

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND CITY & REGIONAL PLANNING (MLA/MRP)

Graduate School

Program Website (<https://aap.cornell.edu/academics/crp/graduate/dual-mrp-mla-degree/>)

Program Description

The dual master's degree in city & regional planning (M.R.P.) and landscape architecture (M.L.A.) is a professionally accredited degree intended for students with an interest in both planning and design issues.

Landscape architecture students interested in the social, political, and economic context in which design occurs, or planning students who want to establish a deeper concentration in physical design and planning than the existing planning curriculum can provide, are ideal candidates for the dual degree program.

The dual degree prepares students for work in areas such as physical planning, environmental analysis, community development, and urban design — skills which are highly sought after in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Admissions

Students apply for admission to the dual degree after already being accepted to either the M.R.P. or M.L.A. program, but need to be admitted to both programs separately. Typically, a student will apply to the complementary program during their first semester at Cornell.

Additional Requirements

- Each student forms an advisory committee of two members, with one member from City & Regional Planning (CRP) and one from Landscape Architecture (LA). The advisory committee assists the student in all aspects of the program, from class selection to completing a final exit project or thesis.
- Students must fulfill the class requirements as specified in the core curriculum for each program. This includes the required minimum credit hours in LA and CRP.
- For candidates in the first professional degree program in Landscape Architecture, a minimum of 120 total credit hours is required for the dual degree. In most instances, it is expected that four years will constitute the normal period at Cornell.

Program Information

- Instruction Mode: In Person
- Location: Ithaca, NY
- Minimum Credits for Degree: 120 for dual degrees
 - 30 required in City & Regional Planning
 - 90 required in Landscape Architecture
- Length of Program: Eight semesters total for dual degrees
 - Three semesters in City & Regional Planning
 - Five semesters in Landscape Architecture

Program Requirements

(Note: Each semester, the studio classes require payment of a supply and field trip fee, and all landscape architecture majors are required to pay an annual technology fee.)

First-Professional Landscape Architecture (MLA) Program Requirements/Sample Curriculum Plan

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Fall Semester		
LA 5010	Composition and Theory I	5
LA 5910	Creating the Urban Eden: Woody Plant Selection, Design, and Landscape Establishment	5
LA 6910	Landscape Design History II (H/Th)	3
LA 5830	Seminar in Landscape Studies	1
LA 5050	Graphic Communication I	3
Hours		17
Spring Semester		
LA 5020	Composition and Theory II	5
LA 5900	Theoretical Foundations (H/Th)	3
Concentration		3
Free Electives		4
LA 5830	Seminar in Landscape Studies	1
Hours		16
Second Year		
Fall Semester		
LA 6010	Integrating Theory and Practice I	5
LA 6160	Site Engineering	5
(CN) Concentration		3
History/Theory Electives		3
Hours		16
Spring Semester		
LA 6020	Integrating Theory and Practice II	5
LA 6180	Site Assembly	5
LA 6120	Professional Practice	2
LA 6030	Directed Study: The Concentration (CN)	1
LA 5100	Computer Applications in Landscape Architecture (Construction Documents) (Recommended)	3
Hours		16
Third Year		
Fall Semester		
LA 7010	Urban Design and Planning	5
LA 6900	Methods of Landscape Architectural Inquiry	3
History/Theory Electives		3
Concentration		3
Hours		14
Spring Semester		
LA 8900 or LA 7020	Master's Thesis in Landscape Architecture or Advanced Design Studio	5-9

LA 5830	Seminar in Landscape Studies	1
Hours		6-10
Total Hours		85-89

City & Regional Planning (MRP) Program Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses for M.R.P.		
CRP 5190	Urban Theory	4
CRP 5130	Introduction to Planning Practice and History	4
CRP 7850	City and Regional Futures: Planning Practice, Policy and Design (a minimum of two semesters required, 1 credit each semester)	2

Demonstrated Competence in Economics

Select one of the following:		3
CRP 5120	Public and Spatial Economics for Planners	
CRP 5040	Urban Economics	
Successful completion of an approved Economics course at Cornell. ¹		

Demonstrated Competence in Statistics

Select one of the following:		3-4
CRP 5450	Inferential Statistics for Planning and Public Policy	
BTRY 6010	Statistical Methods I (crosslisted)	
ILRST 5110	Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences II (crosslisted)	
ILRST 6100	Statistical Methods I (crosslisted)	
PUBPOL 5310	Applied Econometrics for Public Policy	
Successful completion of an approved Statistics course at Cornell. ²		

Successful Completion of Methods Course

Select one of the following:		
CRP 5250	Methods for Spatial Economic and Demographic Analysis	
CRP 5530	Land Use and Spatial Planning Methods	

Successful Completion of an Additional Methods Course

Select one of the following:		3-4
CRP 5080	Introduction to GIS for Planners	
CRP 5250	Methods for Spatial Economic and Demographic Analysis	
CRP 5280	Mapping and Countermapping	
CRP 5530	Land Use and Spatial Planning Methods	
CRP 5680	Introduction to Urban Data Science: Data, Interpretation, and Presentation (crosslisted)	
CRP 6201	Research Design and Qualitative Methods	
CRP 6270	Regional Economic Impact Analysis	
CRP 6330		
CEE 5900	Project Management (crosslisted)	
GDEV 6190	Quantitative Research Methods	
LA 7010	Urban Design and Planning	
HADM 6200	Principles of Real Estate (or)	
Successful completion of an approved Additional Methods course at Cornell. ³		

Successful Completion of a Law or International Institutions Course

Select one of the following:		3-4
CRP 5590	Land Use Law	

CRP 6720	International Institutions
CRP 6630	Historic Preservation Law
HADM 6870	Real Estate Law
CRP 5331	Environmental Law and Policy

Successful Completion of a Workshop Course

Workshop course offerings vary each year and may include topics in: Land Use, Community and Economic Development, International Planning, Historic Preservation Planning, Real Estate, and Urban Design.

Select one of the following:		4-6
CRP 5072	Land Use, Environmental Planning, and Urban Design Workshop	
CRP 5074	Economic and Community Development Workshop: Affordable Housing Law, Policy, and Practice	
CRP 5076	International Planning and Development Workshop	
CRP 5172	NYC Workshop: Land Use, Environmental Planning, and Design	
CRP 5610	Historic Preservation Planning Workshop: Surveys	
CRP 6580	Residential and Commercial Development	
CRP 5348	Design Connect (if taken for 4 credits with a letter grade)	

¹ Note: M.R.P. students may petition to have other Cornell courses fulfill the Economics course requirement.

² Note: M.R.P. students may petition to have other Cornell courses fulfill the Statistics course requirement.

³ Note: M.R.P. students may petition to have other Cornell courses fulfill the Additional Methods course requirement.

Successful Completion of an Exit Project

Credits vary by option and include:

- A research paper: CRP 8901 M.R.P. Exit Project: Research and CRP 8902 M.R.P. Exit Project: Research Paper-Writing (The combined credits must equal 4 credits in total)
- A professional report: CRP 8901 M.R.P. Exit Project: Research and CRP 8904 M.R.P. Exit Project: Professional Report-Writing (The combined credits must equal at least 4 credits but no more than 10 credits in total)
- A thesis: CRP 8901 M.R.P. Exit Project: Research and CRP 8906 M.R.P. Exit Project: Thesis-Writing (The combined credits must equal at least 6 credits but no more than 10 credits in total)

MRP Students are required to submit the exit project to eCommons – Cornell University Library's online repository for dissertations and theses before the exit project degree deadline.

M.R.P. students complete a minimum of 60 total credits; at least 30 of these credits must be obtained within the Department of City and Regional Planning, including credits earned in fulfilling and completing the exit project and the M.R.P. core requirements.