-making workshop are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to every student in the MLA program.