

**SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LANDSCAPE STUDIES  
BA[(LS)]**

AR11/418

*These syllabuses are applicable to candidates admitted under the 4-year '2012 curriculum' to the first year of the Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Studies in 2015-16.*

Students entering the 4-year Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Studies curriculum in the academic year 2015-16 will take a professional core of 168 credits (including 150 credits of core courses and 18 credits of Faculty Foundation courses), plus a total of 18 credits in language, 36 credits of Common Core courses, and 18 credits of electives, totalling 240 credits for the 4-year curriculum.

The syllabuses of the Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Studies shall comprise the following requirements:

**University Requirements**

54 credits of compulsory University requirements which must be successfully completed:

(i) One 6-credit course in Core University English <sup>1</sup> ; one 6-credit course in English language enhancement; and one 6-credit course in Chinese language enhancement <sup>2</sup>	18 credits
(ii) 36 credits of courses in the Common Core Curriculum, comprising at least one and not more than two courses from each Area of Inquiry with not more than 24 credits of courses being selected within one academic year except where candidates are required to make up for failed credits.	36 credits

**Faculty Requirements**

18 credits of compulsory Faculty requirements which must be completed successfully:

<sup>1</sup> Candidates who have achieved Level 5\*\* in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, or equivalent, may at the discretion of the Faculty be exempted from this requirement and should take an elective course in lieu, see UG6 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

<sup>2</sup> Students are required to successfully complete the 6-credit Faculty-specific Chinese language enhancement course, except for:

- (a) Putonghua-speaking students who should take CUND9002 (Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society) or CUND9003 (Cantonese for Non-Cantonese Speaking Students); and
- (b) students who have not studied Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take the Chinese language enhancement course should write to the Board of the Faculty to apply to be exempted from the Chinese language requirements, and (i) to take a 6-credit Cantonese or Putonghua language course offered by the School of Chinese especially for international and exchange students; OR (ii) to take an elective course in lieu.

Three 6-credit Faculty Foundation courses - Introduction to Building Technology - Visual Culture: Architecture and the Built Environment - Sustainability and the Built Environment	18 credits
--	------------

### **Professional Core of Landscape Studies**

The Landscape Studies curriculum has five types of courses which are taught using distinct learning modes.

All courses are 6-credit courses, with the exception of the Design Studios which are 12 credits. The Design Studio, Visual Communications courses and Electives are assessed through 100% continuous coursework assessment. Courses on History & Theory and Technology & Science are assessed through a combination of continuous coursework assessment (ranging from 40% to 100%) and examination (ranging from 0%-60%).

#### Landscape Design courses

(12 credits requiring approximately 300-360 hours of student learning activities per course in one semester)

These courses engage students in practical problem-solving design exercises in landscape architecture under staff guidance and supervision. The projects are closely related to concurrent course work and seek to develop student's knowledge of key landscape theories and concepts, as well as giving them practical experience in technical issues. In addition to major projects, sketch design problems are set to teach students to produce and express landscape designs with reason, imagination and sensitivity.

Teaching is conducted in two to three four-hour design studio sessions per week (total 96-144 contact hours), and involves working on projects in both group and individual formats. Work is regularly presented and discussed in critical review sessions. Site visits, data research, field trips and practical workshops are required.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment of drawings, diagrams, photos, renderings, animations, physical models, prototypes and project presentation (up to 5,000 words for the whole course).

ARCH2101	Introduction to Landscape Design Studio	(12 credits)
ARCH2102	Landscape Design Studio 1	(12 credits)
	(Pre-requisite: Introduction to Landscape Design Studio)	
ARCH3101	Landscape Design Studio 2	(12 credits)
	(Pre-requisite: Landscape Design Studio 1)	
ARCH3104	Landscape Design Studio 3	(12 credits)
	(Pre-requisite: Landscape Design Studio 2)	
ARCH4701	Landscape Design Studio 4	(12 credits)
	(Pre-requisite: Landscape Design Studio 3)	

ARCH4704 Landscape Design Studio 5  
(Pre-requisite: Landscape Design Studio 4)

(12 credits)

---

Landscape History & Theory courses

(6 credits requiring approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities per course)

Collectively these courses examine the theories and practice of landscape architecture through a comparative study of the history of landscape architectural design and urbanism, in various geographic and cultural contexts. Key issues are explored in more detail through the work of contemporary practitioners and current trends are assessed to see where the future of landscape architecture might lie.

Teaching is conducted in lectures / workshops / tutorials / review sessions (36-48 contact hours per course), and the course work includes reading of critical texts, site visits, research, case studies and the preparation of assignments, essays and reports. Work is regularly presented and discussed in critical review sessions.

The courses may be assessed through a combination of examination (0%-60%) and continuous coursework assessment (40%-100%). Continuous coursework assessment is usually by various methods including PowerPoint presentation, reports (up to 10,000 words), short essays (1,500-2,000 words), quizzes, projects and/or sketch books.

ARCH2103	History of Landscape Design	(6 credits)
ARCH3103	Environment, Community & Design	(6 credits)
ARCH3105	Theories and Practices of Contemporary Landscape Architecture	(6 credits)
ARCH4703	Landscape & Design in China	(6 credits)
ARCH4705	Strategic Landscape Planning	(6 credits)

---

Landscape Technology & Science courses

(6 credits requiring approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities per course)

These courses explore issues of materials, construction, structures and environment as they relate to the built environment. The courses establish key technical concepts and knowledge that underpin students' architectural design work. Much of the course relates to projects undertaken in the design studios. Teaching is conducted in lectures / workshops / tutorials / review sessions (36-48 contact hours per course), and activities include site visits, case studies, practical demonstrations, detailed design exercises and the preparation of assignments and reports. Work is regularly presented and discussed in critical review sessions.

These courses also explore the hard science behind landscape architecture and give students a thorough grounding in the knowledge that underpins their design work. Students learn the basics of plants, including their physiology, ecology and design application, together with the related soil science and planting technology. They also gain an understanding of hard landscape

including the principle and application of site grading, drainage, structures, and the properties and uses of materials in landscape construction.

The courses are assessed through a combination of continuous coursework assessment (40%-100%) and examination (0%-60%). Continuous coursework assessment is usually by various methods including homework, group work, quizzes, group projects, assignments, integrated coursework, presentation, and individual study. The usual output mainly comprises annotated diagrams and short written descriptions (up to a total of 5,000 words for the whole course).

ARCH3102	Technology in Landscape Architecture	(6 credits)
ARCH2105	Plants & Planting Design 1	(6 credits)
ARCH4702	Plants & Planting Design 2	(6 credits)
ARCH4706	Ecology & Sustainability	(6 credits)

---

#### Visual Communications courses

(6 credits requiring approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities per course)

These courses introduce students to the essential tools of design communication, and teach the fundamentals of graphic design as a means to describe space visually. Students learn freehand drawing, computer aided drafting, physical model building and 3D computer modelling. They investigate approaches and techniques to manage, manipulate, and envision information, using various computer software to link photography, drawing, and video media.

Teaching is conducted in lectures / workshops / tutorials / review sessions (36-48 contact hours per course), and activities include case studies, practical exercises, demonstrations, and the preparation of assignments and reports. Assessment is 100% continuous coursework assessment of drawings, diagrams, photos, renderings, animations, physical models, prototypes and project presentation (up to 5,000 words for the whole course).

ARCH1031	Landscape Representation 1	(6 credits)
ARCH2104	Landscape Representation 2	(6 credits)
ARCH3109	Landscape Representation 3	(6 credits)
ARCH3110	Landscape Representation 4	(6 credits)

---

#### **Electives in Landscape Studies**

(6 credits each, approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities per course)

---

The BA(LS) curriculum requires that BA(LS) students complete elective courses, totaling a minimum of 18 credits. Guidance will be provided by Programme Staff to ensure appropriate elective selection within the BA(LS) curriculum or other courses within the University.

The elective courses within the BA(LS) curriculum explore advanced issues in landscape technology, landscape representation, landscape history, landscape theory, digital media and

fabrication in landscape architecture and sustainability in landscape architecture. Specific topics and offerings will vary based on the instructor's discretion.

Teaching is conducted in lectures / workshops / tutorials / review sessions (36-48 contact hours per course), and activities include the examination of critical texts, research, writing, direct engagement in the design and physical construction of built landscape works under the guidance of a Registered Landscape Architect or teacher in the programme. Electives are assessed through 100% continuous coursework assessment. Continuous coursework assessment includes written essays, research exercise, site visits, study reports, practical exercises, oral presentation, prototyping and fabrication. Written format assessments may range to a total of 5,000 words for the whole course. Overseas study trip may be required by some elective courses.

In lieu of one elective course, students can also do either an independent field study (36-48 contact hours) or an independent research project (36-48 contact hours), as an "independent study in landscape studies", on a topic of their interest, with approval from the Programme Director. These courses are assessed through 100% continuous coursework assessment by various methods including research reporting, progress presentations and the final report submission (up to a total of 5,000 words for the whole course).

ARCH4708	Advanced Topics in Landscape Technology	(6 credits)
ARCH4709	Advanced Topics in Landscape Representation	(6 credits)
ARCH4710	Landscape Practicum	(6 credits)
ARCH4711	Independent Study in Landscape Studies	(6 credits)
ARCH4712	Advanced Topics in Landscape History	(6 credits)
ARCH4713	Advanced Topics in Landscape Theory	(6 credits)
ARCH4714	Advanced Topics in Digital Media and Fabrication	(6 credits)
ARCH4715	Special Topics in Sustainability	(6 credits)

---

### First Year of Study

#### [First semester courses]

- Sustainability and the Built Environment (6 credits)
- Visual Culture: Architecture and the Built Environment (6 credits)
- Landscape Representation 1 (6 credits)
- 1 Common Core course (6 credits)
- Core University English (6 credits)

#### [Second semester courses]

- Introduction to Building Technology (6 credits)
  - History of Landscape Design (6 credits)
  - Chinese Language Enhancement Course (6 credits)
  - 2 Common Core courses (12 credits)
-

## Second Year of Study

### [First semester courses]

- Introduction to Landscape Design Studio (12 credits)
- Plants & Planting Design 1 (6 credits)
- English language enhancement course (6 credits)
- 1 Common Core course (6 credits)

### [Second semester courses]

- Landscape Design Studio 1 (12 credits)
- Landscape Representation 2 (6 credits)
- 2 Common Core courses (12 credits)

## Third Year of Study

### [First semester courses]

- Landscape Design Studio 2 (12 credits)
- Technology in Landscape Architecture (6 credits)
- Theories and Practices of Contemporary Landscape Architecture (6 credits)
- Landscape Representation 3 (6 credits)

### [Second semester courses]

- Landscape Design Studio 3 (12 credits)
- Environment, Community & Design (6 credits)
- Landscape Representation 4 (6 credits)
- Elective (6 credits)

## Final Year of Study

### [First semester courses]

- Landscape Design Studio 4 (12 credits)
- Plants & Planting Design 2 (6 credits)
- Landscape Design in China (6 credits)
- Elective (6 credits)

### [Second semester courses]

- Landscape Design Studio 5 (12 credits)
- Strategic Landscape Planning (6 credits)
- Ecology & Sustainability (6 credits)
- Elective (6 credits)

---

## **Course Description**

### **Year 1**

#### **Semester 1**

### **ARCH1028 Sustainability and the Built Environment (6 credits)**

The course examines the broad range of issues confronting mankind's search for a sustainable future, such as: population & urbanization; transportation & logistics; technology & mobility; water; waste; energy; food; (natural) disasters; and community & governance. Through the perspective of contemporary and historical case studies students explore how people, in their visions of the future, have sought to perfect built environments as the setting for model communities.

The ideas raised in the lectures, reinforced through weekly readings and weekly tutorial sessions, are brought together at the end of the course with an intensive workshop, in which students look to define their own vision of a sustainable community. This course is intended to inspire thinking about the way we should construct our living environments in future, in order to find a sustainable balance.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

### **ARCH1027 Visual Culture: Architecture and the Built Environment (6 credits)**

This course is an introduction to architecture and the Built Environment. Students will be exposed to the common basic knowledge of architecture as a built form as well as a discipline along with a multitude of the other forces that shape its development. Various themes are presented as a starting point to expand, navigate, and link different conditions and ideas of architecture. In addition, a broad spectrum of other aspects related to the field of study, including city and society, landscape and planning, culture and visual art, ecology and environment, as well as technology and material, will be discussed for increasing the awareness of architecture with our changing society.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

### **ARCH1031 Landscape Representation 1 (6 credits) Forms and Methods**

This course introduces students to the basic medium of landscape and fundamental analogue techniques for its representation including field sketching, orthographic projections, model-making, collage, and other skills. Lectures and exercises will guide students to observe landscape phenomena and experiences while experimenting with various means of communication through visual representation. Site visits to landscapes in Hong Kong are required to immerse students in the landscape and become acquainted with the built and natural environment of Hong Kong.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

### **CAES1000 Core University English (6 credits)**

The Core University English (CUE) course aims to enhance first-year students' academic English language proficiency in the university context. CUE focuses on developing students' academic English language skills for the Common Core Curriculum. These include the language skills needed to understand and produce spoken and written academic texts, express academic ideas and concepts clearly and in a well-structured manner and search for and use academic sources of information in their writing and speaking. Students will also complete four online-learning modules through the Moodle platform on academic grammar, academic vocabulary, citation and referencing skills and understanding and avoiding plagiarism. This course will help

students to participate more effectively in their first-year university studies in English, thereby enriching their first-year experience.

Assessment: 65% continuous coursework assessment and 35% examination

### **One Common Core course (6 credits)**

---

#### **Year 1**

#### **Semester 2**

#### **RECO1201 Introduction to Building Technology (6 credits)**

This course provides the fundamental knowledge and concepts for functional design and construction of buildings. The aim of the course is to help students to explain why the building stands up, identify the function of essential elements and components of buildings, including the materials used and their installation methods.

A morphological approach will be used to explain the building elements and components. Students will learn how to read from drawings and sketches, and appreciate their practical application from site visits.

Topics will cover structural elements, building envelopes and services of buildings, including the materials and methods of their installation.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

#### **ARCH2103 History of Landscape Design (6 credits)**

This course examines international landscape design concepts and trends as observed over history from prehistoric periods to contemporary projects. Significant figures and outstanding works of landscape architecture are examined through the lens of geographic, cultural, and historical contexts. In addition, the basic principles of aesthetics in landscape are introduced, discussing our psychological response to our living environments, questioning the systems we adopt to understand and value our surroundings, including discussion of theories on natural preference and experiential influences. It examines the role of identity and meaning in landscape design. Students might be required to participate in a week-long field trip abroad (self-funded) for research and site visits, or overseas exchanges with partnering institutions. Continuous coursework assessment includes regular technical exercises and assignments, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

#### **CARC9001 Practical Chinese for Architecture and Landscape Students (6 credits)**

The main objective of this course is to enhance the students' command of Chinese for the architecture profession through basic training in presentation skills and in specific techniques for the preparation of target-oriented letters, proposals, plans and reports. This course also aims to develop students' ability to engage in negotiations, debates as well as critical and creative thinking. In order to promote artistic and aesthetic appreciation, thematic lectures and topical



workshops on Chinese calligraphic and artistic representations will be conducted. Site visits to traditional Chinese temples, gardens and museums will be organized to provide students with opportunities to gain hands-on experiences of the inner dynamics of Chinese culture. Students will be able to acquire sophisticated Chinese language skills and knowledge of Chinese culture within the context of the discipline of architecture.

#### Aims and Objectives

1. Demonstrate ability in using effective spoken and written language skills required for daily life communication, surveying & architecture related professions and academic studies.
2. Reflect on their language learning experience and devise strategies for further improvement
3. Have in-depth oral presentation, discussion and debating skills.
4. Have an overall understanding between language and cultural concepts.
5. Have a better awareness and sensitivity toward language usage, critical thinking and aesthetic quality.

Assessment: 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination

#### **Two Common Core courses (12 credits)**

---

##### **Year 2**

##### **Semester 1**

##### **ARCH2101 Introduction to Landscape Design Studio (12 credits)**

The first Landscape Studio course engages students in exploring the two and three-dimensional aspects of landscape design under staff guidance and supervision. Students will investigate the creative process, spatial hierarchy, materiality, and conceptual development through a series of design exercises. The projects are closely related to concurrent course work and seek to develop student's knowledge of key landscape theories and concepts. In addition to major projects, sketch design problems are set to teach students to produce and express landscape designs with reason, imagination and sensitivity. Teaching is conducted in the design studio in both group and individual formats, and work is regularly presented and discussed in critical review sessions. Field trips are required. Introduction to Landscape Design Studio is focused on the use of hand drawn graphics and physical models as the basis of design communication.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

##### **ARCH2105 Plants & Planting Design 1 (6 credits)**

This course is designed to give students a comprehensive knowledge in plants, landscape planting design and management. It focuses on learning a core palette of plant species and their characteristics, for use in landscape planting in the region and developing student's understanding of the underlying fundamentals of botany, plant physiology, and taxonomy. The course also examines techniques in plant propagation and horticultural care. The functional applications of plants including environmental improvement, ornamental, medicinal, cultural and other uses in landscape planting design, are explored within both historical and contemporary

schemes. Students are introduced to a systematic approach to planting design and some of the basic technical, administrative and management aspects of landscape planting.

Assessment: 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination

### **CAES9120 Communication Course for Architecture Students (6 credits)**

This English-in-the-Discipline course aims to complement the Design Studio component as well as the core curriculum of the Architecture degree programme. The focus is on the language & communication skills required to facilitate students' approach to architectural literacy.

Through spontaneous speaking tasks on their personal and social experience of architecture in HK and through critical reading & discussion of selected texts, students will focus on the language needed to express their views on architectural issues.

The out-of-class learning component of the course will supplement the main aims by consolidating students' use of architectural vocabulary and enhancing cohesion in their writing. Students will be encouraged to take responsibility to improve their own language skills in future through tutor feedback and by exploring sources of grammatical & lexical input.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

### **One Common Core course (6 credits)**

---

## **Year 2**

### **Semester 2**

### **ARCH2102 Landscape Design Studio 1 (12 credits)**

The Second Semester Landscape Studio continues the exploration of landscape design under staff guidance and supervision. In this studio, students investigate the spatial, experiential and temporal aspects of landscape design through various design exercises with an emphasis on developing visual thinking skills. Projects introduce a variety of site inquiry methods at a site scale that require students to consider users, programming and context in their design. Teaching is conducted in the design studio in both group and individual formats, and work is regularly presented and discussed in critical review sessions. Field trips are required. Landscape Design Studio 1 continues to emphasise the use of hand drawn graphics as the basis of design communication.

As part of this course, students are required to undertake a one week (self-funded) overseas study tour.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Prerequisite: ARCH2101 Introduction to Landscape Design Studio

**ARCH2104 Landscape Representation 2 (6 credits)**  
**Surfaces and Materials**

This course focuses on digital modelling and representation specific to the medium of landscape architecture. Students are introduced to basic Computer Aided Design (CAD) platforms to produce three-dimensional computer models of landscapes, and explore the representation of materiality through various media. These investigations will lead to physical models created from a series of computer controlled fabrication devices, including the CNC milling machine, the large-format laser cutter, and a three-dimensional starch printer.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**Two Common Core courses (12 credits)**

---

**Year 3**  
**Semester 1**

**ARCH3101 Landscape Design Studio 2 (12 credits)**

Landscape Design Studio 2 further develops the student's ability to research, analyse, conceptualise and present integrated and meaningful designs for site-scale landscape projects. The scale of projects increases with a focus on site planning with the integration of multiple factors which shape our physical landscapes including ecology, hydrology, and climate, with special attention being paid to biophysical characteristics of the site. Projects and design problems further test and develop student's ability to create and articulate landscape design solutions, increasingly under time constraints. Computer drafting and graphic techniques are introduced in this studio to aid design communication. Local or overseas fieldtrips are required for research, site visits, or exchanges with partnering institutions. Continuous coursework assessment includes regular technical exercises and assignments, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Prerequisite: ARCH2102 Landscape Design Studio 1

**ARCH3102 Technology in Landscape Architecture (6 credits)**

This course addresses technological issues fundamental to landscape design with an emphasis on site engineering. The course will explore the concept of landform and grading in design through the understanding of topography in history, art, and landscape design. Students will acquire a deeper understanding of how grading can inspire their designs, and how people will experience their landscapes. This understanding is supported through a series of technical design exercises including surveying techniques, manipulation of contours, grading terminology and formulas, drainage patterns, and accessibility issues. Continuous coursework assessment includes regular technical exercises and assignments, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH3105 Theories and Practices of Contemporary (6 credits)**  
**Landscape Architecture**

The course critically examines contemporary landscape architecture through the study of recent critical texts on topical subjects and the review of significant landscape projects from around the world. Students are encouraged to develop an awareness of the underpinning theories, philosophies, approaches and techniques of contemporary landscape practitioners, and the evolution of trends in landscape design. Particular emphasis is placed on landscape design in China, Korea and Japan, and the differences with current landscape design movements in North America and Europe. The course introduces students to the practices and processes of working professionals as a reference framework for their design and technical studies, through the examination of the work and professional procedures of landscape architects. Continuous coursework assessment includes written essays, study reports and practical exercises.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH3109 Landscape Representation 3 (6 credits)**  
**Operations and Fabrication**

Landscape Representation 3 explores the dynamic landscape and advances the students' knowledge of digital tools to introduce more advanced representational methodologies such as operational logics and time-based phenomena. The course will expand the fundamental relationships between landscape processes and the methods through which they are understood, analysed, and visually communicated. Students will learn to utilize scripted algorithms and digital parametric tools to construct customized analysis and representation methodologies. Digital representation will also be introduced as tool for research and simulation that is embedded in the design process. Landscape representation strategies will be explored through the media of film, animation, and advanced fabrication and prototyping.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

---

**Year 3**  
**Semester 2**

**ARCH3104 Landscape Design Studio 3 (12 credits)**

The Landscape Design Studio 3 course continues to develop student's landscape design skills through a variety of increasingly complex and challenging landscape architectural design assignments. The scale of projects increases with a focus on site planning with the integration of multiple factors which shape our physical landscapes including society, urban context, and architectural parameters, with special attention being paid to urban conditions. Projects and design problems further test and develop student's ability to create and articulate landscape design solutions, increasingly under time constraints. Computer drafting and graphic techniques are introduced in this studio to aid design communication. Local or overseas fieldtrips are required for research, site visits, or exchanges with partnering institutions. Continuous coursework assessment includes regular technical exercises and assignments, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Prerequisite: ARCH3101 Landscape Design Studio 2

**ARCH3103 Environment, Community & Design (6 credits)**

Environment, Community & Design are the three tenets of landscape architecture, and this course examines how landscape architecture can generate sustainable design responses that negotiate between communities and their environments. The course explores the social and behavioural aspects of landscapes through the understanding of community identity and self, neighbourhood, common ground and ownership of the public realm, environmental psychology and third place. The course will focus on developing design principles as they relate to cultural practices, social behaviour, and community building through the medium of landscape. Various approaches to community engagement and participation within the design process will also be introduced. The mode of assessment would be 100% continuous coursework assessment, comprising detailed case studies and research assignments, community mapping and design exercises with existing community groups in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH3110 Landscape Representation 4 (6 credits)  
Systems and Simulations**

Landscape Representation 4 introduces techniques for representing and understanding landscapes and their underlying systems at the scale of the region. Students will use Geographic Information Systems platforms to produce, collect, and manipulate complex, geo-referenced data sets as a research and design tool. This final landscape representation course explores advanced technologies and the novel concepts of landscape and techniques for its representation and analysis that are emerging within these digital practices. Students will develop a critical understanding of how these large-scale, system-based representation methods are related to the development of design frameworks. Strategies of simulation and physical experimentation will be used to augment database visualizations and as a means of design evaluation.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**Elective (6 credits)**

---

**Year 4**

**Semester 1**

**ARCH4701 Landscape Design Studio 4 (Capstone Experience) (12 credits)**

To fulfil the University's Mainland and International learning experience requirements, the Landscape Design Studio 4 course is taught in a combination of Mainland and international locations where students are required to stay for the duration of the study. Design project themes focus on the interrelationships of landscape systems and urban situations, supporting student to develop a critical understanding of the locale's social, political, and ecological context. The studio develops student's landscape design skills through a variety of increasingly complex and

challenging landscape architectural design assignments at an urban design scale. Projects call for integration of multiple factors which shape our physical landscapes including ecology, society, urban context, and architectural parameters, with special attention being paid to local and regional characteristics of Mainland and international locations. These investigations will foster a critical position about the current urban development models in Mainland and internationally, that could inform new landscape strategies and alternate futures for cities. Projects and design problems further test and develop student's ability to create and articulate landscape design solutions, increasingly under time constraints. Computer graphic techniques are increasingly used for design communication. Fieldtrips are required for research, site visits, or exchanges with partnering institutions. Coursework assessment includes regular technical exercises and assignments, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Prerequisite: ARCH3104 Landscape Design Studio 3

### **ARCH4702 Plants & Planting Design 2 (6 credits)**

The second course in Plants and Planting Design looks at the application of plant species in a variety of contexts. Planting design issues such as urban trees, thematic planting, ecological design and self sustaining plant communities are introduced. It investigates advanced landscape planting techniques including vertical green wall systems, roof gardens, and amenity turf grass. Technical design considerations of contract documentation, plant specification, and quality control, are discussed. A detailed review is made of the horticultural nursery and landscape construction industries within the region, looking at practical issues of plant production, delivery and handling, site preparation, planting site construction, and horticultural maintenance. The course extends students' understanding of plants and planting design, by examining issues within different climatic zones, building an understanding of plant distribution and use on a regional and global scale, developing a more contextual approach to plant species selection and planting design and working in unfamiliar environments. Coursework comprises technical design exercises, field trips, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment: 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination

### **ARCH4703 Landscape & Design in China (6 credits)**

This survey course will introduce contemporary design in China through landscape and related design fields. Students will be exposed to issues of culture, technology, consumption, the environment, rapid urbanization, and other contemporary or historic forces in China that shape the contemporary landscapes and related creative practices. Students engage with leading Chinese designers in each of the fields and study relevant contemporary projects to determine how issues of Chinese identity and community are being expressed and developed. This helps students to broaden their understanding of landscape design and introduces them to a wide range of new subjects, materials and techniques that can be used to inspire innovation and creativity in landscape design. Some topics include: the appropriation of the theories and symbolism of the Chinese garden tradition in contemporary landscape design; and landscape design in response to contemporary urban, environmental, economic, political and cultural forces in China. Coursework assessment comprises technical research studies, site visit reports, and written papers (up to 5,000 words).

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

## **Elective (6 credits)**

---

### **Year 4**

#### **Semester 2**

#### **ARCH4704 Landscape Design Studio 5 (Capstone Experience) (12 credits)**

The final design studio is a capstone experience for the demonstration of students' capability in landscape design. Landscape Design Studio 5 further develops the student's ability to research, analyse, conceptualise and present integrated and meaningful designs for large-scale, multi-faceted development projects, as well as generating quick, innovative and mature design solutions to complex technical problems through a series of design exercises. Emphasis is placed on the application of ecological systems to address landscape planning at a regional scale and the rehabilitation of disturbed sites. The projects will operate at multiple scales from a regional perspective to a local intervention in order for students to acquire the ability to manage and relate designs at various scales. The multi-layers of design projects will further test and develop student's ability to create and articulate landscape design solutions, increasingly under time constraints. The studio will incorporate GIS modelling software to aid in the research and development of the projects. Computer graphic techniques are increasingly used for design communication. Local or overseas fieldtrips are required for research, site visits, or exchanges with partnering institutions. Continuous coursework assessment includes regular technical exercises and assignments, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

Pre-requisite: ARCH4701 Landscape Design Studio 4

#### **ARCH4705 Strategic Landscape Planning (6 credits)**

Strategic landscape planning involves the mapping, evaluation and management of the landscape on a regional and national scale. This course examines landscape planning from a historical and theoretical point of view, taking examples from around the world. Students look at the definition of landscape character and type, in both urban and rural contexts, and the mapping of landscape value, landscape sensitivity, and visual quality. Students learn how these can form strategic planning tools to guide and inform policy makers on the conservation and management of existing natural and man-made landscape resources, and in the control of development within site specific and regional contexts. Site search methodologies and trans-boundary issues are explored. Continuous coursework assessment includes written essays, research exercises, site visits, study reports and practical exercises.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

#### **ARCH4706 Ecology & Sustainability (6 credits)**

This course seeks to give students a broad understanding of the elements which combine to form our natural environment, and provide the context and inspiration for landscape architects.

Focusing on degraded landscapes, its soils, water, air, and climate, the course systematically investigates the properties of the elements and the natural forces which control them. Ecological mitigation techniques and case studies of successful landscape designs are introduced. The second part of this course develops an understanding of the principles of ecological restoration, the key components and processes in ecological systems, together with key issues of biodiversity, carrying capacity and sustainability. The course investigates issues of brownfields rehabilitation, resource extraction, mitigation, and environmental management. Continuous coursework assessment comprises illustrated lectures, studies on selected topics and field assignments and reports.

Assessment: 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination

### **Elective (6 credits)**

---

#### **Electives in Landscape Studies**

##### **ARCH4708 Advanced Topics in Landscape Technology (6 credits)**

This course explores advanced issues in landscape technology through the introduction of advanced technologies and landscape sciences. Specific topics and offerings will vary based on the instructor's discretion. Continuous coursework assessment includes written essays, research exercises, site visits, study reports and practical exercises. An overseas study trip may be required.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

##### **ARCH4709 Advanced Topics in Landscape Representation (6 credits)**

This course explores advanced issues in landscape representation through the use of various tools, techniques, and theories. Specific topics and offerings will vary based on the instructor's discretion. Continuous coursework assessment includes written essays, research exercises, site visits, study reports and practical exercises. An overseas study trip may be required.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

##### **ARCH4710 Landscape Practicum (6 credits)**

This course provides an opportunity for practical experience in landscape architecture through direct engagement in the design and physical construction of built landscape works under the guidance of a Registered Landscape Architect or teacher in the programme. Assessment is based on a detailed log-book/journal, visual documentation, or other learning activities to be submitted at the end of the practicum. An overseas study trip may be required.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

##### **ARCH4711 Independent Study in Landscape Studies (6 credits)**

This course incorporates supervised studies on special approved topics in landscape studies by individuals or small groups. Students must obtain approval from the Programme Director and



the work must be supervised by a teacher in the programme. Oral presentation and special study reports/papers or other learning activities are required. An overseas study trip may be required.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH4712 Advanced Topics in Landscape History (6 credits)**

This course explores advanced issues in landscape history through the examination of critical texts, research, and writing. Specific topics and offerings will vary based on the instructor's discretion. Continuous coursework assessment includes written essays, research exercises, site visits, study reports and practical exercises. An overseas study trip may be required.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH4713 Advanced Topics in Landscape Theory (6 credits)**

This course explores advanced issues in landscape theory through the examination of critical texts, research, and writing. Specific topics and offerings will vary based on the instructor's discretion. Continuous coursework assessment includes written essays, research exercises, site visits, study reports and practical exercises. An overseas study trip may be required.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH4714 Advanced Topics in Digital Media and Fabrication (6 credits)**

This course explores advanced issues in digital media and fabrication in landscape architecture. Specific topics and offerings will vary based on the instructor's discretion. Continuous coursework assessment includes research exercises, prototyping and fabrication, site visits, study reports and practical exercises. An overseas study trip may be required.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH4715 Special Topics in Sustainability (6 credits)**

This course explores advanced issues in sustainability in landscape architecture through the examination of critical texts, research, and writing. Specific topics and offerings will vary based on the instructor's discretion. Continuous coursework assessment includes written essays, research exercises, site visits, study reports and practical exercises. An overseas study trip may be required.

Assessment: 100% continuous coursework assessment

---

## Course Offerings for Minor in Landscape Studies

The 36-credit minor in Landscape Studies is open to students of other degree curricula and comprises the following:

1. the required course “History of Landscape Design” (6 credits);
2. at least one course in Landscape History & Theory (6 credits);
3. at least one course in Landscape Technology & Science (6 credits); and
4. a further three courses from Landscape History & Theory, Landscape Technology & Science, Visual Communications, or the elective courses in Landscape Studies as listed below (18 credits).

Students are required to obtain the Programme Director’s approval prior to enrolment in any elective courses in Landscape Studies, to ensure that they have sufficient background to take these advance courses. Double counting of credits is not permissible for minor in Landscape Studies. When a course is used to satisfy the requirements of another curriculum or programme, it shall not be counted towards the fulfillment of the requirements of this minor.

### Required Course

ARCH2103 History of Landscape Design (6 credits)

(This course has been changed to ARCH1029 Introduction to Landscape Design with effect from the 2016-17 academic year. Students who have taken ARCH2103 are not allowed to take ARCH1029 or vice versa)

### Landscape History & Theory courses

ARCH3103 Environment, Community & Design (6 credits)

ARCH3105 Theories and Practices of Contemporary Landscape Architecture (6 credits)

ARCH4703 Landscape & Design in China (6 credits)

ARCH4705 Strategic Landscape Planning (6 credits)

### Landscape Technology & Science courses

ARCH3102 Technology in Landscape Architecture (6 credits)

ARCH2105 Plants & Planting Design 1 (6 credits)

ARCH4706 Ecology & Sustainability (6 credits)

### Visual Communications courses

ARCH1031 Landscape Representation 1 (6 credits)

### Elective courses in Landscape Studies

ARCH4708 Advanced Topics in Landscape Technology (6 credits)

ARCH4710 Landscape Practicum (6 credits)

ARCH4711 Independent study in Landscape Studies (6 credits)

ARCH4712 Advanced Topics in Landscape History (6 credits)

ARCH4713 Advanced Topics in Landscape Theory (6 credits)

ARCH4715 Special Topics in Sustainability (6 credits)