

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

These regulations and syllabuses apply to students admitted in the 2011-12 academic year and thereafter.

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula)

Definitions

Ar260 For the purpose of these regulations and the syllabuses for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Studies, unless the context otherwise requires:

‘Elective’ means any course offered within the same or another curriculum, other than compulsory courses in the BA (LS), that can be taken by the candidate in order to complete the credit requirements of the degree.

Admission to the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Studies

Ar261 To be eligible for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Studies, a candidate shall:

- (a) comply with the General Regulations; and
 - (b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula; and
 - (c) satisfy all the requirements of the curriculum in accordance with these regulations and the syllabuses.
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Period of study

Ar262 The curriculum for the Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Studies shall normally require six semesters of full-time study, extending over not fewer than three academic years, and shall include any assessment to be held during and/or at the end of each semester. Candidates shall not in any case be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of five academic years.

Selection of courses

Ar263 Candidates shall select their courses in accordance with these regulations and the guidelines as specified in the syllabuses before the beginning of each semester. Such selection shall be subject to the approval of the Head of the Division of Landscape Architecture.

Ar264 Changes to the selection of courses may be made during the first two weeks of each semester subject to the approval of the Head of the Division of Landscape Architecture, and such changes shall not be reflected in the transcript. Requests for changes after the first two weeks of a semester shall not be considered, and a candidate withdrawing from any course without permission shall be given an F grade.

Ar265 Candidates shall not be permitted to select other courses for which a failed course forms a prerequisite unless permission is given by the department for the candidates to be reassessed in the failed course and for them to satisfy the examiners in this.

Curriculum requirements

Ar266 To complete the curriculum, a candidate shall:

- (a) satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula;
 - (b) enrol in courses of a total of 180 credits, comprising 153 credits in core courses, 6 credits of electives, 6 credits in English language enhancement, 3 credits in Chinese language enhancement and 12 credits in Common Core courses;
 - (c) follow instruction in the courses as prescribed under these regulations and satisfactorily complete all coursework requirements set as tests or as parts of any assessment and practical work to be undertaken as an integral part of the BA(LS) curriculum; and
 - (d) satisfy the examiners in the assessment of the courses in the manner specified in the regulations and syllabuses.
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Ar267 Progression in curriculum

- (a) Candidates shall normally be required to take not fewer than 24 credits nor more than 30 credits in any one semester (except the summer semester) unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty, or except in the last semester of study when candidates may be required to take fewer than 24 credits to satisfy the outstanding curriculum requirements.
 - (b) Candidates may, of their own volition, take additional credits not exceeding 6 credits in each semester, accumulating up to a maximum of 72 credits in one academic year. With the special permission of the Board of the Faculty, candidates may exceed the annual study load of 72 credits in a given academic year provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed 216 credits, save as provided for under Ar267(c).
 - (c) Where candidates are required to make up for failed credits, the Board of the Faculty may give permission for candidates to exceed the annual study load of 72 credits provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed 360 credits.
 - (d) Candidates may, with the approval of the Board of the Faculty, transfer credits for courses completed at other institutions at any time during their candidature. The number of transferred credits may be recorded in the transcript of the candidate, but the results of courses completed at other institutions shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA. The number of credits to be transferred shall not exceed half of the total credits normally required under the degree curricula of the candidates during their candidature at the University.
 - (e) Unless otherwise permitted by the Board of the Faculty, candidates shall be required to discontinue their studies if they have:
 - (i) failed to complete successfully 36 or more credits in two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester), except where they are not required to take such number of credits in the given two semesters, or
 - (ii) failed to achieve an average Semester GPA of 1.0 or higher for two consecutive semesters.
or
 - (iii) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in the regulations of the degree.
 - (f) Candidates may be required by the Board of Examiners to take a reduced study load if their academic progression is unsatisfactory.
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Assessment

Ar268 Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses which they have registered for, and examinations may be conducted in any one or any combination of the following manners: written assessments or tests, written assignments or exercises, continuous assessment of performance, laboratory works, field works, drawings, diagrams, photos, renderings, animations, prototypes, project

presentations, group works, quizzes, group projects, individual study, research or project reports. Grades shall be awarded in accordance with UG8(a) of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

Ar269 Candidates who are unable, because of illness, to be present at the written examination of any course may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination of the same course to be held before the beginning of the First Semester of the following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of the first day of the candidate's absence from any examination. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provisions made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

Ar270 Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a D grade or above for the purpose of upgrading.

Ar271 Failure in Assessment

(a) Candidates are required to make up for failed courses in the following manner as prescribed by the Board of Examiners:

- (i) undergoing instruction during the prescribed summer period and satisfying the re-assessments before the beginning of the next academic year for failure in no more than 6 credits in a given semester; or
- (ii) repeating the failed course(s) in the following academic year for failure in more than 6 credits in a given semester; or
- (iii) taking the same or another course *in lieu* of a failed elective course, and satisfying the assessment requirements.

(b) Where candidates are permitted or required to present themselves for re-assessment/ re-examination/ assessment in an alternative course, the new grade obtained together with the previous F grade shall be recorded on the transcript and will be included in the calculation of the semester GPA, the year GPA and the cumulative GPA.

(c) The maximum number of attempts for a particular course or requirement is three.

Degree classification

Ar272 A pass list of candidates awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Studies shall be published in five divisions as follows: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours (Division I), Second Class Honours (Division II), Third Class Honours and Pass. The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of the Faculty at its full discretion by taking into account the overall performance of the candidates and other relevant factors as appropriate.

SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LANDSCAPE STUDIES

Students entering the 3-Year Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Studies curriculum in the academic year 2011-12 will take 153 credits of courses, plus a total of 21 credits in language and Common Core courses, and 6 credits of electives, totalling 180 credits for the 3-year curriculum.

The Landscape Studies curriculum has four 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 or 15 credits. The majority of courses in History and Theory, Science, Technology, and Visual Communications are offered in two parts, Part I in the first semester and Part II running in the second semester of a single academic year. This split is designed so that the knowledge and skills learnt in each course can be directly related to concurrent project work in the Design Studio course, to allow a more specific and structured approach to student learning.

The Design Studio, and Visual Communications courses are assessed through 100% continuous coursework assessment. Courses on History and Theory, Science, and Technology are assessed through a combination of continuous coursework assessment (ranging from 40% to 100%) and examination (ranging from 0%- 60%).

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

First Year of Study

[First semester courses]

- Introduction to Landscape Design Studio (12 credits)
- Visual Communications 1 (6 credits)
- Building Technology 1 (6 credits)

- Chinese language enhancement course (3 credits)
- English language enhancement courses (3 credits)

[Second semester courses]

- Landscape Design Studio 1 (12 credits)
- History of Landscape Design (6 credits)

- English language enhancement course (3 credits)
- 2 Common Core courses (12 credits)

Second Year of Study

[First semester courses]

- Landscape Design Studio 2 (12 credits)
- Technology in Landscape Architecture (6 credits)
- Environment, Community & Design (6 credits)
- Visual Communications 2 (6 credits)

[Second semester courses]

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

- Plants & Planting Design 1 (6 credits)
- Visual Communications for Landscape Architects (6 credits)

Final Year of Study

[First semester courses]

- Landscape Design Studio 4 (15 credits)
- Plants & Planting Design 2 (6 credits)
- Landscape Design in China (6 credits)

[Second semester courses]

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

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

(i) Two 3-credit courses in English language enhancement; and one 3-credit course in Chinese language enhancement ¹	9 credits
(ii) Two 6-credit courses in the Common Core Curriculum with not more than one course from one Area of Inquiry	12 credits

Landscape Design courses

(12 – 15 credits requiring approximately 300 - 375 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 four-hour design studio sessions per week (total 96 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 and practical workshops are required.

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).

ARCH1022	Introduction to Landscape Design Studio	(12 credits)
ARCH1023	Landscape Design Studio 1 (Pre-requisite: Introduction to Landscape Design Studio)	(12 credits)
ARCH2043	Landscape Design Studio 2 (Pre-requisite: Landscape Design Studio 1)	(12 credits)

¹ Putonghua-speaking students should take CUND0002 or CUND0003. Students who have not studied Chinese language during their secondary education / who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take CARC1001 can apply (i) to take credit-bearing Cantonese or Putonghua language courses offered by the School of Chinese especially for international and exchange students; OR (ii) to be exempted from the Chinese language requirement and take an elective course in lieu.

ARCH2044	Landscape Design Studio 3 (Pre-requisite: Landscape Design Studio 2)	(12 credits)
ARCH3040	Landscape Design Studio 4 (Pre-requisite: Landscape Design Studio 3)	(15 credits)
ARCH3041	Landscape Design Studio 5 (Pre-requisite: Landscape Design Studio 4)	(12 credits)

Landscape History and Theory courses

(6 credits requiring approximately 150 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 twenty four two-hour lecture / workshop / review sessions, 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.

ARCH1021	History of Landscape Design	(6 credits)
ARCH2041	Environment, Community & Design	(6 credits)
ARCH2042	Theories and Practices of Contemporary Landscape Architecture	(6 credits)
ARCH3042	Landscape & Design in China	(6 credits)
ARCH3043	Strategic Landscape Planning	(6 credits)

Landscape Technology & Science courses

(6 credits requiring approximately 150 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 / review sessions (24 contact hours per course), and activities include site visits, case studies, practical demonstrations, detailed design exercises and the preparation of assignments and reports.

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.

Teaching is conducted in two-hour lecture / workshop / review sessions and learning activities also 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.

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).

ARCH1019	Building Technology 1	(6 credits)
ARCH2039	Technology in Landscape Architecture	(6 credits)
ARCH2040	Plants & Planting Design 1	(6 credits)
ARCH3039	Plants & Planting Design 2	(6 credits)
	Elective	(6 credits)
ARCH3044	Ecology & Sustainability	(6 credits)

Visual Communications courses

(6 credits requiring approximately 150 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 twenty four two-hour lecture / workshop / review sessions per course (total 48 contact hours), 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).

ARCH1020	Visual Communications 1	(6 credits)
ARCH2045	Visual Communications 2	(6 credits)
ARCH2046	Visual Communications for Landscape Architects	(6 credits)

Other Courses

Common core curriculum courses	(12 credits)
English language enhancement courses	(6 credits)
Chinese Language enhancement course	(3 credits)

**Year 1
Semester 1**

ARCH1022 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. Landscape Design Studio I is focused on the use of hand drawn graphics and physical models as the basis of design communication.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH1019 Building Technology 1:
Environmental Science and Engineering in Architecture (6 credits)**

This course addresses the fundamental issues and elements of environmental science and engineering integrated into architecture. It aims to develop an understanding of the broad spectrum of technologies and materials available to the architect as well as provide basic insight into the science that underpins them. The basic principles of science and engineering within the context of architecture and the design process will be discussed, through lectures, site visits, case studies.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

**ARCH1020 Visual Communications 1 (6 credits)
Representational Forms and Methods**

Visual Communications A relates the study of architecture to the study of representational forms and methods. Taught through lectures that introduce fundamentals of visual communication including: grid, line, perspective, movement studies, projection, and composition, the course is a preliminary immersion in the culture of visual studies. Visual Communications A also provides students with basic skills and techniques (in freehand drawing, 2D and 3D CAD drawing, laser cutting, model making, Illustrator and Photoshop software) which allow the students to experiment with many ways to communicate their design issues and ideas. Students will be responsible for individual projects which exhibit their grasp of the lecture topics.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

CAES1101 Communication course for Architecture students (3 credits)

This course provides Architecture students with an opportunity to enhance their linguistic range specifically in describing buildings. The use of terminology is the focus both in short writing tasks and oral presentations. Aspects of presentation skills are practiced and developed using small-group project work and extensive use is made of videotaping for feedback.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

CARC1001 Practical Chinese language course for Architecture students (3 credits)
建築學院實用中文課程

中國語文科為建築學院學生必修科目，有別於一般基礎國文培訓，本課程著重培養學員綜合、融通、品鑒之能力。課程以口語傳意、語法知識、應用寫作及漢字流變為基礎，配以論辯思維、文學欣賞、書法美學等高階語藝及美學陶鑄，以求深化學識、厚化學養。

修畢課程，學員能鞏固聽說讀寫能力，融通漢語結構及漢字流變的知識。提升中文傳意能力至演辯批判、文辭欣賞、美學品鑑層次。

課程形式以傳統之大課及導修以外，亦加入校外考察及工作坊等學習經歷。評分則以考試、導修、報告、功課進行。

As a compulsory subject for students of Architecture, Chinese Language for Architecture (CARC) is different from the general Chinese training. The course comprehensively focuses on wide-ranging practical writing training, communication skills enhancement as well as the cultivation of literature sensibility and aesthetic quality.

The course pattern will be in the form of traditional lecture and tutorials plus various field trips, workshops and other learning experiences.

1. 通盤訓練學員綜合語文能力，並扣連本科專業知識，培養融通能力。

Comprehensive training of overall language skill including oral communication, grammar, practical writing and Chinese characters

2. 強化學生口語傳意、語法基礎、應用寫作及漢字流變的知識，深化學生的基礎學養、亦厚化其論辯思維。

Nurture the ability of critical thinking, creative writing and debate in Chinese.

3. 重視美感陶鑄，課程加入文學欣賞、書法美學。

Enhance the appreciation of Chinese literature and calligraphy aesthetics.

Assessment is by 50% continuous coursework and 50% examination.

Year 1
Semester 2

ARCH1023 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 II 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. This offers an opportunity to see and experience some of the finest historic and contemporary examples of the work of landscape architects in Asia, and to meet with and question local landscape practitioners, government administrators, academics and other specialists in the landscape field. It greatly helps students to expand their knowledge of landscape and its role and value within the built

and natural environment. The tour reinforces students' understanding of theories and practice in landscape architecture taught in related courses. This study tour is located within Asia and the itinerary and content is developed by the students themselves based on comprehensive research and planning. Students are also required to undertake the logistical preparation and organization of the tour as a first hand practical exercise.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

Prerequisite: ARCH1022 Introduction to Landscape Design Studio

ARCH1021 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. Continuous coursework assessment includes studies on selected topics and study reports.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

CAES1105 Communication course for Architecture students (3 credits)

This English-in-the-Discipline course follows on from the Semester 1 communication skills course by providing students with further opportunities to enhance their linguistic range specifically in their approach to architectural literacy. Students learn how to analyse architectural readings and texts critically and to engage in focused discussion and debate on related issues.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

Two Common core courses (12 credits)

Year 2

Semester 1

ARCH2043 Landscape Design Studio 2 (12 credits)

The Landscape Design Studio III 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 ecology, climate, society, urban context, and architectural parameters, with special attention being paid to local and regional characteristics. 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. Continuous coursework assessment includes regular technical exercises and assignments, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

Prerequisite: ARCH1023 Landscape Design Studio 1

ARCH2039 Technology in Landscape Architecture (6 credits)

This course addresses technological issues fundamental to landscape design with an emphasis on topography and materials. The first portion of 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. Students will learn how to use topography to support their design intents while gaining technical competence. The second half of this course examines the material practice of landscape architecture through issues such as material life cycles and construction technology. Material life cycles examine issues such as extraction, production, and material flows in the context of landscape change. Construction technology focuses on material assemblage in relation to human experience and environmental performance. Continuous coursework assessment includes regular technical exercises and assignments, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

ARCH2041 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 is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

ARCH2045 Visual Communications 2: Material Culture (6 credits)

Visual Communications B focuses on digital modelling and fabrication. By manipulating and controlling information available in the public domain, models will be constructed to form a landscape out of the pre-existing mapped urban environment. Developing the information further, a three-dimensional computer model will be constructed to produce objects with a high degree of precision. By manufacturing the model from a series of computer controlled fabrication devices, including the CNC milling machine, the large-format laser cutter, and a three-dimensional starch printer, highly precise physical models will be produced.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

Year 2
Semester 2

ARCH2044 Landscape Design Studio 3 (12 credits)

Landscape Design Studio D 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 introduce basic GIS modelling software to aid in the research and development of the projects. Computer graphic techniques are increasingly used for design communication. Coursework assessment includes regular technical exercises and assignments, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

Prerequisite: ARCH2043 Landscape Design Studio 2

**ARCH2042 Theories and Practices of Contemporary
Landscape Architecture (6 credits)**

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 is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

ARCH2040 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. The mode of assessment is 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination.

Assessment is by 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination

ARCH2046 Visual Communications for Landscape Architects (6 credits)

This course will introduce representation techniques and theories unique to landscape architecture. It will expand the fundamental relationships between dynamic landscape processes and methods in which they are understood, conveyed, and visually communicated. It will focus on representation as a research and design tool through the investigation of time-based landscape and urban operations, processes, and systems analytics. The course will cover a range of visual representation techniques from methods of mapping, illustrating time-based process, synthesizing bio-physical and human processes to depiction of proposed strategies and alternative futures. Students will be exposed to a variety of media such as analog techniques, digital 2D representation, digital modelling, rendering, and film. Students will be responsible for individual projects which exhibit their grasp of the lecture topics.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

Year 3 Semester 1

ARCH3040 Landscape Design Studio 4 (15 credits)

The Landscape Design Studio E course is primarily taught in the Faculty's Shanghai Study Centre. The design projects focus on the interrelationships of landscape systems and the urban region of Shanghai to develop a critical understanding of its 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 the Chinese local and regional characteristics. These investigations will foster a critical position about the current urban development models in China that could inform new landscape strategies and alternate futures for the city. 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. Coursework assessment includes regular technical exercises and assignments, site visits, and study reports.

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

Prerequisite: ARCH2044 Landscape Design Studio 3

ARCH3039 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, site visits, and study reports. The mode of assessment is 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination.

Assessment is by 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination

ARCH3042 Landscape & Design in China (6 credits)

This survey course will introduce contemporary design in China through landscape and related design fields such as art, fashion, graphic, industrial, stage, film and furniture design. 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 2,000 words).

Assessment is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

Year 3 Semester 2

ARCH3041 Landscape Design Studio 5 (12 credits)

The final design studio is a capstone experience for the demonstration of students' capability in landscape design. Students will apply their acquired knowledge in landscape architecture, theoretical and technical, in a complex landscape strategy and design under the supervision of teaching staff. Experimentation and innovation are highly encouraged during this process as a means to contribute to the body of knowledge in landscape architecture. The scale of the design project will be determined by the teaching staff, but should embody issues of culture, bio-physical systems, and urbanism. Students might be required to participate in a week-long fieldtrip 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 is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

ARCH3043 Strategic Landscape Planning (6 credits)

Strategic landscape planning involves the mapping, evaluation and management of the landscape on a regional and national scale. Taking examples from around the world, this course looks 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. The course examines how impacts on existing landscape and visual resources, can be identified, quantified and evaluated. Students gain a practical experience in the undertaking of impact assessments as part of the EIA process, including the development of measures to mitigate impact and approaches to evaluating acceptability of change are studied. 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 is by 100% continuous coursework assessment

ARCH3044 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 soils, water, air, and climate, the course systematically investigates the properties of the elements and the natural forces which control them. Their use and degradation by man is discussed, and their adaptation for use within landscape schemes is examined in detail. The second part of this course develops an understanding of the principles of ecology, the key components and processes in ecological systems, together with key issues of biodiversity, carrying capacity and sustainability. The course examines common grassland, scrub, woodland, riverine, lacustrine, coastal and freshwater marshland habitats of Hong Kong and special emphasis is given to ecology in urban environments. It investigates the impact of construction and land development on natural eco-systems, and the role of the landscape architect in the protection, restoration and enhancement of ecological habitats in Hong Kong is studied. Continuous coursework assessment comprises illustrated lectures, studies on selected topics and field assignments and reports. The mode of assessment is 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination.

Assessment is by 50% continuous coursework assessment and 50% examination.

Elective (6 credits)