

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE (MPS)

Graduate School

Program Website (<https://cals.cornell.edu/landscape-architecture/programs/master-of-professional-studies-mps-landscape-architecture/>)

CIP: 04.0601 | HEGIS: 0204.00 | NYSED: 32626

Graduate Field

Landscape Architecture (<https://catalog.cornell.edu/graduate-school/landscape-architecture/>)

Program Description

Our Graduate School program in Landscape Architecture complies with the requirements of three governing bodies: the New York State Education Department (NYSED), the Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards (CLARB), and the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board. The degree program is designed to accommodate a variety of academic backgrounds, both with and without design training in landscape architecture and architecture. Therefore, each student's curriculum plan is tailored to the individual's specific background and academic goals.

The year-long Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.) program in Landscape Architecture was created for individuals with an interest in advancing their career options by pursuing timely and innovative issues related to planning, designing, and/or managing natural and built environments.

Program Information

- Instruction Mode: In Person
- Location: Ithaca, NY
- Minimum Credits for Degree: 30

Program Requirements

- All coursework for this major is in person, in Ithaca, unless otherwise noted.
- All major requirements must be taken for a letter grade.
- A grade of C- or better must be earned for all courses.
- Minimum Credits for Degree: 30, with 20 of those credits being CALS credits.
- There is a tech fee of \$500 every semester for all Landscape Architecture majors. This fee allows access to the makerspace, computer lab, and necessary software licenses utilized in the program.

Core Coursework

Required Courses (11 credits total)

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
ALS 5900	Project Development: CALS Professional Master's Programs	1-5
ALS 5910	Project Completion: CALS Professional Master's Programs	1

LA 5090	Master of Professional Studies Research Design Studio	4
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Elective to Support MPS (9 credits total)

Students must take 3 courses, totaling at least 9 credits that will support their MPS research projects. Students will discuss and select the courses with the aid of their faculty advisor.

Recommended Courses (4 credits total)

Code	Title	Hours
Recommended but not required		
LA 6900	Methods of Landscape Architectural Inquiry	3
LA 5830	Seminar in Landscape Studies	1

University Graduation Requirements Requirements for All Students

In order to receive a Cornell degree, a student must satisfy academic and non-academic requirements.

Academic Requirements

A student's college determines degree requirements such as residency, number of credits, distribution of credits, and grade averages. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the specific major, degree, distribution, college, and graduation requirements for completing their chosen program of study. See the individual requirements listed by each college or school or contact the college registrar's office (<https://registrar.cornell.edu/service-resources/college-registrar-directory/>) for more information.

Non-academic Requirements

Conduct Matters. Students must satisfy any outstanding sanctions, penalties or remedies imposed or agreed to under the Student Code of Conduct (Code) or Policy 6.4. Where a formal complaint under the Code or Policy 6.4 is pending, the University will withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the adjudication process set forth in those procedures is complete, including the satisfaction of any sanctions, penalties or remedies imposed.

Financial Obligations. Outstanding financial obligations will not impact the awarding of a degree otherwise earned or a student's ability to access their official transcript. However, the University may withhold issuing a diploma until any outstanding financial obligations owing to the University are satisfied.

Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate critical understanding of the discipline's histories and theories
 - Graduates will demonstrate good knowledge of the scientific, cultural, and political histories of landscape architecture, and engage critically with the theoretical discourses—past and emerging—that frame the discipline, especially as they intersect with design practice.
- Develop and Apply Rigorous Research Methodologies
 - Graduates will formulate original research questions, frame a research project, and apply (and sometimes invent) appropriate methodologies—qualitative, quantitative, design-based, or hybrid—to investigate complex issues using landscape-based approaches across spatial, temporal, and disciplinary boundaries.
- Bridge Research and Design Practice

- Graduates will be able to integrate research into the design process and generate speculative, critical, or applied design work grounded in scholarly inquiry. They will explore how landscape architecture can operate as a mode of research that produces new forms of knowledge.
- Critically Engage with Ecological and Socio-Political Systems
 - Graduates will demonstrate the capacity to understand and interrogate the entanglements of ecological processes with cultural, economic, and political systems. They will be able to research and articulate landscape's role in addressing urgent global challenges, including climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental justice.
- Exhibit Excellence in Scholarly Communication and Representation
 - Graduates will produce high-quality written, visual, and verbal work that clearly communicates complex research findings and theoretical positions. They will utilize a range of representational media as modes of inquiry, with awareness of their epistemological and ideological implications.
- Contribute to the Advancement of Landscape Architectural Knowledge
 - Graduates will be equipped to contribute to the evolving body of knowledge in landscape architecture through original research, publication, exhibition, or other scholarly formats. They will be prepared to pursue doctoral studies or lead research initiatives within academic, professional, or public sectors.