

PORTFOLIO APPLICATION for the
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE MAJOR
Department of Human Ecology
Landscape Architecture + Environmental Design Program
University of California, Davis 95616
(Revised January, 2017)

I. INTRODUCTION

This bulletin is intended for people interested in majoring in Landscape Architecture at the University of California, Davis. Information regarding general admission to UC Davis can be found at <http://admissions.ucdavis.edu/>, or calling (530) 752-2971.

For general information about Landscape Architecture major and the curriculum, please refer to the UC Davis General Catalog, which can be found at <http://catalog.ucdavis.edu/>, or contact the Landscape Architecture + Environmental Design Adviser at scheney@ucdavis.edu, (530) 754-8628.

II. ELIGIBILITY FOR APPLICATION

Students who are admitted, enrolled, or who have submitted applications to the University of California, Davis, may submit an application for the Landscape Architecture major. Typically, students enter UC Davis as Pre-Landscape Architecture majors and submit their application in their sophomore year. The portfolio application process has no bearing on admission to UC Davis.

III. OBTAINING AN APPLICATION FORM

Forms may be obtained by accessing our web site at lda.ucdavis.edu and printing out the application form. Forms also can be obtained by visiting the Landscape Architecture Advising Office, 135 Hunt Hall, University of California, Davis, 95616, by calling (530) 754-8628. The Advising Office's walk-in hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00-4:00 pm. Please call ahead for an appointment if you are coming from out of town to ensure adviser availability.

IV. ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES

All students begin their studies by majoring in either Pre-Landscape Architecture, Sustainable Environmental Design, or other major, until they have completed all of the lower division preparatory coursework and have been offered placement in the upper division Landscape Architecture major. The program accepts around 36 students into the Junior class each year. These students have completed all of the preparatory coursework needed to succeed in the major and in the profession. Students are expected to maintain a major GPA of 3.0 or above. Students who have a background in art or design can submit their portfolio application at any time and, while offered acceptance into the major, will still need to complete the preparatory courses before pursuing upper division coursework in Landscape Architecture.

It is advisable to allow several weeks for completing your application. If you are applying to transfer to UC Davis from a community college or other university, you may apply to the major simultaneously (e.g. if you apply to UC Davis in November 2016 for Fall 2017, you may submit

a portfolio to the program in February 2017) or you could wait to submit a portfolio application in Feb. 2018 after you have completed pre-landscape architecture courses at UCD.

V. THE DEGREE OFFERED

The degree is a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture, granted from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of California, Davis. This is a four-year program; transfer students can expect to attend UC Davis for three full academic years. The Program is fully accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB), which reviews the program every 6 years, and certified by the State of California Board of Landscape Architects.

VI. APPLICATION PERIODS AND TIMING YOUR APPLICATION

Beginning in February, 2017, applications for the Landscape Architecture major will be submitted via email to a drop box site.

Email: Sharla_.lada975iwjs696li@u.box.com

Label your file: (Last name) (First name) Portfolio 2017

The Application must be sent as single .pdf file and uploaded as a complete file. Applications that are submitted in parts will be rejected.

Application Submission period: Feb. 1, 2019 to Feb 2: , 2019
Application Deadline: Feb 29, 2019 (5:00 pm)

VIII. DIRECTIONS FOR COMPLETING YOUR PORTFOLIO APPLICATION

- I. **Written Statement:** Compose and submit a one-page, single-spaced written statement explaining your interest in landscape architecture and your goals. This statement must be typed or printed on a computer. You may want to discuss your educational background and any work experience that is relevant to the pursuit of landscape architecture as a career. The written statement is just as important as the rest of the application; if you are a currently registered student and you need assistance with your essay, please contact the Learning Skills Center, (530) 752-2013. They have writing specialists available to work with you.
- II. **Visual Materials:** (maximum of 5 pages, images are between 150-300dpi at the final printing size)

1. Creative visual work of your own choosing. This may include sketches, drawings, paintings, photographs (a piece of your own 3-D work, completed landscaping projects, etc.), plans for an outdoor project, etc. Anything that you feel will convey your creativity and graphic ability would be appropriate.
 2. If you have previously taken Landscape Architecture, Art, or Design courses, you may choose to include work from those classes.
- III. Application form: Obtain and complete an application form.
 - IV. Landscape Architecture Curriculum checklist. Indicate which courses you have completed and those in progress. If courses were completed at another institution than UCD, state the equivalent course.
 - V. For non-UC Davis students, a transcript of all completed transferable coursework must be included. Current UC Davis can omit this. The LA+ED Advising Office will submit an advising transcript for each applicant.

Note: For questions pertaining to the preparation of your application, please refer to the Advising Office, Department of Environmental Design, 135 Hunt Hall, University of California, Davis or contact, Sharla Cheney at scheney@ucdavis.edu.

VII. CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE

Portfolio Applications are evaluated by a committee of three faculty members with a numerical valuation given to five categories (see below) on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest). The top score that an applicant can receive from each evaluator is 25 or a total of 75. All applicants are ranked in order of their total score, with the highest ranked students being selected for admission. The number accepted is dependent upon the number of spaces available. The scores are turned into the Advising Office separately by each reviewer and averaged for each applicant. Applicants will be evaluated in the following five categories:

WRITTEN STATEMENT - Ability to communicate in writing; a clear indication of how the applicant became interested in landscape architecture, what experience and interests they would bring to the major and what they see themselves doing once they graduate.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS AND PREPARATION - Overall GPA, course sequence, incomplete courses, LDA course GPA, GE courses complete.

DESIGN CREATIVITY / DESIGN PROBLEM SOLVING - These can include but are not limited to examples from LDA 1 & 21 and/or design process (sketches, diagrams, and other analytical drawings)”

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION - Overall portfolio layout, effective integration of text and images, and demonstration of mastery over drawing conventions such as plans, sections, elevations.

UNDERSTANDING OF LANDSCAPE CONCEPTS - Demonstration of spatial understanding, scale, materials, ecology and social factors in design.

VIII. HOW AND WHEN YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED

You will be notified by email no later than 6 weeks after the last day to submit applications. The review process takes time, particularly if evaluators are to give adequate review to applications. You will be notified by email to the email address on your application. If you change your email address, notify the Advising Office (530) 754-8628.

IX. IF YOU ARE NOT ADMITTED

Hopefully, this will not happen, but if you are not admitted, you may choose to re-apply one additional time during the next application period. In this case, you may wish to take steps to improve your chances including: taking more preparatory subjects and skill courses, talking to licensed landscape architects, reading appropriate literature, improving your conceptualization, visualization, and writing skills, and participating in the student chapter of ASLA. You might also consider redoing some of the items in your application to show improvement. If you can't take courses you think would help your chances of admission (such as LDA 1, 21, 30, 50, 60, 70, etc.), try taking equivalent courses in basic drawing and design at a community college or adult education program.

X. OTHER ALTERNATIVES

If you wish to consider alternatives other than reapplying, there are other accredited programs in California and Oregon and professional certificate programs available. If you are unsure of your ability as a designer but still wish to pursue a career in community development or environmental issues, investigate the Sustainable Environmental Design majors. If you are primarily interested in plants and horticultural work, the Environmental Horticulture major is an alternative. Another alternative is to complete your undergraduate work in a related major, then apply to graduate school at one of the twenty or so graduate programs in landscape architecture available in the United States. Our Academic Adviser will work with you to find an alternative major or path.

XI. INTERVIEWS

By the time you apply, you will probably have talked with several key people involved with the Landscape Architecture Program. In case you have not, you may want to speak with the Program's Staff Adviser or Peer Adviser. An appointment with the adviser can be made by calling the Landscape Architecture Program in the Advising Office at (530) 754-8628. Although not required, in-person meetings with faculty members are helpful to explain unique situations, qualifications, or to obtain answers to questions. These faculty appointments are suggested solely for your information and are not considered a formal part of the application. To make an appointment with a faculty member, please call (530) 752-3907.

XII. CONCLUSION

We regret that the Landscape Architecture Program cannot accept all qualified applicants. However, it is hoped that with this document the process will be clearly defined so that each applicant has the greatest chance of admission under the stated criteria.

The University of California, in accordance with applicable federal and state law and university policy, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, medical condition (cancer-related), ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran or special disabled veteran. The university also prohibits sexual harassment. This nondiscrimination policy covers admission, access, and treatment in university programs and activities. Inquiries regarding the university's student-related nondiscrimination policies may be directed to Student Judicial Affairs Director, 463 Memorial Union, 530-752-1128.

Academic Progress Checklist

REQUIREMENTS	CLASS / EQUIVALENT COURSE	GRADE
WRITTEN / ORAL EXPRESSION		
Writing: English 3 or UWP 1, 18, 19 101, 102, or 104ABCDE		
Public Speaking: Communications 1		
SCIENCE & PLANTS		
Biology: BIS 2B		
Horticulture: ENH 6		
Quantitative: One course from the following: MAT 16A, STA 13, Computer Science 10		
Physical Science: One course from the following: CHE 2A or 10, PHY 1A or 10, GEL 1, GEO 1, or Soil Science 10		
GENERAL EDUCATION		
Two courses satisfying Social Science GE		
Two courses satisfying Arts & Humanities GE		
INTRODUCTION TO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE		
Introduction: LDA 1		
Community: LDA 2		
Sustainability: LDA 3		
Visualization: LDA 21		
History: LDA 30		
Spacemaking: LDA 70		

II. PROGRAM STATUS

Please attach a Landscape Architecture Curriculum checklist. Indicate which courses you have completed or if courses are in progress. Also, please include copies of your transcripts in the portfolio. Verify that your first and last name is visibly indicated on the outside of your portfolio.

If you think you have completed equivalent courses to the introductory level Landscape Architecture courses at another institution, please contact the Advising Office.

III. WRITTEN STATEMENT

Please attach your one-page, single-spaced essay. See section VIII of the application bulletin for details.

IV. VISUAL MATERIALS

Please attach your visual materials. See section VIII of the application bulletin for details.

Note: all pieces should be 8 1/2 X 11". Overall dimensions of the portfolio application should not exceed 10 X 12".

Date

Signature