

# Landscape Architecture

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**Department Head, Margarita M. Hill**

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**Affiliated Faculty:**

Thomas J. Rice, Earth and Soil Sciences Department

**ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

Landscape Architecture – [BLA](#)

The profession of landscape architecture is primarily involved with the design, planning, and protection of the natural and developed environments. The **five-year** program in landscape architecture is accredited by the American Society of Landscape Architects and recognized by the Landscape Architects Technical Committee of the California Board of Architectural Examiners. *Clarification added, effective Summer 2011.*

An emphasis is placed on a process oriented approach to design and planning while developing an awareness and sensitivity to community and human values as they relate to environmental conditions. Students majoring in landscape architecture acquire technical competencies and creative design skills through a range of projects which represent the breadth of the profession.

Graduates of the program are prepared for positions in private practice, consulting, governmental agencies at the national, state or local levels, industry and construction firms. Graduate study is encouraged for those students interested in pursuing advanced studies or academic positions.

Majors who are in their last two years of study and have at least a 3.2 grade point average may have the opportunity to join Theta Chapter of Sigma Lambda Alpha, the national scholastic honor society for landscape architecture.

**Laptop Requirement**

The department has a requirement that all freshmen or transfer students have a notebook computer when they enter the program. In the profession of landscape architecture, computing is an integral component, and developing the ability to critically integrate hand and digital tools is a fundamental aspect of landscape architecture education. A notebook computer is the key to having computing capabilities available at all times and all locations. Financial aid may be available to cover the cost of the notebook computer (contact the Financial Aid Office for more information).

**MBA – Landscape Architecture Management Track**

This program is available only to those students who are currently enrolled in Cal Poly’s Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) program. During the fifth/final year of the landscape architecture program, students may request permission to enroll in MBA courses. The request, along with all supporting documents, must be submitted to the Orfalea College of Business – Graduate Programs Office. Permission to participate in the courses is competitive and based upon the student’s previous academic performance and GMAT/GRE results.

Upon completion of the BLA degree, students are eligible to formally apply to the University for admission to the MBA program. Students who fulfill all the requirements first receive the BLA and then the MBA.

**MBA Common Required Courses (36)**

GSB 511 Accounting for Managers .....	4
GSB 512 Quantitative Analysis.....	4
GSB 513 Organization Behavior.....	4
GSB 523 Managerial Economics .....	4
GSB 524 Marketing Management.....	4
GSB 531 Managerial Finance .....	4
GSB 533 Aggregate Economic Analysis & Policy .....	4
GSB 534 Production and Operations Mgmt.....	4
GSB 562 Seminar in General Mgmt & Strategy or GSB 567 Adv Sem International Business Mgmt or other approved culminating experience .....	4

**Advisor approved electives** ..... 24

*One elective must satisfy the Orfalea College of Business’ international course requirement*

60

**Blended Program-Bachelor of Landscape Architecture/Master of City and Regional Planning (BLA/MCRP)**

The blended BLA/MCRP Program is an accelerated route to the graduate professional degree in City and Regional Planning. Under this program a student can simultaneously graduate with a BLA and MCRP. Students shall meet the minimum eligibility requirements for a blended degree set down in the university catalog, complete a planning internship and the required MCRP classes. An updated list pertaining to which courses can be counted in the program is available from the City and Regional Planning Department. Students choosing this program shall make a request for admission to the CRP department head or graduate coordinator, who determines eligibility.

MCRP courses for the blended program include: CRP 420, 510, 516, 518 or 513, 520, 525, 530, 552, and 554.

**Program Learning Objectives**  
**Bachelor of Landscape Architecture**

- A. Integrate the intertwined natural and cultural systems at the project, community, regional and global levels
- B. Incorporate a sense of place, responsible management, environmental ethics, and the appropriate use of resources throughout the design, planning and implementation process
- C. Comprehend and demonstrate relationships among analysis, design concept, development and implementation
- D. Demonstrate a passion for creativity and the process of analytical problem solving
- E. Apply the knowledge of world history, and theory of landscape architecture, as well as an understanding of contemporary philosophies and theories in the Profession of Landscape Architecture, to design solutions
- F. Apply independent thinking to make cogent decisions in ambiguous environments
- G. Demonstrate employable skills, and a mind open to learning in a professional setting
- H. Demonstrate the ability and confidence to work in interdisciplinary settings and work environments
- I. Comprehend the leadership role that landscape architecture plays in the design and development process
- J. Apply written, oral, as well as manual and digital graphic skills to communicate design process, development and solutions
- K. Apply professional standards, ethics and practices