

March 19, 2018

To: College of Design Course and Curriculum Committee

From: Gene Bressler, Professor and Department Head

RE: Changes to the Master of Landscape Architecture Curriculum

Following is background information and the reasons for the requested actions, tables summarizing the course actions, and detailed information about curriculum requirements, delivery structure, and a listing of required and elective courses delineated by curriculum area.

Background

The Department of Landscape Architecture delivered two accredited first professional degree programs for many years – the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) and the Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA). Approximately 7 years ago the College of Design moved to phase out the BLA program over 5 years in order to enable students currently in the program to complete their entire course of study. The decision to phase out the BLA program was predicated upon it having consistently low applicant and subsequent low enrollment numbers over a sustained period while, during the same period, the MLA program continued to receive 50-70 applications, annually, and maintain an average cohort population averaging 50-55 students per year. Our plan going forward during the next 3-5 years is to increase the graduate student population in both the first professional and post professional (Track 3 and Track 2) categories, respectively, to 75 students depending on resources.

Reason for proposed Course Actions

Moving to a graduate-only program has given the department faculty, students, and external constituents, opportunities to strategically revise the accredited first professional MLA degree curriculum and courses.

As a result:

- A number of new graduate level courses that address advanced topics were developed, delivered, and vetted as Special Topics courses.
- A number of existing courses were substantially revised and repositioned in the curriculum structure to enhance graduate level expectations and learning outcomes.
- A number of undergraduate level professional courses were identified for deletion from the department catalog.

- A number of proposed actions to delete, modify, or delete courses have been entered into the NC State *Curriculum Inventory Management System (CIMS)* to be reviewed in accordance with the proper Workflow procedure.

Two documents follow for your review:

- **Table 1, Landscape Architecture Course Action Summary: All LAR courses** lists actions for existing courses to be deleted, modified, or remain, and the new courses to be added to the department's course catalog. Modifications indicated to existing courses include items such as:
 - **Revised syllabus including course descriptions, learning outcomes and goals**
 - **New course number**
 - **New course title**
- Detailed descriptions of the new **MLA First Professional Degree Curriculum Requirements** that includes:
 - **MLA First Professional MLA Degree Curriculum Requirements**
 - **MLA First Professional Degree Curriculum Semester Display with footnote annotations and new course numbers**
 - **MLA First Professional Degree Curriculum broken out by curriculum area**

Our immediate goal is to see our proposed course changes move through the University's Workflow process. I am similarly available to meet with you as the requested course actions move through the Workflow Process.

Thank you.

**Table 1: Landscape Architecture Course Action Summary:
All LAR Courses**

March 19, 2018

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Action			
			Delete Existing Course	Modify Existing Course	Add New Course	No Change
LAR 200	<i>Landscape Architecture Introductory Studio</i>	6	X			
LAR 210	<i>Digital Drawing for Landscape Architecture</i>	3	X			
LAR 211	<i>Digital Design Media for Landscape Architecture</i>	3	X			
LAR 221	<i>Intro to Environment and Behavior for Designers</i>	3				X Course open to undergraduates
LAR 222	<i>Perception and Behavior for Designers</i>	3				X Course open to undergraduates
LAR 292	<i>Special Topics in Landscape Architecture</i>	1-3	X			
LAR 400	<i>Landscape Architecture Studio</i>	6				X Course open to undergraduates
LAR 430	<i>Site Planning</i>	3	X To be replaced by LAR 527			
LAR 444	<i>History of Landscape Architecture</i>					X Course open to undergraduates
LAR 457	<i>Landscape Construction Materials, Methods and Documentation</i>	3	X To be replaced by LAR 528			
LAR 465	<i>Landscape Architecture International Studio</i>	6	X To be replaced by LAR 504			
LAR 492	<i>Special Topics</i>	1-3				X
LAR 494	<i>Internship in Landscape Architecture</i>	1-3	X To be replaced by LAR 650			
LAR 495	<i>Independent Study in Landscape Architecture</i>	1-3				X
LAR 500	<i>Landscape Design Studio</i>	6	X To be replaced by LAR 507			
LAR 501	<i>Landscape Architecture Introduction Design Studio</i>	6		Revised syllabus		

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Action			
			Delete Existing Course	Modify Existing Course	Add New Course	No Change
LAR 502	<i>Site Planning and Design Studio</i>	6		New course title, revised syllabus (formerly LAR 502, <i>Landscape Description Studio</i>)		
LAR 503	<i>Landscape Architecture Design Development/ Construction Documentation Studio</i>	6		X New course title (formerly LAR 503, <i>Landscape Architecture Construction Studio</i>), revised syllabus		
LAR 504	<i>Landscape Architecture International Design Studio</i>	6			X replaces LAR 565), revised syllabus	
LAR 505	<i>Landscape Architecture Final Project Studio</i>	6				X
LAR 506	<i>Landscape Architecture Design + Build Studio</i>	6			X	
LAR 507	<i>Landscape Architecture Advanced Topics Studio</i>	6			X	
LAR 508	<i>Landscape Architecture Research Design Project</i>	6			X	
LAR 509	<i>Landscape Architecture Design Fundamentals</i>	3			X	
LAR 510	<i>Introduction to Landscape Architectural Drawing Applications</i>	3		X New course title, (formerly LAR 510- <i>Graphics for Landscape Architecture</i>), revised syllabus		
LAR 511	<i>Community Design Policy</i>	3	X			
LAR 513	<i>Landscape Architecture Digital Media 1</i>	3			X	
LAR 514	<i>Landscape Architecture Digital Media 2</i>	3			X	
LAR 515	<i>Advanced Landscape Architecture Digital Media</i>	3			X	
LAR 517	<i>GIS Applications in Landscape Architecture</i>	3			X	
LAR 520	<i>Landscape Dynamics</i>	3			X	
LAR 521	<i>Values, Theory and Methods of Landscape Architecture</i>	3	X To be replaced by LAR 550			

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Action			
			Delete Existing Course	Modify Existing Course	Add New Course	No Change
LAR 522	<i>Research Methods of Final Project Development</i>	3	X			
LAR 523	<i>Landscape Architecture Plant Identification</i>	2			X	
LAR 524	<i>Planting Design Applications in Landscape Architecture</i>	2			X	
LAR 525	<i>Landscape Architecture Field Studies</i>	3			X	
LAR 527	<i>Landform, Grading, and Site Systems</i>	3			X Replaces LAR 430, <i>Site Planning</i> , revised syllabus	
LAR 528	<i>Landscape Architecture Construction Materials and Methods</i>	3			X Replaces LAR 457 <i>Landscape Construction Materials, Methods</i> , revised syllabus	
LAR 534	<i>Landscape Architecture Theory and Criticism</i>	3			X	
LAR 540	<i>Research and Strategic Thinking</i>	3			X Replaces LAR 522	
LAR 542	<i>Human Use of the Urban Landscape</i>	3		New course number, revised syllabus (formerly LAR 579)		
LAR 543	<i>Introduction to Landscape Architecture Performance and Metrics</i>	3			X	
LAR 544	<i>Contemporary Issues in Landscape Preservation</i>	3			X	
LAR 545	<i>City Planning, and Design: Building Great Communities</i>	3			X	
LAR 546	<i>Landscape Imperative</i>	3			X	
LAR 550	<i>Landscape Architecture Professional Practice</i>	3			X	
LAR 565	<i>International Landscape Architecture Design Studio</i>	6	X (Replaced by LAR 504)			
LAR 576	<i>Community Design</i>	3	X			
LAR 577	<i>Sustainable Communities</i>	3	X			
LAR 578	<i>Ecological Design</i>	3	X			

LAR 579	<i>Human Use of the Urban Landscape</i>	3	X Renumbered (LAR 542)			
LAR 582	<i>Special Topics in Landscape Architecture</i>	1-3				X
LAR 630	<i>Independent Study</i>	1-6				X
LAR 650	<i>Landscape Architecture Internship</i>	3		New course number, replaces LAR 494, revised syllabus.		
LAR 679	<i>Final Project Studio in Landscape Architecture</i>	6	X			
LAR 685	<i>Master's Supervised Teaching</i>	1-3				X
LAR 688	<i>Non-Thesis Master Continuous Registration-Half Time Registration</i>	1				X
LAR 689	<i>Non-Thesis Master Continuous Registration – Full Time Registration</i>	1				X
LAR 690	<i>Master's Examination</i>	1-6				x
LAR 696	<i>Summer Thesis</i>	1				x
LAR 697	<i>Design Research Project Independent Study</i>	1-3		New course title, (formerly LAR 697, <i>Final Research Project</i> ,) revised syllabus outcomes, and goals		
LAR 896	<i>Summer Dissert Res</i>	1				x

MLA First Professional Degree Curriculum Requirements

85 credit hours: 70 credit hours of required courses + 15 credit hours of free electives
(Note: Proposed course numbers that take effect AY 2018-19 are listed in the following tables)

Curriculum Area	Credit Hour Requirements	
Design Studios	36 credits required	LAR 501, 502, 503, 506, 507 + 1 required elective studio
Representation and Modeling	6 credits required + advised electives	LAR 514 + 517 are required; LAR 510 and 513 are advised electives; LAR 515 is a free elective
Site Works	13 required	LAR 520, 523, 524, 527, 528 are required; LAR 525 is a free elective
History, Theory, and Criticism	6 required	LAR 582 (LA History), 534 are required; LAR 535 is a free elective
Research	3 required	LAR 540 is required; LAR 542 and LAR 543, LAR 630 and LAR 697 are free electives
Planning	3 required	LAR 545 is required; LAR 544 and LAR 546 are free electives
Professional Practice	3 required	LAR 550 is required; LAR 650 is a free elective
Free Electives	15 required	Choose from curriculum subjects areas, advised electives, and/or free electives or an Advanced Design studio option
total	85 credit hours	

Notes:

1. LAR 506, LA Design + Build and LAR 507, LA Advanced Topics Design Studio are required and typically taken after completing LAR 503, Design Development/Construction Documentation Studio.
2. Students may take a second LAR 507, Advanced Topics Design Studio or LAR 508, Design Research Project (requires approval by the department head or DGP) to fulfill the 6-design studio requirement. LAR 697: Design Research Project Independent Study is a mandatory prerequisite for undertaking LAR 508.
3. Advised electives (AE) may count towards the 15-credit hour elective requirement.
4. Some elective courses TBD will be offered on alternate years

MLA First Professional Degree Curriculum Semester Display

85 credit hours: 70 credit hours of required courses + 15 credit hours of free electives
 (Note: Proposed course numbers that take effect AY 2018-19 are listed in the following tables)

summer		fall		spring	
First year					
*LAR 513 (2)	Landscape Architecture Digital Design Media 1 *	LAR 501 (6)	Landscape Architecture Introduction Design Studio	LAR 502 (6)	Site Planning and Design Studio
LAR 510 (3)	Intro to Landscape Architecture Drawing	LAR 520 (3)	Landscape Dynamics	LAR 527 (3)	Grading, Drainage, and Site Development Systems
*LAR 509 (3)	LA Design Fundamentals	LAR 514 (3)	LA Digital Design Media 2	LAR 582 (3)	History of Landscape Architecture
8 advised electives		12 required		12 required	
Second year					
LAR 528 (3)	LA Construction Materials and Methods	LAR 503 (6)	Design Development Studio	LAR 506 (6)	Design + Build Studio
LAR 523 (2)	Landscape Architecture Plant Identification	LAR 540 (3)	Landscape Architecture Research Methods	LAR 550 (3)	Landscape Architecture Professional Practice
LAR 524 (2)	Landscape Architecture Planting Design	LAR 517 (3)	GIS Applications in Landscape Architecture	Varies (3)	Free Elective(s)
7 required		12 required		9 required + 3-6 free electives	
Third year					
Open for free electives		LAR 507 (6)	Landscape Architecture Advanced Topics Studio	LAR 507 (6)	Landscape Architecture Advanced Topics Studio or Option
		LAR 534 (3)	Landscape Architecture Theory and Criticism	LAR 545 (3)	Landscape Architecture, Planning, and the Public Realm
		3-6	Free Elective(s)	3-6	Free Elective(s)
		9 required + 3-6 free electives		9 required + 3 free electives	

* advised elective

Fall 2017 Electives

Advanced Digital Design Media (3)
 Greenway Planning and Design (3)
 Contemporary Issues in Landscape Preservation (3)
 Design Communications Workshop (1)
 Other LAR Electives: Internship, Independent Studies

Landscape Performance and Metrics (3)

Landscape Imperative (3)
 Human Use of the Urban Landscape (3)
 Environmental Social Equity in Design (3)
 Other LAR Electives: Internship, Independent Studies

Electives Planned for Spring 2018

MLA First Professional Degree Curriculum Areas + Courses

85 credit hours: 70 credit hours of required courses + 15 credit hours of free electives

(Note: Proposed course numbers that take effect AY 2018-19 are listed in the following tables.)

(*Current (fall 2017) course numbers are shown where appropriate.)

Curriculum Area	Course Number <small>*Indicates current course number*</small>	Credits	Course	Status
Design Studios 36 credits required: Required: 5x 500 level graded studios + 1x 500 level elective studio Additional Design Studio(s) may be taken as electives	Required Studios			
	LAR 501	6	LAR Introduction Design Studio	R
	LAR 502	6	Site Planning and Design Studio	R
	LAR 503 *LAR 500.001	6	Design Development & Construction Documentation Studio	R
	LAR 506 ¹	6	LA Design + Build Studio	R
	LAR 507 *LAR 500.001 or .002	6	LA Advanced Topics Design Studio	R
	Elective Studios			
	LAR 504 *LAR 565	6	LA International Design Studio	E
	LAR 507 *LAR 500.001 or .002	6	LA Advanced Topics Design Studio	E
	LAR 508 ² *LAR 679	6	LA Design Research Project	E
	LAR 509 *LAR 582.006	3	LA Design Fundamentals	AE
	Varies	6	Studio offered by another discipline	E
Representation and Modeling 6 credits required Additional Representation and Modeling may be taken as free electives	Required			
	LAR 513 *LAR 582.004	3	LA Digital Design Media 1	AE
	LAR 514 *LAR 582.001	3	LA Digital Design Media 2	R
	LAR 517 *LAR 582.009	3	GIS Applications in Landscape Architecture	R
	Electives			
	LAR 510 *LAR 582.005	3	Introduction to Landscape Architectural Drawing	AE
	LAR 515 *LAR 582.006	3	Advanced LA Digital Design Media	E
Site Works 13 Credits required Additional Site Works may be taken as free electives.	Required			
	LAR 520 *LAR 582.003	3	Landscape Dynamics	R
	LAR 523 *LAR 582.001	2	LA Plants Materials	R
	LAR 524 *LAR 582.002	2	LA Planting Design	R
	LAR 527 *LAR 582.005	3	Landform, Grading, and Site Systems	R
	LAR 528 *LAR 457	3	Construction Materials and Methods	R
	Electives			
	LAR 525 *LAR 582.009	4	LA Field Studies	E

AE: Advised elective

R: Required

E: Free elective

History, Theory, and Criticism 6 Credits required	Required			
	LAR 444	3	History of Landscape Architecture	R
	LAR 534 *LAR 582.002	3	LA Theory and Criticism	R
	Electives			
	LAR 535	3	Environmental Social Equity and Design	E
Research 3 credits required Additional Research courses may be taken as free electives.	Required			
	LAR 540 *LAR 582.003	3	Research and Strategic Thinking	R
	Elective: Pass/Fail or Graded (as noted)			
	LAR 542 *LAR 579	3	Human Use of the Urban Landscape	E
	LAR 543 *LAR 582.013	3	Landscape Performance and Metrics	E
	LAR 630	3	Independent Study (Pass/Fail)	E
	LAR 697	3	Design Research Project Independent Study (Pass/Fail)	E
Planning 3 credits required Additional Planning may be taken as free electives.	Required			
	LAR 545 *LAR 582.016	3	Landscape Architecture, City Planning and the Public Realm	R
	Electives			
	LAR 544 *LAR 582.005	3	Contemporary Issues in Landscape Preservation	E
	LAR 546 *LAR 582.015	3	The Landscape Imperative	E
Professional Practice 3 credits required Additional Professional Practice may be taken as free electives	Required			
	LAR 550 *LAR 582.012	3	LA Professional Practice	R
	Electives: Pass Fall			
	LAR 650 *LAR 494	3	LA Internship	E
Other	LAR 582	1-3	Special Topics (graded)	R/E
	LAR 685	3	LAR Teaching Assistantship	E
Free Electives 15 credits required ²	Choose from curriculum subject areas, advised electives, advanced studio electives or courses offered by other academic departments			

AE: Advised elective

R: Required

E: Free elective

Notes:

1. LAR 506, LA Design + Build and LAR 507, LA Advanced Topics Design Studio are required and typically taken after completing LAR 503, Design Development/Construction Documentation Studio.
2. Students may take a second LAR 507, Advanced Topics Design Studio or LAR 508, Design Research Project (requires approval by the department head or DGP) to fulfill the 6-design studio requirement. LAR 697: Design Research Project Independent Study is a mandatory prerequisite for undertaking LAR 508.
3. Advised electives (AE) may count towards the 15-credit hour elective requirement.
4. Some elective courses TBD will be offered on alternate years

Changes to the MLA Curriculum

