

PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

Title of the Proposal:

Revision of Undergraduate Requirements for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
College of Fine and Applied Arts

Sponsoring Unit:

Department of Landscape Architecture
Gary Kesler, Associate Head and Undergraduate Studies Coordinator
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Date

13 November 2006

Brief Description:

Implement a two-semester requirement for students to engage in a professional internship following the third year in the BLA degree program (see attached curriculum sheet). An alternative of completing one semester internship and one semester of off-campus study would also be permitted pending approval by the Associate Head. Credit hours required for the degree increase from 128 to 152.

Justification

The BLA program at UIUC is one of the few four-year professional degree programs in the country and the only accredited degree in landscape architecture in the state of Illinois. We compete for student recruits against predominately five year programs in the middle-west, most of which require completion of a semester to full year professional internship. Graduates of these programs, with whom our students compete for entry level jobs upon completion of the degree, have a distinct advantage in the marketplace. Although we have maintained an internship course for several years as an elective, students and alumni have recently made a concerted request that we implement a required internship program. Presently, required coursework in the curriculum compares quite closely and favorably with other accredited, professional programs.

The goal of the internship is to enhance student experience through the application of skills and knowledge gained in the classroom. It will offer opportunity to expose students to aspects of practice best learned in an office environment (such as monitoring of construction, client interaction, project management and budgeting). An internship could also prove helpful in identifying key areas of individual student interest, such as ecological design or planning for special populations, which may then be further developed with UIUC faculty experts in those fields in the final undergraduate year or lead to master's level study. Students will be expected to share their experiences in the professional practice class taken in the fall semester of the senior year (LA 346). An internship requirement will also contribute significantly to improving resumes and project portfolios and preparing students to successfully compete for entry level employment as professional designers.

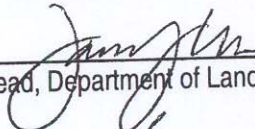
Budgetary and Staff Implications

- a. *Additional Staff and Dollars Needed:* Administration of the program is expected to require an additional \$10,000 per year. We have development funds committed for this purpose and will internally reallocate resources on an annual basis as needed to properly manage the program.
- b. *Internal Reallocations:* The Department Associate Head and our Academic Advisor will share the responsibility for managing the internship program. It is expected that an additional 25% release from teaching will be required.
- c. *Effect on Course Enrollment:* There will be a one year decrease in enrollment in senior year classes when the first class of interns steps out, but no lasting effect on number of majors or course enrollment is expected.
- d. *Impact on Library, Computer Use, Laboratory Use, Equipment, etc.:* None.

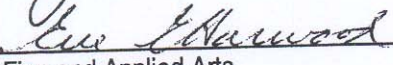
Guidelines for Undergraduate Education

The scope of landscape architectural practice is expanding and becoming increasingly specialized. The current BLA curriculum in accordance with accreditation standards focuses on exposing students to the breadth of practice and the basic skills and knowledge required for general practice. Internships allow students to refine skills, to expand knowledge, and to experience first hand application of the theories and values taught in the classroom. Completing the internship after the third year allows the student to return to the classroom prepared to select electives and to pursue capstone studio work that will help focus their career options and strengthen their credentials whether they choose to pursue advanced degrees or opportunities in professional practice.

CLEARANCES


Head, Department of Landscape Architecture

10/30/06
Date


College of Fine and Applied Arts

11/12/06
Date

Chair, Senate Educational Policy Committee

Date

Office of the Provost

Date

Statement for Programs of Study Catalog

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
www.landarch.uiuc.edu

The Department of Landscape Architecture offers a five-year undergraduate curriculum leading to the professional degree of Bachelor of Landscape Architecture. The BLA is accredited by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB). A two-semester internship totaling 24 credit hours in a department approved design office or agency is required, with fifty employment hours equivalent to one hour of course credit.

The curriculum is a balanced program of technical, design, and general education courses that prepare the student with the necessary skills for entry-level professional practice in private offices or public agencies. Program requirements include design studio courses and classes in plants and planting design, engineering, site construction, design communication, history and theory. In addition, students must complete two semesters of professional internship (LA 345) or combination of internship and off-campus study (LA 399). A minimum of 15 hours of credit in supporting electives must be taken in related art and science courses. A total of 152 semester hours of credit are required for graduation.

A student must have and maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative University of Illinois grade point average to continue beyond the sophomore year. Transfer applicants must have completed 30 or more semester hours of undergraduate course work with an earned GPA of at least 2.75 (A = 4.0) including prerequisite credits in Composition I, physical geography or geology, plant or environmental biology, trigonometry, and quantitative reasoning.

The department's administrative office, upper-level studios, faculty offices, and classrooms are located in Temple Hoyne Buell Hall. The sophomore studio and departmental library are located in Mumford Hall.

Effective Date

Goal is for this revision to take effect with the class entering in the Fall of 2007 or as soon as possible thereafter.

PROPOSED UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM

Department of Landscape Architecture

October 2006

University of Illinois

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture: 152 credit hours required

Proposed Changes are Indicated by Bold-Italic Text

For more information, see www.landarch.uiuc.edu

For Schedule, Courses Catalog and Gen Ed Distribution List, see www.courses.uiuc.edu

FIRST SEMESTER

SECOND SEMESTER

First Year

LA 101 Intro to Landscape Architecture	2	Social/Cultural Factors in Design Elective ²	3
Geog 103 Earth's Physical Systems or Geol 101 Intro to Physical Geology ¹	4	IB 102, 103 or 105 Plant or Environ. Biology ¹	3
Rhet 105 OR 108 Composition	4	Quantitative Reasoning I	3
Math 16 Algebra & Trig OR		General Education Elective	3
Math 14 Plane Trig & Elective	5	General Education Elective	3
	<u>15</u>	Elective (Discovery Course or Other)	<u>1</u>
			<u>16</u>

Second Year

LA 233 Foundation Design Studio	5	LA 234 Site Design Studio	5
LA 250 Environmental Site Analysis	3	LA 241 Landform Design & Construction	3
LA 280 Design Communications I	3	LA 281 Design Communications II ³	3
UP 101 Planning of Cities & Regions	3	LA 314 History of World Landscapes	3
General Education Elective	<u>3</u>	General Education Elective	<u>3</u>
	<u>17</u>		<u>17</u>

Third Year

LA 335 Community & Open Space Studio	5	LA 336 Design Workshop Studio I	5
LA 342 Site Engineering	4	LA 343 Landscape Construction	4
HORT 301 Woody Ornamentals I	3	HORT 302 Woody Ornamentals II	3
Supporting Elective	<u>3</u>	Supporting Elective	<u>3</u>
	<u>15</u>		<u>15</u>

Fourth Year

<i>LA 345 Professional Internship OR LA 399 Off-Campus Study</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>LA 345 Professional Internship OR LA 399 Off-Campus Study</i>	<i>12</i>
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Fifth Year

LA 437 Regional Design Studio	5	LA 438 Design Workshop Studio II	5
LA 452 Natural Precedent in Planting	3	LA 453 Cultural Precedent in Planting	3
LA 346 Professional Practice	2	Supporting Elective	3
Supporting Elective	3	Supporting Elective	3
Quantitative Reasoning II	<u>3</u>	Elective	<u>3</u>
	<u>16</u>		<u>17</u>

¹ IB 102, 103 or 105 and Geog 103/Geol 101 fulfill Gen Ed Natural Sci. and Technology requirement.

² Social/Cultural Factors Elective course options are LA 215, LA 218, LA 220, LA 222, LA 242, LA 270 or LA 470.

³ LA 281 fulfills University Advanced Composition requirement

Progress Rule: In this curriculum, normal progress towards the degree is imperative. A student failing to complete any required course, in both landscape architecture and non-LA required courses, more than one semester later than the time designated in the curriculum may be encumbered from registration in landscape architectural courses until the deficiency is corrected.

GPA Rule: Students must have a minimum 2.5 (A=4.0) all-university grade point average and a 2.5 grade point average in all required landscape architecture courses in order to continue as a student in good standing in the program.

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Current Curriculum

Proposed Curriculum

First Year

FALL SEMESTER

2	LA 101 Introduction to Landscape Architecture	2	LA 101 Introduction to Landscape Architecture
4	Geog 103 Earth's Physical Systems or Geol 101 Intro to Physical Geology	4	Geog 103 Earth's Physical Systems or Geol 101 Intro to Physical Geology
4	Rhet 105 or 108 Composition 1	4	Rhet 105 or 108 Composition 1
5	Math 016 Algebra & Trigonometry OR Math 115 Precalculus	5	Math 016 Algebra & Trigonometry OR Math 115 Precalculus
15		15	

SPRING SEMESTER

3	Social/Cultural Factors in Design Elective	3	Social/Cultural Factors in Design Elective
3	IB 102, 103 or 105 Plant/Environmental Biology	3	IB 102, 103 or 105 Plant/Environmental Biology
3	Quantitative Reasoning 1	3	Quantitative Reasoning 1
3	General Education Elective	3	General Education Elective
3	General Education Elective	3	General Education Elective
1	Elective (Discovery Course or Other)	1	Elective (Discovery Course or Other)
16		16	

Second Year

FALL SEMESTER

5	LA 233 Foundation Design Studio	5	LA 233 Foundation Design Studio
3	LA 250 Environmental Site Analysis	3	LA 250 Environmental Site Analysis
3	LA 280 Design Communications 1	3	LA 280 Design Communications 1
3	UP 101 Planning of Cities & Regions	3	UP 101 Planning of Cities & Regions
3	General Education Elective	3	General Education Elective
17		17	

SPRING SEMESTER

5	LA 234 Site Design	5	LA 234 Site Design
3	LA 241 Landform Design & Construction	3	LA 241 Landform Design & Construction
3	LA 281 Design Communications 2	3	LA 281 Design Communications 2
3	LA 314 History of World Landscapes	3	LA 314 History of World Landscapes
3	General Education Elective	3	General Education Elective
17		17	

Third Year

FALL SEMESTER

5	LA 335 Community & Open Space Studio	5	LA 335 Community & Open Space Studio
4	LA 342 Site Engineering	4	LA 342 Site Engineering
3	HORT 301 Woody Ornamentals 1	3	HORT 301 Woody Ornamentals 1
3	Supporting Elective	3	Supporting Elective
15		15	

SPRING SEMESTER

5	LA 336 Design Workshop 1	5	LA 336 Design Workshop 1
4	LA 343 Landscape Construction	4	LA 343 Landscape Construction
3	HORT 302 Woody Ornamentals 2	3	HORT 302 Woody Ornamentals 2
3	Supporting Elective	3	Supporting Elective
15		15	

Fourth Year

FALL SEMESTER

		12	LA 345 Professional Internship or LA 399 Off-Campus Study
		12	

SPRING SEMESTER

		12	LA 345 Professional Internship or LA 399 Off-Campus Study
		12	

Fifth Year

FALL SEMESTER

5	LA 437 Regional Design Studio	5	LA 437 Regional Design Studio
3	LA 452 Natural Precedent in Planting	3	LA 452 Natural Precedent in Planting
2	LA 346 Professional Practice	2	LA 346 Professional Practice
3	Supporting Elective	3	Supporting Elective
3	Quantitative Reasoning 2	3	Quantitative Reasoning 2
16		16	

SPRING SEMESTER

5	LA 438 Design Workshop 2	5	LA 438 Design Workshop 2
3	LA 453 Cultural Precedent in Planting	3	LA 453 Cultural Precedent in Planting
3	Supporting Elective	3	Supporting Elective
3	Supporting Elective	3	Supporting Elective
3	Elective	3	Elective
17		17	