

# MAJOR IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Studying Landscape Architecture at CSU is an adventure. Taking part in a challenging course of study, students prepare themselves for careers in a field whose enormous potential has only begun to be recognized. Landscape Architecture students study design as accomplished landscape architects see it: shaping spaces as well as planning and preserving them.

Landscape architects lead the stewardship, planning, and design of built and natural environments. Throughout the program, emphasis is on the relationship between design, nature, and society: the impact of environments on the individual as well as the impact of users on the environment. Registration laws for landscape architects in 49 states encourage graduation from programs such as that offered at CSU, which is accredited by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Landscape architects must analyze the natural elements of a site including the climate, soil, slope of the land, drainage, sunlight, and vegetation. Computer-aided design (CAD) has become an essential tool for landscape architects. Landscape architects often work with building architects, surveyors, engineers, and urban planners and collaborate with environmental scientists, foresters, and other professionals to find the best way to conserve or restore natural resources. Knowledge of appropriate local, state, or federal regulations such as those protecting wetlands or historic resources is essential.

Nature, culture, form, and space are the classic elements of landscape architecture with which students work in a series of design studies and related courses. Coursework focuses on a variety of landscape projects that grow more complex as the curriculum proceeds. The courses include subjects such as site design, landscape design and construction, surveying, landscape ecology, and urban and regional planning. Other courses specific to the major are history of the designed landscape, plant and soil science, geology, and professional practice. Students are also encouraged to take advantage of summer travel courses available to study highly-valued ecological/cultural sites in Colorado and designed landscapes in Europe.

CSU offers the only nationally accredited undergraduate professional landscape architecture program in Colorado, via the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (<http://www.asla.org/accreditationlaab.aspx>) (LAAB).

## Learning Objectives

### 1. Design Process and Methodology:

Formulate a range of approaches to analyze and evaluate landscapes to develop material, spatial, and temporal landscape

compositions, site-specific design solutions, and other creative responses grounded in the natural, physical, and social sciences that address aesthetic, environmental, and social issues and goals.

### 2. History and Theory:

Demonstrate a critical understanding of, and application of, the histories, theories, and practices of landscape architecture and environmental planning, and their role in reflecting and shaping culture and environments regionally, nationally, and globally.

### 3. Systems, Processes, and Resilience (Natural and Cultural):

Demonstrate an understanding of ecological systems, economic systems, and diverse human cultures in a global context to make thoughtful decisions regarding environmental resilience, human health, and overall well-being.

### 4. Communication and Representation:

Listen, speak, write, create, and employ appropriate traditional and digital representational tools and technology to convey ideas to a variety of audiences.

### 5. Construction, Materials, and Methods:

Demonstrate a critical understanding of material selection, methods of assembly, and landscape architecture practices necessary to translate conceptual ideas into construction documents.

### 6. Professionalism and Professional Practice:

Demonstrate professionalism and an understanding of the legal and ethical responsibilities and role of landscape architects to safeguard human health, safety, and public welfare through the practice of landscape architecture.

## Potential Occupations

Many types of organizations and individuals hire landscape architects – from real estate development firms starting new projects, municipalities constructing airports or parks, to home owners desiring garden designs. Many landscape architects are employed by government agencies doing site design for buildings, parks, and other public assets. Others are involved in park and recreation planning in national parks and forests, and restoration of environmentally damaged landscapes. Since 1998, average salaries for landscape architects exceeded average salaries of architects. Anticipated growth in construction is expected to increase demand for landscape architectural services. Participation in internships and cooperative education opportunities is highly recommended to enhance practical training and development. Graduates who go on for advanced studies can attain more responsible positions with the possibility of rising to top professional levels.

Some examples include: design consultant, private practice business, construction supervisor, land or environmental planner, urban designer, historic preservationist, golf course architect, resort planner.

## Requirements

### Effective Spring 2025

#### Freshman

		AUCC	Credits
CO 150	College Composition (GT-CO2)	1A	3
LAND 110	Introduction to Landscape Architecture	3B	3
LAND 120	History of the Designed Landscape		3
LAND 230	Drawing the Landscape		4
LAND 240	Fundamentals of Landscape Design Process		4

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LAND 241	Environmental Analysis		3
MATH 126	Analytic Trigonometry (GT-MA1)	1B	1
Select one course from the following:			4
BZ 120	Principles of Plant Biology (GT-SC1)	3A	
HORT 100	Horticultural Science	3A	
1B ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc</a> )		1B	2
1C ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc</a> )		1C	3

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**Total Credits** **30**

**Sophomore**

CHEM 107	Fundamentals of Chemistry (GT-SC2)	3A	4
GEOL 121	Experiential Geoscience Laboratory (GT-SC1)	3A	1
LAND 220/LIFE 220	Fundamentals of Ecology (GT-SC2)	3A	3
LAND 250	Geospatial Methods for Landscape Architecture		3
LAND 360	Basic Landscape Design and Construction	4A	3
LAND 361	Digital Methods		3
LAND 362	Form and Expression in Garden Design	4B	3
LAND 363	Advanced Landscape Site Engineering		4

Select one course from the following: 3

GEOL 120	Geology and Society (GT-SC2)	3A	
GEOL 122	Geoscience--Climate and Environmental Change (GT-SC2)	3A	

Arts and Humanities (<https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities>) 3B 3

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**Total Credits** **30**

**Summer**

Select one course from the following: 5

LAND 454	Landscape Field Studies		
LAND 455	Travel Abroad-European Landscape Architecture		
NR 220	Natural Resource Ecology and Measurements		

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**Total Credits** **5**

**Junior**

LAND 364	Design and Nature		4
LAND 365	Landscape Contract Drawing and Specifications		3
LAND 366	Landscape Design Expression		4
LAND 444	Landscape Ecology		3
PHIL 345	Environmental Ethics		3
PSY 100	General Psychology (GT-SS3)	3C	3
SOCR 240	Introductory Soil Science		4
SPCM 200	Public Speaking		3

Select one course from the following: 3

AREC 202	Agricultural and Resource Economics (GT-SS1)	3C	
ECON 202	Principles of Microeconomics (GT-SS1)	3C	

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**Total Credits** **30**

**Senior**

HORT 368/LAND 368	Landscape Irrigation and Water Conservation		3
LAND 392	Seminar-Designed Landscapes-Theory and Criticism		2
LAND 446	Urban Design		4
LAND 447	Comprehensive Landscape Design	4C	4
LAND 449	Professional Practice	4C	1

Select one course from the following: 3-4

BZ 223	Plant Identification			
HORT 221	Landscape Plants			
HORT 325	Native Plants in the Landscape			
Advanced Writing ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#advanced-writing">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#advanced-writing</a> )		2		3
Arts and Humanities ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities</a> )		3B		3
Historical Perspectives ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives</a> )		3D		3
Electives				3-4
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>30</b>
<b>Program Total Credits:</b>				<b>125</b>

## Major Completion Map

### Freshman

Semester 1	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
CO 150 College Composition (GT-CO2)			1A	3
LAND 110 Introduction to Landscape Architecture			3B	3
LAND 230 Drawing the Landscape	X			4
Select one course from the following:				4
BZ 120 Principles of Plant Biology (GT-SC1)			3A	
HORT 100 Horticultural Science			3A	
1B ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc</a> )			1B	2
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>16</b>

Semester 2	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
LAND 120 History of the Designed Landscape				3
LAND 240 Fundamentals of Landscape Design Process	X			4
LAND 241 Environmental Analysis				3
MATH 126 Analytic Trigonometry (GT-MA1)			1B	1
1C ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc</a> )			1C	3
CO 150, AUCC 1B, and BZ 120 must be completed by the end of Semester 2.	X			
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>14</b>

### Sophomore

Semester 3	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
CHEM 107 Fundamentals of Chemistry (GT-SC2)	X		3A	4
GEOL 121 Experiential Geoscience Laboratory (GT-SC1)			3A	1
LAND 360 Basic Landscape Design and Construction	X		4A	3
LAND 361 Digital Methods	X			3
<b>LIFE 220/ LAND 220</b> Fundamentals of Ecology (GT-SC2)			<b>3A</b>	<b>3</b>
Select one course from the following:				3
GEOL 120 Geology and Society (GT-SC2)			3A	
GEOL 122 Geoscience–Climate and Environmental Change (GT-SC2)			3A	
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>17</b>

Semester 4	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
LAND 250 Geospatial Methods for Landscape Architecture	X			3
LAND 362 Form and Expression in Garden Design	X		4B	3
LAND 363 Advanced Landscape Site Engineering	X			4

Arts and Humanities ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities</a> )			3B	3	
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>13</b>	
<b>Semester 5</b>		<b>Critical</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>AUCC</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Select one course from the following:					
LAND 454	Landscape Field Studies				5
LAND 455	Travel Abroad-European Landscape Architecture				
NR 220	Natural Resource Ecology and Measurements				
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>5</b>	
<i>Junior</i>					
<b>Semester 6</b>		<b>Critical</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>AUCC</b>	<b>Credits</b>
LAND 364	Design and Nature				4
LAND 365	Landscape Contract Drawing and Specifications	X			3
PSY 100	General Psychology (GT-SS3)	X		3C	3
SPCM 200	Public Speaking				3
Select one course from the following:					
AREC 202	Agricultural and Resource Economics (GT-SS1)			3C	3
ECON 202	Principles of Microeconomics (GT-SS1)			3C	
LAND 220/ LIFE 220 must be completed by the end of Semester 6.		X			
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>16</b>	
<b>Semester 7</b>		<b>Critical</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>AUCC</b>	<b>Credits</b>
LAND 366	Landscape Design Expression	X			4
LAND 444	Landscape Ecology				3
PHIL 345	Environmental Ethics				3
SOCR 240	Introductory Soil Science				4
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>14</b>	
<i>Senior</i>					
<b>Semester 8</b>		<b>Critical</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>AUCC</b>	<b>Credits</b>
LAND 392	Seminar-Designed Landscapes-Theory and Criticism	X			2
LAND 446	Urban Design	X			4
Select one course from the following:					
BZ 223	Plant Identification				3-4
HORT 221	Landscape Plants				
HORT 325	Native Plants in the Landscape				
Advanced Writing ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#advanced-writing">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#advanced-writing</a> )				2	3
Electives					3-4
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>16</b>	
<b>Semester 9</b>		<b>Critical</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>AUCC</b>	<b>Credits</b>
HORT 368/ LAND 368	Landscape Irrigation and Water Conservation	X			3
LAND 447	Comprehensive Landscape Design	X		4C	4
LAND 449	Professional Practice	X		4C	1
Arts and Humanities ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities</a> )		X		3B	3
Historical Perspectives ( <a href="https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives">https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives</a> )		X		3D	3
The benchmark courses for the 9th semester are the remaining courses in the entire program of study.		X			
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>14</b>	
<b>Program Total Credits:</b>				<b>125</b>	