

Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning

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Degrees offered: Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) and Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA); Master of Science (MS) in Bioregional Planning. BLA and first professional MLA programs are fully accredited by the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Department Objectives

The objectives of the department are to (1) provide an educational and technical program responsive to current societal needs related to environmental planning, landscape architecture, and urban design; (2) give students the opportunity to participate in collaborative learning experiences with other disciplines on campus; (3) prepare students for professional careers in the private or public sector; and (4) conduct original research to advance the body of knowledge in landscape architecture, environmental planning, and design.

Undergraduate Programs

Admission and Graduation Requirements

The Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) degree program is an intensive four-year studio-based course of study, fully accredited by the American Society of Landscape Architects. Accreditation standards require the department to maintain a reasonable faculty/student ratio. Space in the program is restricted by facility availability and faculty size. Admission to the upper division is competitive, and is limited to students who are determined by the faculty to have the best potential for academic success. Matriculation into the upper division will normally be limited to 25 students, although additional students may be matriculated in special circumstances at the discretion of the LAEP faculty.

Any student admitted to USU is eligible for enrollment in lower-division LAEP courses. At the end of the sophomore year, a selection process will determine which students will matriculate into the upper division of the program.

Students applying for matriculation must have a minimum USU GPA of 2.5. Eligibility for matriculation requires the completion of the following prerequisite courses:

LAEP 1200 Basic Graphics in Landscape Architecture (F).....	4
LAEP 1300 Computer Applications in Landscape Architecture (Sp).....	3
LAEP 1350 Theory of Design (Sp).....	4
LAEP 2300 History of Landscape Architecture (F).....	3
LAEP 2600 (QI) Landscape Construction I (F)	4
LAEP 2650 Architecture and the Built Environment (Sp).....	4
LAEP 2700 (CI) Site Analysis: Social, Behavioral, and Biophysical Dimensions (F).....	5
LAEP 2720 Site Planning and Design (Sp).....	5
PLSC 2620 Woody Plant Materials: Trees and Shrubs for the Landscape (F)	3

Selection of students to be matriculated to the upper division is based on a letter of intent; a portfolio demonstrating creative potential, problem solving skills, and graphic fluency; and cumulative GPA earned in the eight LAEP prefix courses listed above. Portfolios and letters of intent are to be submitted by the last Monday in March. Detailed information regarding the letter of intent and portfolio requirements may be obtained from the LAEP Department website: <http://www.usu.edu/laep/>. The final selection of students to matriculate to the upper division is a decision of the LAEP faculty. The review of students for matriculation will take place during the week following spring semester final exams, and students will be notified as soon as possible thereafter.

Students who have had LAEP courses waived or covered by articulation from another institution will have their GPA calculated only on the basis of LAEP grades actually earned at USU.

Transfer students from other programs of landscape architecture who have completed the equivalent of the lower-division USU LAEP coursework may apply for admission to the upper division of the program through submission of a portfolio, letter of intent, transcript of grades, and description of landscape architecture courses taken. Students who have previously been enrolled and matriculated into the upper division at USU, and must interrupt their education for up to three academic years, may resume their studies at the same level of the program which they departed upon returning to USU. Students who have stopped-out longer than three years must reapply, following the guidelines specified for transfer students. The decision on applications from transfer students and for readmission rests with the LAEP faculty and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Computer Requirement

Computer competency is essential in the contemporary professional environment. Appropriate computer skills are required for most entry-level opportunities in landscape architecture and environmental planning.

Course content increasingly relies on computer skills and personal access to computers with the appropriate software.

All students in the BLA program (beginning with LAEP 1300) must purchase, lease, or otherwise obtain continuing and uninterrupted access to a personal computer which meets the configuration requirements specified by the LAEP Department. Contact the department for current specifications.

Recommended High School Courses

High school students planning to major in landscape architecture may enhance their preparation with courses in art, natural sciences, social sciences, computer applications, and math through college algebra.

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BLA Degree

The Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) degree is a four-year program consisting of courses relating to theory, design, history, and the various technical areas of the profession. The degree provides a substantial basis for a professional career, as well as an excellent foundation for advanced graduate studies. In addition to the courses required for upper-division status, the following LAEP courses are required for graduation:

LAEP 3100 Recreation/Open Space (F)	5
LAEP 3120 Residential Planning and Design (Sp)	5
LAEP 3500 Planting Design (F)	4
LAEP 3610 Landscape Construction II (Sp)	4
LAEP 4100 Urban Theory, Systems, and Design (F)	5
LAEP 4110 Construction Document Preparation (F)	4
LAEP 4120 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture I (F,Sp,Su)	2
LAEP 4130 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture II (F,Sp,Su)	2
LAEP 4910 Professional Practice I (Sp)	1
LAEP 4920 (CI) Professional Practice II (Sp)	1

Non-LAEP Courses Required for BLA majors:

The following courses taught outside the LAEP Department are required for all BLA majors. Note that several of these courses will also assist in fulfillment of University Studies Requirements.

ASTE 3050 (CI) Technical and Professional Communication Principles in Agriculture (F,Sp) (3 cr) or	
ENGL 3080 (CI) Introduction to Technical Communication (F,Sp) (3 cr)	3
GEO 3100 (DSC) Natural Disasters (Sp)	3
MATH 1010 Intermediate Algebra (F,Sp,Su)	4
PLSC 2620 Woody Plant Materials: Trees and Shrubs for the Landscape (F)	3
SOC 3610 (DSS) Rural Sociology (F) (3 cr) or	
SOC 4620 (DSS) Sociology of the Environment and Natural Resources (Sp) (3 cr)	3
WATS 1200 (BLS) Biodiversity: Its Conservation and Future (F,Sp) (3 cr) or	
WILD 2200 (BLS) Ecology of Our Changing World (F,Sp) (3 cr)	3

All required courses with an LAEP prefix must be passed with a grade of C- or better. Students must also complete the University Studies requirements. For more detailed information, see major requirement sheet available from the department, or online at:

<http://www.usu.edu/majorsheets/>

Required Courses—Four-year Sequence

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.5, USU

Additional Matriculation Requirements: completion of prerequisite courses, portfolio review, and submission of letter of intent (usually at end of the sophomore year)

Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.0, USU

Minimum Grade Accepted: C- in LAEP prefix courses

This is a sample plan. It outlines University and major requirements in very general terms. While there are requirements that are sequential, many are flexible and do not need to be completed exactly in the order listed. Students should always check with their faculty and professional advisors to be sure they are meeting the requirements appropriately. To make an appointment with a professional advisor, call (435) 797-3883.

Freshman Year (32 credits)

Fall Semester (16 credits)

LAEP 1200 Basic Graphics in Landscape Architecture	4
PLSC 2620 Woody Plant Materials: Trees and Shrubs for the Landscape	3
Breadth Physical Sciences (BPS) course	3
Elective courses	6

Spring Semester (16 credits)

LAEP 1300 Computer Applications in Landscape Architecture	3
LAEP 1350 Theory of Design	4
LAEP 2300 History of Landscape Architecture	3
WATS 1200 (BLS) Biodiversity: Its Conservation and Future (3 cr) or	
WILD 2200 (BLS) Ecology of Our Changing World (3 cr)	3
University Studies ¹ or elective course(s)	3

Complete the CIL exams by the end of the Freshman Year.

Sophomore Year (29 credits)

Fall Semester (15 credits)

LAEP 2600 (QI) Landscape Construction I	4
LAEP 2700 (CI) Site Analysis: Social, Behavioral, and Biophysical Dimensions	5
University Studies ² and elective courses	6

Spring Semester (14 credits)

GEO 3100 (DSC) Natural Disasters	3
LAEP 2720 Site Planning and Design	5
University Studies and elective courses	6

Junior Year (31 credits)

Fall Semester (15 credits)

LAEP 3100 Recreation/Open Space	5
LAEP 3500 Planting Design	4
University Studies and elective courses	6

Spring Semester (16 credits)

LAEP 3120 Residential Planning and Design	5
LAEP 3610 Landscape Construction II	4
LAEP 4910 Professional Practice I	1
ASTE 3050 (CI) Technical and Professional Communication Principles in Agriculture (3 cr) or	
ENGL 3080 (CI) Introduction to Technical Communication (3 cr)	3
University Studies or elective course(s)	3

Senior Year (30 credits)

Fall Semester (15 credits)

LAEP 4100 Urban Theory, Systems, and Design	5
LAEP 4110 Construction Document Preparation	4
SOC 3610 (DSS) Rural Sociology	3
Breadth American Institutions (BAI) course	3

Spring Semester (15 credits)

LAEP 4120 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture I	2
LAEP 4130 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture II	2
LAEP 4350 Travel Course	1
LAEP 4920 (CI) Professional Practice II	1
SOC 4620 (DSS) Sociology of the Environment and Natural Resources (3 cr) or	
Elective course(s) (3 cr)	3
University Studies and elective courses	6

¹Recommended: MATH 1010, Intermediate Algebra, or a Quantitative Literacy (QL) course; and ENGL 1010 (CL1), Introduction to Writing: Academic Prose.

²Recommended: ENGL 2010 (CL2), Intermediate Writing: Research Writing in a Persuasive Mode.

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Undergraduate Travel Requirement

The undergraduate curriculum includes a requirement for a minimum of 1 credit of travel and study outside of the bioregion. This travel requirement can be satisfied by one or more of the following courses, depending upon the specific content of the course at the time of offering. (Check with the department for specific information.)

LAEP 4120 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture I (F,Sp,Su).....	2
LAEP 4130 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture II (F,Sp,Su)....	2
LAEP 4350 Travel Course (F,Sp,Su).....	1-3
LAEP 4900 Special Problems (F,Sp,Su).....	1-5

Study Abroad

The department currently has a cooperative agreement with the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia where students can study for a semester. Approved courses of study in design and planning programs offered by other institutions may count toward the travel requirement; however, course substitutions are subject to faculty approval.

Faculty-Sponsored Field Study Travel

The department already has a long tradition of a professionally oriented "Spring Break" trip, which is offered for undergraduate students under LAEP 4350. Recent trips have included San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Vancouver, Boston, and Washington DC.

The department also offers an international (2-week) field study experience, the destination of which changes from year to year. For example:

May 2005 and 2007—The Italian Renaissance Villa and Town Planning: Looks at Greek (Paestum) and Roman (Pompeii, Roman Forum) antecedents, as well as Renaissance Villas from the region surrounding Rome to Florence and the Tuscan landscape.

March 2006—Paris and Berlin: Looks at the development of the urban fabric with a concentration on contemporary urban development issues, as well as public places and architecture of historical significance.

Individual Travel

Undergraduate students desiring to count individual travel toward their degree will need to enroll for LAEP 4900 (Special Problems). Prior to enrollment, students must have a sponsoring faculty member and must submit a proposal for individual travel/study to the faculty for review. The content, objectives, and outcomes of the proposal will be evaluated for consistency with the educational objectives of the travel program.

Specialized Service Courses

The following courses are available for majors in other fields who may wish to gain an exposure to the different aspects of landscape architecture and environmental planning. A minor is not given in LAEP; however, these service courses are available, without prerequisites, for those requesting them.

LAEP 1030 (BCA) Introduction to Landscape Architecture (F,Sp,Su)	3
LAEP 1200 Basic Graphics in Landscape Architecture (F).....	3
LAEP 2300 History of Landscape Architecture (F).....	3

Departmental Honors

Students who would like to experience greater academic depth within their major are encouraged to enroll in departmental honors. Through original, independent work, Honors students enjoy the benefits of close supervision and mentoring, as they work one-on-one with faculty in select upper-division departmental courses. Honors students also

complete a senior project, which provides another opportunity to collaborate with faculty on a problem that is significant, both personally and in the student's discipline. Participating in departmental honors enhances students' chances for obtaining fellowships and admission to graduate school.

The LAEP Department offers a departmental honors program for BLA students. To qualify, students must be matriculated in the upper division of the LAEP program and must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.50. The 15-credit honors course requirement for LAEP honors recognition is met by completion of the following: (1) a 3-credit honors thesis during the senior year, (2) two readings seminars (LAEP 6910 and 6930), and (3) an additional 10 credits of upper-division honors coursework.

Interested students should contact the Honors Program, Main 15, (435) 797-2715, honors@cc.usu.edu. Additional information can be found online at: <http://www.usu.edu/honors/>

Additional Information

For detailed information about requirements for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, see the major requirement sheet, which can be obtained from the department, or accessed online at: <http://www.usu.edu/majorsheets/>

Graduate Programs

The department offers three master's degrees, including two in Landscape Architecture and one in BioRegional Planning.

MLA First Professional Degree in Landscape Architecture

The department offers a three-year, first professional degree for students with a bachelor's degree in any area of study. This option allows students having a wide range of undergraduate experience to obtain an accredited degree in landscape architecture that fulfills the educational requirement for professional registration and allows entrance into the field of landscape architecture.

MLA Advanced Professional Degree

Students with a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture can obtain a master's degree within two years. This advanced professional degree affords landscape architects the opportunity to expand their knowledge in areas of special interest.

Master of Science in Bioregional Planning

This joint interdisciplinary program is offered by the department in conjunction with the Department of Environment and Society, College of Natural Resources.

For more information about required and recommended coursework, as well as other requirements for these degrees, visit the departmental website: <http://www.usu.edu/laep/>

Graduate Travel Requirement

All graduate students are required to complete a 1 or 2 credit travel course (LAEP 6550, Travel Course; or LAEP 6900, Special Problems) within the three years of their degree. The travel requirement may be fulfilled as part of the faculty-led international or national field trip experience (which changes venue from year to year), or it may be arranged through independent study outside of the bioregion with permission of the faculty.

Master of Landscape Architecture

The program for the Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) emphasizes both traditional site planning and design, as well as broader areas of the profession, such as large-scale regional landscape analysis and planning, open space conservation, historic landscape preservation, and sustainable design. The MLA first professional degree is fully accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

The Master of Landscape Architecture program is designed to prepare the student for the landscape architect's challenging role of providing a holistic approach to environmental planning and design. In order for landscape architects to contribute effectively to an interdisciplinary effort, they must be competent in the fundamentals of landscape architecture and also have an understanding of the subject matter of other professions. Landscape architects must master the communication skills necessary to achieve meaningful collaboration. In support of this philosophy, the following are the major objectives of the MLA program.

1. To provide a well-structured curriculum in fundamental professional knowledge and skills.
2. To research, analyze, and resolve land use and design issues related specifically to the Intermountain West. The scope of the program examines national, regional, and local issues; and their impact on the visual, physical, and cultural setting of the Intermountain West.
3. To integrate field experience and research into major graduate studio courses structured around real-world projects.
4. To provide opportunities for each student for exploration and development of an area of concentration as noted elsewhere.
5. To draw upon the regional, national, and international relationships of Utah State University to facilitate a program of academic and professional excellence which will allow the student to achieve eminence in practice, research, or education.

Areas of Faculty Expertise

The Master of Landscape Architecture Program provides opportunities for each student to study and conduct research in areas which take advantage of the strengths of Utah State University and the landscape context of the Intermountain West centered around the expertise of the LAEP Department faculty, including: *Land Rehabilitation/Revegetation*—Ellsworth and Johnson; *Regional Landscape Planning*—Brabec, Kumble, Nicholson; *Visual Resources Management*—Ellsworth; *Urban Wildlife/Refuge Planning*—Johnson; *Riparian Systems*—Bell and Johnson; *Community Planning*—Bell, Lavoie, Nicholson, and Timmons; *Public Lands/Recreation*—Borecki, Kumble, Timmons; *Urban Design/Theory and Representation*—Lavoie; *Historic Landscapes and Preservation*—Borecki, Brabec, Lavoie, and Timmons; *Land Use Law*—Brabec; *Open Space Conservation and Greenways Development*—Brabec, Johnson, Kumble; *Site Planning*—Bell, Johnson, Lavoie, and Timmons.

These areas of faculty expertise include an assessment of the relevant environmental, design, social, economic, and public policy issues utilizing a wide range of computer-compatible techniques and models.

Admission Requirements

The application deadline for consideration in the first round of reviews is March 15. Applications received later than March 15 will be considered as space availability allows. February 1 is the application deadline for consideration for some scholarships, fellowships, and other financial aid. For general admissions requirements, see the appropriate sections of this catalog.

Computer Requirement

Computer competency is essential in the contemporary professional environment. Appropriate computer skills are required for most entry-level opportunities in landscape architecture and environmental planning. Therefore, course content increasingly relies on computer skills and personal access to computers with the appropriate software.

All students entering the MLA program must purchase, lease, or otherwise obtain continuing and uninterrupted access to a personal computer which meets the configuration requirements specified by the LAEP Department. Contact the department for current specifications.

Course of Study

The graduate program director oversees academic advising; however, all incoming students are assigned a faculty mentor until they have selected a thesis topic. A major professor whose interests are closely aligned to those of the student (see *Areas of Faculty Expertise* above and *Areas of Concentration* on pages 360-362) supervises thesis work. A minimum of 30 graduate-level credits, including thesis work, is required. Students supplement requirements with courses negotiated with the major professor and supervisory committee. An area of concentration may be pursued by selecting a relevant course of study, as outlined on pages 360-362.

First Year (37 credits)

During the first year, coursework concentrates on basic professional competency.

Fall Semester (20 credits)

LAEP 1200 Basic Graphics in Landscape Architecture	4
LAEP 2600 (QI) Landscape Construction I	4
LAEP 2700 (CI) Site Analysis: Social, Behavioral, and Biophysical Dimensions	5
LAEP 6230 History of Landscape Architecture	3
LAEP 6860 Faculty/Interdisciplinary Seminar I (taught <i>both</i> fall and spring semesters)	1
PLSC 2620 Woody Plant Materials: Trees and Shrubs for the Landscape.....	3

Spring Semester (17 credits)

LAEP 1300 Computer Applications in Landscape Architecture.....	3
LAEP 1350 Theory of Design.....	4
LAEP 2720 Site Planning and Design.....	5
LAEP 3610 Landscape Construction II	4
LAEP 6890 Seminar on Thesis Proposals and Procedures.....	1

Second Year (27-29 credits)

During the second year, students can begin to specialize in one or more competencies.

Fall Semester (17-18 credits)

LAEP 6310 Recreation and Open Space Planning and Design (5 cr) or LAEP 6410 Redefining the Urban Landscape (5 cr).....	5
Or LAEP 4120 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture I (2 cr) and LAEP 4130 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture II (2 cr).....	4
(With faculty approval, students may complete LAEP 4120 and 4130 <i>instead of</i> LAEP 6310 or 6410.)	

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LAEP 6350 Planting Design for Sustainability	4
LAEP 6740 Planning Theory and Implementation Issues	3
LAEP 6910 Reading Seminar I	1
BIOL 6960 Graduate General Ecology (elective)	5

Additional credits should be added as electives from the student's chosen emphasis area.

Spring Semester (10-11 credits)

LAEP 6320 Residential Planning and Design	5
Or	
LAEP 4120 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture I (2 cr) and	
LAEP 4130 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture II (2 cr)	4
(With faculty approval, students may complete LAEP 4120 and 4130 instead of LAEP 6320.)	
LAEP 6750 Implementation and Regulatory Techniques in Planning ...	3
LAEP 6160 Professional Practice I	1
LAEP 6170 Professional Practice II	1
LAEP 6930 Reading Seminar II	1

Additional credits should be added as electives from the student's chosen emphasis area.

Third Year (14 credits)

Fall Semester (7 credits)

LAEP 6100 Regional Landscape Analysis and Planning (required)	5
LAEP 6970 Thesis Research (Plan A, Thesis) (2 cr) or	
LAEP 6960 Master's Project (Plan B, Terminal Project) (2 cr)	2

Additional credits should be added as electives from the student's chosen emphasis area.

Spring Semester (7 credits)

LAEP 6110 Landscape Planning for Wildlife (not required)	3
LAEP 6970 Thesis Research (Plan A, Thesis) (4 cr) or	
LAEP 6960 Master's Project (Plan B, Terminal Project) (4 cr)	4

Additional credits should be added as electives from the student's chosen emphasis area.

Note: Recommended electives are listed on emphasis area sheets, which are available from the department. Selection of electives should be related to thesis or terminal project content and should be selected in consultation with the student's mentor and/or thesis/project committee. Specific elective coursework may be required by the thesis/project committee in order to properly prepare the student for thesis or project work (Plan A or B).

Areas of Concentration

The program possesses an enviable reputation for graduating students with strong core professional skills. In addition to these skills, the department has the following four areas of concentration which reflect the strengths of the faculty, along with elective course offerings in other units of the University: (1) Open Space Conservation Planning and Green Space Design, (2) Cultural and Historic Landscapes, (3) Community Planning and Urban Design, and (4) Sustainable Landscapes. These four areas of concentration have recommended courses of study as outlined below, reflecting a depth of study in a particular area of landscape architectural theory and practice. Students may choose one of these areas, or they may create their own course of study to reflect their particular interests. Note that *all* students *must* complete the core MLA curriculum, in addition to courses noted in the various areas of concentration. For current requirements, contact the LAEP graduate program director. **Since these areas of concentration are not approved as graduate specializations, they will not appear on student transcripts or diplomas.**

Open Space Conservation Planning and Green Space Design

This area of concentration focuses on the conservation, planning, and design of open space. This focus will appeal to individuals who are interested in working for land trusts or for state and local governments in planning or land conservation roles, as well as to landscape architects in public or private practice who are interested in the design and planning of open space. With a strong basis in the Landscape Architecture program in the design and planning of open space (along with the theory, policy, and legal issues), supporting courses can be found in other units in the University. Elective courses can be found in Sociology, focusing on conflict management and the social implications of resource policy; Economics, focusing on valuation and impact analysis; and Natural Resources, focusing on ecology, spatial systems, collaborative problem-solving, and conservation biology.

Primary Courses

LAEP 6100 Regional Landscape Analysis and Planning (F)	5
LAEP 6110 Landscape Planning for Wildlife (Sp)	3
LAEP 6160 Professional Practice I (Sp)	1
LAEP 6170 (CI) Professional Practice II (Sp)	1
LAEP 6230 History of Landscape Architecture (F)	3
LAEP 6310 Recreation and Open Space Planning and Design (F)	5
LAEP 6320 Residential Planning and Design (Sp)	5
LAEP 6750 Implementation and Regulatory Techniques in Planning (F,Sp)	3
LAEP 6900 Special Problems (F,Sp,Su)	1-5
LAEP 6960 Master's Project (F,Sp,Su) (1-6 cr) or	
LAEP 6970 Thesis Research (F,Sp,Su) (1-6 cr)	1-6

Supporting Coursework

LAEP 2700 (CI) Site Analysis: Social, Behavioral, and Biophysical Dimensions (F)	5
LAEP 2720 Site Planning and Design (Sp)	5
LAEP 6350 Planting Design for Sustainability (F)	4
LAEP 6740 Planning Theory and Implementation Issues (F)	3

Electives

ECON 5560 Natural Resource and Environmental Economics (Sp)	3
ECON 6710 Community Planning and Impact Analysis (F)	3
ENVS 4000 (DSS) Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management (F)	3
ENVS 5000 Collaborative Problem-Solving for Environment and Natural Resources (Sp)	3
NR 6510 Biophysical and Human Dimensions of Ecosystems (F,Sp,Su)	3
SOC 6630 Natural Resources and Social Development (Sp)	3
SOC 6640 Conflict Management in Natural Resources (Sp)	3
WILD 4600 Conservation Biology (Sp)	3
WILD 6510 Topics in Spatial Ecology (Sp)	1-3
WILD 7220 Community-based Conservation Partnerships (Sp)	3

Cultural and Historic Landscapes

The graduate concentration in Cultural and Historic Landscapes prepares students for work in the research, documentation, analysis, understanding, planning, and management of human-influenced landscapes. Cultural landscapes have been defined by the World Heritage Convention of UNESCO as representing the "combined works of nature and of man. They are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time, under the influence of the physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by their natural environment and of successive social, economic, and cultural forces, both external and internal." They are grouped into three broad categories, which include: (1) the historic designed landscape or site, (2) the organically evolved or vernacular landscape, and (3) the associative cultural

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(ethnographic) landscape. (UNESCO. World Heritage Convention. Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention. Paris: UNESCO, 1996.) The National Park Service notes that, "Historic landscapes vary in size from small gardens to several thousand-acre national parks. In character they range from designed to vernacular, rural to urban, and agricultural to industrial spaces. Vegetable patches, estate gardens, cemeteries, farms, quarries, nuclear test sites, suburbs, and abandoned settlements all may be considered historic landscapes." (Historic American Landscapes Survey website: <http://www.nps.gov/history/hdp/>)

Ever-expanding populations are exerting increased development pressure on historic resources, leading to a growing domestic and international demand for landscape architects trained in this area of concentration. Career application of skills can range from topics as wide-ranging as preservation planning and heritage tourism to regional land-use planning and urban design, in both the public and private sectors.

Primary Courses

LAEP 6230 History of Landscape Architecture (F).....	3
LAEP 6250 Internship and Cooperative Education Program (F,Sp,Su).....	1-5
LAEP 6550 Travel Course (International Field Study)	1-3
LAEP 6900 Special Problems (F,Sp,Su).....	1-5
LAEP 6960 Master's Project (F,Sp,Su) (1-6 cr) or	
LAEP 6970 Thesis Research (F,Sp,Su) (1-6 cr)	1-6

Supporting Coursework

LAEP 6100 Regional Landscape Analysis and Planning (F)	5
LAEP 6410 Redefining the Urban Landscape (F).....	5
LAEP 6740 Planning Theory and Implementation Issues (F)	3
LAEP 6750 Implementation and Regulatory Techniques in Planning (Sp).....	3

Electives

ANTH 6110 Southwest Indian Cultures, Past and Present (F).....	3
ANTH 6130 Ethnographic Field School (Su).....	3-6
ANTH 6650 Developing Societies (F)	3
HIST 6000 Historical Methods and Research (F).....	3
HIST 6030 Research Seminar.....	3
HIST 6460 Seminar in Environmental History.....	3
HIST 6610 Seminar on the American West (F)	3-4
HIST 6620 Seminar in Native American Studies (F)	3-4
HIST 6760 Cultural and Historical Museums (Sp).....	3
HIST 6770 Seminar in Folklore and Folklife (F,Sp,Su).....	3
SOC 5640 Conflict Management in Natural Resources (Sp)	3

Community Planning and Urban Design

This area of concentration focuses on both large and small communities, with particular application to the Western United States. This curriculum path will appeal to students who want to apply their landscape architecture skills to community focused projects, which could range in scale from an ethnic neighborhood in a city of two million to a downtown redevelopment project for a small town in the rural West. Opportunities upon graduation would include private firms offering planning and design services, as well as public agencies at the local, state or federal level.

Primary Courses

LAEP 6100 Regional Landscape Analysis and Planning (F)	5
LAEP 6370 City and Regional Planning (Sp).....	3
LAEP 6410 Redefining the Urban Landscape (F).....	5
LAEP 6740 Planning Theory and Implementation Issues (F)	3
LAEP 6750 Implementation and Regulatory Techniques in Planning (F,Sp).....	3
LAEP 6900 Special Problems (F,Sp,Su).....	1-5

Supporting Coursework

LAEP 2700 (CI) Site Analysis: Social, Behavioral, and Biophysical Dimensions (F).....	5
LAEP 2720 Site Planning and Design (Sp).....	5
LAEP 6900 Special Problems: Geographic Information Systems (GIS) (F).....	2

Electives

ECON 5560 Natural Resource and Environmental Economics (Sp).....	3
ECON 5850 Regional and Community Economic Development (F).....	3
GEOG 3610 Geography of Rural/Urban Planning (F).....	3
SOC 3600 Sociology of Urban Places (F).....	3
SOC 3610 (DSS) Rural Sociology (F)	3
SOC 6200 Social Demography (F).....	3
SOC 6230 Techniques of Demographic Analysis (Sp)	3
SOC 6700 Advanced Rural Sociology (Sp).....	3

Sustainable Landscapes

Sustainability is a broad concept. It can be integrated into virtually every aspect of landscape architecture and environmental planning. The sustainable landscapes area of concentration in the LAEP department is focused on sustainability issues associated with the built landscape and the interface between built landscapes and open space. Coursework includes such subjects as low water use landscaping, planting design, planning for urban wildlife, storm water management, community economic development, and green business. In addition to coursework and thesis writing, students in the sustainable landscapes area of concentration organize and implement the department's annual Sustainability Conference, which is now in its eighth year.

Primary Courses

LAEP 6100 Regional Landscape Analysis and Planning (F)	5
LAEP 6110 Landscape Planning for Wildlife (Sp).....	3
LAEP 6350 Planting Design for Sustainability (F).....	4
LAEP 6400 Low Water Landscaping (F).....	3
LAEP 6900 Special Problems (F,Sp,Su)	1-5
LAEP 6960 Master's Project (F,Sp,Su) (1-6 cr) or	
LAEP 6970 Thesis Research (F,Sp,Su) (1-6 cr)	1-6

Supporting Coursework

BIOL 2220 General Ecology (F,Sp).....	3
LAEP 2600 (QI) Landscape Construction I (F)	4
LAEP 6310 Recreation and Open Space Planning and Design (F).....	5
LAEP 3610 Landscape Construction II (Sp)	4
LAEP 6740 Planning Theory and Implementation Issues (F)	3
LAEP 6750 Implementation and Regulatory Techniques in Planning (F,Sp).....	3

Electives

ENVS 4000 (DSS) Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management (F).....	3
GEO 3100 (DSC) Natural Disasters (Sp).....	3
NR 6510 Biophysical and Human Dimensions of Ecosystems (F,Sp,Su).....	3
NR 6520 Structure and Function of Ecological and Social Systems (F,Sp,Su).....	3
NR 6530 Integrated Inventory, Analysis, and Assessment of Ecosystems (F,Sp,Su).....	3
NR 6540 Ecosystem Management Implementation (F,Sp,Su)	3
SOC 6620 Environment, Technology, and Social Change (Sp)	3
SOC 6640 Conflict Management in Natural Resources (Sp)	3
SOC 7640 Population and Environment (Sp).....	3
SOIL 4000 Soil and Water Conservation (F).....	4
WATS 5490 Small Watershed Hydrology (F).....	4
WATS 6530 Water Quality and Pollution (Sp).....	3

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WATS 7640 Riparian Ecology and Management (Sp)	3
WILD 7300/5300 Wildlife Damage Management Principles (Sp).....	3
WILD 7400 Plant Population Ecology (F).....	3

Certificate Programs

Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate Program in Natural Resource and Environmental Policy: Program goals are to provide students with a more comprehensive educational framework for understanding complex natural resource and environmental concerns and to develop the critical thinking and analytical skills needed to address these issues. Students will become familiar with concepts and principles of social, natural, and physical science approaches to natural resource policy.

Interdisciplinary Certificate Program in Landscape Restoration (program currently being developed): This certificate program is designed to prepare resource managers and landscape architects to meet the growing demand for professionals who can plan, design, and construct restoration projects in uplands or streams. This program is interdisciplinary, designed to train students for careers in government, education, and private consulting practice.

Graduate Travel Requirement

The graduate curriculum includes a requirement for a minimum of 1 credit of travel and study outside of the bioregion. This travel requirement can be satisfied by one or more of the following courses:

LAEP 4120 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture I (2 cr) or	
LAEP 4130 Emerging Areas in Landscape Architecture II (2 cr).....	2
LAEP 6550 Travel Course (F,Sp,Su).....	1-3
LAEP 6900 Special Problems (F,Sp,Su).....	1-5

Study Abroad

The department currently has cooperative agreements with the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, and the Czech Agricultural University in Prague, Czech Republic, where students can study for a semester and complete research projects as appropriate. Approved courses of study in design and planning programs offered by other institutions may count toward the travel requirement; however, course substitutions are subject to faculty approval.

Faculty-Sponsored Field Study Travel

The department already has a long tradition of a professionally oriented "Spring Break" trip, which is offered for graduate students under LAEP 6550. Recent trips have included San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Vancouver, Boston, and Washington D.C.

The department also offers the opportunity to join faculty on research trips under LAEP 4120 and 4130 on an international (2-week) field study experience, the destination of which changes from year to year. For example:

May 2005 and 2007—The Italian Renaissance Villa and Town Planning: Looks at Greek (Paestum) and Roman (Pompeii, Roman Forum) antecedents, as well as Renaissance Villas from the region surrounding Rome to Florence and the Tuscan landscape.

March 2006—Paris and Berlin: Looks at the development of the urban fabric with an concentration on contemporary urban development issues, as well as public places and architecture of historical significance.

Individual Travel

Graduate students desiring to count individual travel toward their degree will need to enroll for LAEP 6900 (Special Problems). Prior to enrollment, students must have a sponsoring faculty member and must submit a proposal for individual travel/study to the faculty for

review. The content, objectives, and outcomes of the proposal will be evaluated for consistency with the educational objectives of the travel program.

Additional Information

For more detailed information about currently required and recommended coursework, as well as other requirements for this degree, visit the departmental website: <http://www.usu.edu/laep/>

Master of Science in Bioregional Planning (joint degree program with Environment and Society)

Good planning and management of natural resources and systems supersedes individual disciplines, requiring an interdisciplinary approach for the successful resolution of environmental issues. The intent of this program's curriculum is to integrate the biophysical disciplines more closely while also addressing the social and political sciences. This degree program is offered jointly by the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning in the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, and by the Department of Environment and Society in the College of Natural Resources.

This program consists of a two-year period of study with a required thesis or paper/project. To maintain a program focus, the student selects from three clusters of coursework (research methods/case studies, biophysical, and social/economic policy). A minimum of 36 graduate-level credits, including 3-6 credits of thesis or paper/project is required. A capstone course is required for all LAEP students.

The program contains a total of nine elective credits from which the candidate and his or her committee can formulate an area of concentration.

Course of Study

This two-year MS program is comprised of an interdisciplinary core of courses and faculty for addressing complex issues in the areas of bioregional planning and management. Emphasis is placed on four problematic content areas: biophysical, social/demographic, economic, and public policy. The spatial focus is on the planning for large landscape areas with dispersed populations with a primary economic base in agriculture, energy development, tourism/recreation, retirement communities, and natural resources.

The program requires a minimum of 36 graduate-level credits, including 3-6 credits of work on a thesis or paper/project. Nine of the required credits may be in an area of concentration. These nine credits are to be negotiated with the candidate's major professor and supervisory committee. Requirements for the MS in Bioregional Planning are as follows:

Required

Environment Systems Research Institute (ESRI) certification course or ENVS 6900 (Geographic Information Systems), LAEP 6740, and ENVS 6900 (Shipleigh Seminar/ NEPA/EIS).

Research Methods/Case Studies (3-4 credits)

One of the following courses is required: SOC 6100, 6150, WILD 6500.

Biophysical (3-4 credits)

One of the following courses is required: WATS 6330, WILD 6710. For those students without a background in ecology, WILD 4600 is also required. Credits earned for WILD 4600 or equivalent *do not apply* to the graduate program.

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Social/Economic Policy (3-4 credits)

One of the following courses is required: ENVS 6000, POLS 5180, or SOC 6630.

Capstone Course (5 credits)

LAEP 6100 is required for all LAEP students.

Area of Concentration (9 credits)

Nine credits should be available to the candidate for an area of concentration.

Thesis or Project (3 or 6 credits)

A thesis or Plan B paper/project option is required and is to be negotiated with the candidate, major professor, and supervisory committee.

Total Credits: 36-39

Environmental Field Service

Practical Education and Community Service

The department sponsors a program of planning and design services in which MS, MLA, and BLA students may participate. The Environmental Field Service program offers students the opportunity to interact with community leaders and citizens and to test concepts and skills acquired in the classroom while working on real projects.

Internships and Cooperative Education

Many students take advantage of the practical learning opportunities available through internships and cooperative education programs. The department, student, and government agency or private firm, make the necessary arrangements. Internships and cooperative education experiences are not required for degree completion. In some cases, these experiences may be used as the basis for waiver of selected courses, subject to approval in advance by the major professor, graduate program director, and department head. Students completing these experiences are required to make a summary presentation to department faculty and students.

Financial Assistance

The application deadlines for scholarships and financial assistance vary. For current application deadline information, contact the LAEP Department, the USU Financial Aid Office, and the School of Graduate Studies. Acceptance to pursue graduate study does not guarantee the student financial assistance.

Career Opportunities

The Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning provides education for careers in landscape architectural site planning, design, environmental planning, and management, with special consideration for conditions in the Intermountain West. Graduates are employed by local, state, and federal agencies, as well as by private sector professional firms. LAEP graduates also find employment in academia at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning Faculty

Sumner Margetts Swaner Professor

Tamara F. Shapiro, regional landscape planning

Professors

John C. Ellsworth, visual resources management, computer applications, disturbed lands rehabilitation

Craig W. Johnson, planting design, land rehabilitation, wildlife habitat planning and design, site planning

Sean Michael, landscape architecture and environmental planning

Associate Professors

David L. Bell, residential design, landscape construction, community planning and design

Caroline Lavoie, urban design and cultural landscapes, design theory, landscape and planning theory

John K. Nicholson, urban and regional planning, computer applications, transportation

Michael L. Timmons, site planning and design, recreation and open space planning, landscape history, historic preservation

Associate Professor Emeritus

Vern J. Budge, landscape construction, recreation planning

Assistant Professors

Peter Kumble, regional landscape planning, professional practice, open space preservation

Margie Borecki, basic graphics, landscape construction, sustainability practices

Course Descriptions

Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning (LAEP), [click here](#)