

# Landscape Architecture

The landscape architecture program is at the intersection of design and ecology. It is a field that has significant historical roots but embraces the most important issues of our times. Concerned with issues of sustainability and aesthetics, it aims at creating better environments, from garden to region. Landscape architects design parks, campuses and waterfronts, as well as tackle the global questions of urbanization and climate change.

Students in the landscape architecture program are able to combine critical thinking skills with artistic principles, environmental consciousness, and construction technology to address people's relationship to the land in a range of situations. The program emphasizes practical and evolving knowledge and skills as the foundation for professional competence, academic scholarship and individualized enrichment. Our studio classes are small, student-centered, and provide a hands-on education in Knowlton Hall, an award-winning facility with extensive studio, library and technology resources.

The Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture is a professional degree, accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board, and is the only program of its kind in Ohio. Graduates of the program are eligible for licensure as a landscape architect after three years of practical experience and successful completion of a written exam.

## Pursuing Landscape Architecture at Ohio State

All freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process; find criteria at [go.osu.edu/admissions](http://go.osu.edu/admissions).

Students interested in studying landscape architecture should have a strong interest in design as well as visual, written, and oral communication. Skills in design, representation (drawing) and communication are developed throughout the curriculum and are not prerequisites for admission.

Students interested in landscape architecture should apply directly to the university as a pre-landscape architecture major. Acceptance to the major is competitive and based on academic performance.

To apply to the program, typically students will:

- Complete LARCH 2300: Outlines of the Built Environment and LARCH 2310: Introduction to Design
- Submit a portfolio (created in LARCH 2310)
- Achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 and a minimum GPA of 2.75 in LARCH courses
- Demonstrate progress toward the completion of Calculus I and Earth Science

Students admitted to the university with Honors or Scholars standing will be offered direct admission to the landscape architecture major. Transfer into the program is possible. Students interested in transferring should consult with an academic advisor.

## Co-Curricular Opportunities

The landscape architecture program offers many opportunities for students to learn and grow outside of the classroom. These include internships, study abroad programs and student organizations. Co-ops and internships place students in professional environments as a component of their academic program. Landscape architecture students have opportunities to study abroad during the academic year. Recent travel destinations include South Korea, Thailand, The Netherlands, London, Barcelona and locations around Europe.

Landscape architecture students may join the Student Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, which offers opportunities for professional networking and mentoring; SERVitecture, a student-run organization which links students with community projects such as Habitat for Humanity; and 1:12, the Knowlton School's student journal.

These experiences enable students to network, gain valuable work experience, learn about cultures and take on leadership roles before they enter the workforce. All of these experiences enhance learning and provide an advantage in the job market.

## Honors and Scholars Opportunities

Ohio State offers the Honors and Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling and unique housing options.

The Honors program in the Knowlton School offers a more rigorous curriculum and gives students the opportunity to participate in Honors seminars and significant research within the discipline. Small classes and greater access to faculty provide Honors students with a stimulating scholarly community.

The Architecture, Landscape and City Scholars Program is a community of talented students who participate in programs and activities designed to offer insight into architecture, landscape architecture, and city and regional planning. Architecture, Landscape and City Scholars focuses on growing students' understanding of the historical, cultural and social significance of the built and natural environments through site visits, work-

**For more information, check these websites:**

Knowlton School: [knowlton.osu.edu/students/future-students](http://knowlton.osu.edu/students/future-students)

Ohio State: [osu.edu](http://osu.edu)

Admissions: [undergrad.osu.edu](http://undergrad.osu.edu)

Multicultural Center: [multiculturalcenter.osu.edu](http://multiculturalcenter.osu.edu)

American Society of Landscape Architecture: [asla.org](http://asla.org)

Landscape Architecture Foundation: [lafoundation.org](http://lafoundation.org)

## Curriculum Sample

This is a sample list of classes a student will take to pursue a degree in architecture. Since university students need more than specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete General Education (GE) requirements. Because GE courses come from a variety of academic areas of study, this course work helps students develop fundamental skills essential to collegiate success and allows them to tailor these courses toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in landscape architecture. Visit [knowlton.osu.edu](http://knowlton.osu.edu) for details.

### Freshman Year:

Survey course	1
Outlines of the Built Environment	3
Introduction to Design	4
The Dynamic Earth	4
Math	8
GE courses	9
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>29</b>

### Sophomore Year:

Landscape architecture design studio II, III	12
Landscape architecture workshop I, II	6
Landscape architecture topics seminar	3
Making and Meaning of the American Landscape	3
Outlines of Landscape Architecture	3
Landscape Plants	3
GE courses	3
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>33</b>

### Junior Year:

Landscape architecture design studio IV, V	12
Landscape architecture workshop III, IV	6
History and Theory	3
Environmental Stewardship and You	3
GE courses	10
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>34</b>

### Senior Year:

Landscape architecture design studio VI, VII	12
History and Theory	3
Professional Practice	3
Landscape architecture elective	3
GE courses	9
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>30</b>

shops, seminars and travel opportunities. Scholars students live together in a north campus residence hall that provides a supportive and collegial environment. Learn more about these opportunities at [honors-scholars.osu.edu](http://honors-scholars.osu.edu).

## Career Prospects in Landscape Architecture

Landscape architecture is essential to solving 21st century challenges of sustainability, wellness and environmental justice. The Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that the profession is projected to grow at a rate of over 15 percent through 2018. From healing gardens to alternative energy systems, many of today's solutions for a greener planet are emerging from the creative minds of landscape architects. Landscape architects recognize the significant role the environment plays globally in the health of growing populations, expanding cities and fragile ecosystems. Landscape architects are prepared for the combination of social, economic and environmental projects that fosters successful, sustainable communities at local, regional and global scales, offering a pro-active rather than re-active stance for this generation's pressing issues.

Common employment opportunities for graduates include landscape architecture firms (regional, national, global in scope); architecture, urban design, engineering and planning firms; development and design/build; environmental management; public sector roles with metropolitan park systems, recreation and parks departments; state and federal agencies of environmental law, policy and management; and academic careers. In these fields, common project types include designing and managing gardens, parks, neighborhoods, urban systems, bikeways, transit systems, streetscapes, community gardens, campuses, recreation zones, playgrounds, zoos and golf courses, residential developments, urban plazas, green roofs, brownfield reclamation, stream and wetland restoration, ecosystem management, wildlife conservation, and much more.

The program prepares students to become landscape architects or to enter a range of professional fields or graduate programs. Graduates have entered law, business, politics, art, architecture, environmental management, planning, public policy, education and many other areas.

Knowlton School graduates report entry-level salaries between \$40,000 and \$50,000. The national average salary for all landscape architects is \$75,000; partners and senior associates in large firms may earn considerably more, often exceeding \$250,000. Graduates of Ohio State's landscape architecture program are successful in finding positions regionally, nationally and internationally. In addition, graduates of the landscape architecture program are extremely successful in gaining admission to a broad range of leading graduate programs in landscape architecture and in other fields.

**Revised August 2015.** Information subject to change. For the most up-to-date information on landscape architecture, visit [knowlton.osu.edu](http://knowlton.osu.edu).

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