

Landscape Architecture (LARC)

Course information contained within the Bulletin is accurate at the time of publication in June 2025 but is subject to change. For the most up-to-date course information, please refer to the Course Catalog.

LARC 5085. Landscape Architecture Internship. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.

This course expands students' knowledge and professional experience through internships in landscape design, ecological restoration, horticulture, or a related field. Students will be exposed to methods of practice and design thinking and have the opportunity to integrate academic learning with practical work experience, thereby broadening his or her skills and perspectives. The course requires that the student prepare a report in a format agreed upon with the course coordinator.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

LARC 5544. Landscape Architecture Computer Technology I. 3 Credit Hours.

An introduction to modeling, mapping, drafting, and representation software that is currently used in landscape architectural practice. Focuses on learning the basic commands for drawing, rendering, and formatting digital representations of work for presentations.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 5551. Landscape Architecture Computer Technology II. 3 Credit Hours.

Builds upon computer knowledge introduced in Design Communications/Introductory Design Studio I or equivalent. Introduction to Geographic Information System (GIS), intermediate level computer-aided design (CAD), and Photoshop applications to aid in developing and presenting designs. How to select the most useful software for a particular design problem.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 5564. Landscape Architecture Computer Technology III. 3 Credit Hours.

Addresses more advanced concepts within and between drafting, rendering, modeling, mapping, and representation software that are commonly employed in landscape architectural practice. Products are project-based and prepare students for professional standards.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of D (except where noted) in (LARC 1544 or LARC 5544 (C- or higher))

LARC 5665. Grant Writing. 3 Credit Hours.

Develop skills in researching grant funding possibilities, identifying and developing appropriate restoration projects with potential for grant funding, and writing grant proposals.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 8141. Design Communications/Introductory Design Studio I. 4 to 6 Credit Hours.

This studio course explores the development of graphic techniques and introduces students to the design process commonly used in landscape architecture and horticulture. Students develop a small-scale design project using a variety of graphic skills. Plans, sections, and elevations are drawn, and their functions are understood in design representation.

Course Attributes: SI

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 8144. Landscape Design Studio II. 4 to 6 Credit Hours.

This course focuses on the development of mixed use and sustainable communities within the natural, social, cultural, and economic context of development or redevelopment. Large-scale land-use and community planning projects in the urban or rural context are investigated. Real world projects range from preparing community-based revitalization plans and designs for inner-city neighborhoods, to the creation of a new town development set in a bucolic landscape. Students learn to develop creative ideas through illustrative techniques. They engage in a complete design process, including analysis, conceptual, and finished design of an outdoor space.

Course Attributes: SI

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in LARC 8141.

LARC 8151. Woodland Design Studio. 4 to 6 Credit Hours.

Students apply the knowledge and methodologies presented in LARC 8751: Northeastern Woodland Ecosystems. Projects, varying in size and location, allow students to synthesize and advance their understanding of the ecosystem. Finished design projects are presented in graphic, written, and verbal forms and may be implemented in the field. Students develop the analytical and technical skills necessary for the inventory, analysis, programming, and design of a woodland landscape. Fieldwork, site inventory and analysis, identification of opportunities and constraints, and program development, as well as hand and computer drawing, are included.

Co-requisites: LARC 8351, LARC 8751.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 8152. Wetland/Riparian Design Studio. 4 to 6 Credit Hours.

This studio course complements material introduced in LARC 8752: Wetland Ecology. Students are required to draw on and implement knowledge about wetland ecosystems to develop a site design. Field visits, inventory, analysis, and monitoring are used to gain a thorough knowledge of the site for use as the basis for a design. Identification of opportunities and constraints, program development, and hand and computer drawing are extensively used. Students learn the critical thinking and artistic judgment necessary for developing a design for wetland habitat restoration.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in LARC 8751.

LARC 8153. Public Lands Design Studio. 4 to 6 Credit Hours.

Focuses on a public project, such as a metropolitan park or regional or state conservation area. Students are required to understand and integrate the diverse values and views held by various stakeholders. In addition to typical design studio components such as site inventory and analysis, projects may require students to interview, confer, and present to public audiences to seek feedback and approval of designs. By the end of the course, students have attended and/or presented at public meetings and have developed a design for the public realm.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 8241. Landscape Engineering I. 3 Credit Hours.

The course emphasis is on the basic concepts, ideas, and techniques that deal with the visual, functional, and ecological aspects of grading and landform manipulation. Students learn the technical skills necessary for grading a landscape to ensure proper drainage.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 8242. Landscape Engineering II. 3 Credit Hours.

This course is an introduction to the principles, processes, and techniques of landscape architectural site engineering. Based on the understanding of ecological principles, functional requirements, and aesthetic considerations, students learn essential elements of construction drawings that are typically required for implementation.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in LARC 8241.

LARC 8351. Aesthetics of Ecological Design Seminar. 1 to 2 Credit Hour.

Students learn about the emerging aesthetic associated with ecological design. Form and psychological experience of design are presented through readings and discussion. Students understand the importance of peer-reviewed research as it relates to design and aesthetics.

Co-requisites: LARC 8151, LARC 8751.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 8355. Capstone Seminar. 1 Credit Hour.

The LARC 8355 Capstone Seminar is an introduction to, and preparation for LARC 9995, Capstone Restoration Design Project. The Capstone Seminar objectives include defining the research topic and specific project site, in addition to establishing the scope and goals of the proposed project. Students conduct a thorough site inventory and analysis, identify research resources and precedents, contact site stakeholders and formulate a design program. All these components are further developed in LARC 9995 in the following spring semester.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in (LARC 5551, LARC 8151, LARC 8152, LARC 8153, LARC 8242, LARC 8351, LARC 8751, and LARC 8552)

LARC 8496. Landscape Traditions. 3 Credit Hours.

A comprehensive overview of civilization's efforts to create useful, beautiful, and symbolic spaces and places from ancient times until the modern day is presented. Students learn to critically assess landscapes through written research papers and oral presentations.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 8552. Research Design Methods. 3 Credit Hours.

Master of Landscape Architecture students gain an understanding of research design methods. Students conduct a research project and write a paper that summarizes their research study and findings.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

LARC 8644. Professional Practice. 3 Credit Hours.

This course focuses on codes of professional and environmental ethics, the requirements of professional licensure, current business practices, and current and emerging challenges in landscape architectural practice. The course emphasizes the leadership role of landscape architects on interdisciplinary design teams. Students gain an understanding of different professional avenues and opportunities.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in (LARC 8141 and LARC 8241)

LARC 8751. Northeastern Ecosystems. 3 Credit Hours.

This course presents terrestrial forest and traditional wetland ecosystems, such as salt marshes and bogs, and the biotic and abiotic factors that affect them. Students learn the components of forest ecosystems, including degradation factors and restoration concepts; riparian edges and shorelines, and the measures necessary for protecting and/or restoring each. Field trips and site visits allow students to observe and document local ecosystems.

Co-requisites: LARC 8151.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in HORT 8261.

LARC 8752. Wetland Ecology. 3 Credit Hours.

The course introduces the ecology of traditional wetlands, such as salt marshes and bogs. Students gain an understanding of riparian edges and shorelines and the measures necessary for protecting and/or restoring them. Site visits are required.

Co-requisites: LARC 8152.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 8755. Native Plant Communities. 3 Credit Hours.

The course examines native and naturalized tree, shrub, and/or herbaceous plant community structure. Restoration processes are explored relevant to maintaining healthy plant communities. Discussion centers around growth, habit, and on-site propagation during restoration. Students learn to distinguish between native and non-native plant communities and vital characteristics associated with plant community health.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 8789. Landscape Restoration Workshop. 3 Credit Hours.

Students learn principles and practices of ecological restoration through hands-on experience. They visit restored landscapes, conduct field measurements in a unique ecosystem and contribute to a restoration project on a local site(s). By the end of the course, students understand various technical strategies involved in restoration through drawing and writing their field observations, assessing proper techniques for restoration, and then implementing those techniques on a real site.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

LARC 8860. Topics in Landscape Architecture. 3 Credit Hours.

Variable offerings from semester to semester of selected topics not part of the regular listing of courses. The topic can be in an area of specialization of a faculty member or an examination of a current development in the field. NOTE: Students may obtain a description of the current version at the department office and in the schedule of classes. This course may be repeated for credit.

Course Attributes: SI

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

LARC 8870. Topics in Landscape Architecture. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.

Variable offerings from semester to semester of selected topics not part of the regular listing of courses. The topic can be in an area of specialization of a faculty member or an examination of a current development in the field. NOTE: Students may obtain a description of the current version at the department office and in the schedule of classes. This course may be repeated for credit.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

LARC 8889. Landscape Restoration Monitoring and Management. 3 Credit Hours.

This field course introduces methods for monitoring the process of an ecological restoration project and the corrective actions needed to ensure a positive restoration. Students learn principles and practices of ecological restoration through hands-on experience, drawing and writing, and field observations. They visit restored landscapes, conduct field measurements in a unique ecosystem, and may contribute to a restoration project on a local site(s). Strategies for pre- and post-installation monitoring are presented. By the end of the course, students understand various technical strategies involved in restoration, can assess restoration techniques and issues associated with monitoring and maintaining the health of a restored ecosystem, know the components of a restoration plan, and have developed a plan for a real site.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in HORT 8261 and LARC 8751.

LARC 9883. Directed Reading/Study. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.

Advanced reading/study tutorial is arranged between the student and a faculty member. NOTE: A written contract with the faculty member and approval from the Chair of the Department are required.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

LARC 9995. Capstone Restoration and Design Project. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.

Students develop an independent restoration design project requiring synthesis of all previous coursework, including methodologies, seminars, ecological knowledge, and design projects. Every project must incorporate research in three ways: (1) accomplishing a literature review; (2) selecting and applying a methodology; and (3) advancing the knowledge base in ecological restoration. Research is used to both guide and test the design project. Students develop a comprehensive report. The capstone project concludes with a verbal and graphic presentation as well as a report summarizing the implications of the design, including strategies for monitoring and adjusting the restoration over time. Note: Students must obtain the instructor's approval of a project site and type no later than the first week of the semester.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in LARC 5551, LARC 8151, LARC 8152, LARC 8153, LARC 8242, LARC 8351, LARC 8355, LARC 8552, LARC 8751, and LARC 8889.