Department of

Landscape Architecture

Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA)
Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture (BSLA)
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Planning and Design (BSEPD)
Welcome

At Rutgers’ Department of Landscape Architecture, our students see, study, design, plan, build, and imagine the world.

Our department is more than majors and programs — it is people, activities, and ideas. We are a closeknit community that values diversity and encourages open dialogue about pressing environmental and social concerns.

We are committed to sustainable and resilient solutions to improve human and environmental health and well-being, for now and for the future. Our interdisciplinary approach to these solutions is both analytical and creative, engaging students in art, science, theory, and practice.

Our outstanding faculty is made up of individuals with critical expertise and experience, including professional designers and renowned scholars.

Being a student in this department is a rigorous 24-7 experience that engages learning both inside and outside the classroom. Students benefit from a range of instructional approaches including lectures, design studios, field trips, and independent research.

Our student clubs offer opportunities for extracurricular engagement, such as Parking Day installations in New Brunswick and participation in professional conferences.

Blake Hall on the Cook Campus of Rutgers is our home, but our community extends into our cities, suburbs, countryside, and globally.

Grounded in Rutgers’ long history of research and extension services, our department is committed to addressing the complex challenges communities face today. Our students also enjoy opportunities to travel and study other regions of the U.S. and internationally, thanks to study abroad courses and the Roy DeBoer Travel Prize.

This brochure describes the breadth of opportunities available to you as a student and as a future professional.

At the undergraduate level, our department includes two degree programs – an accredited Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture (LA) and a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Planning and Design (EPD).

At the graduate level, our department offers three options. The accredited Masters of Landscape Architecture 1 (MLA1) serves students without accredited undergraduate degrees. The MLA2 is designed for landscape architects seeking to specialize. Our 4+1 program allows students to merge undergraduate and graduate studies.

You are welcome to visit the department to see for yourself all that is happening!
What is Landscape Architecture?

Landscape architects pay crucial attention to the human dimension of place. We command the technical skillsets that come from our strong grounding in natural processes and materials. We create transformative landscapes that impact daily lives.

Positioned within the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, we have many avenues to examine the evolution of ideas shaping the interaction of people and place, and to increase understanding of ecological communities and their integration in the designed landscape.

Learning Environment
Our undergraduate and graduate curricula are nationally accredited by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board. Studio courses provide a one-on-one relationship between faculty and student to encourage personal growth. The collaborative studio environment promotes diverse and interdisciplinary solutions. Students apply their developing design skills by working with real clients on real sites.

Change the World
The Landscape Architecture profession expands across scales to understand the interconnectedness of human and ecological systems, positioning landscape architects as leaders in interdisciplinary teams.

We use design in combination with planning, engineering, and social science to foster healthy environments that address social justice and our changing climate.
What is Environmental Planning and Design?

The Environmental Planning and Design (EPD) program at Rutgers University strives to consider our relationship with the land in an effort to foster ethical solutions to critical environmental issues.

For decades, the human population has consumed more resources than the earth’s ecologies can generate. Clearly, this model cannot continue, and we need visionary alternatives that foster sustainability.

The EDP program promotes sustainability, regardless of location, strives for social equity, and envisions a post-industrial landscape that includes functional ecologies.

The EPD program gives students a foundation in natural and social sciences, planning and policy, as well as design so that they have the skills needed to change the world.

The Landscape Planning option provides students with an opportunity to examine the theory and principals of sustainability within the context of both social and environmental ethics. It establishes a foundation for exploring the juxtaposition of development, open space, and agriculture.

The Geomatics option and minor foster a recognition of the importance of scale and scope to environmental issues. It provides the requisite technology skills (GIS, cartography, remote sensing) needed to improve, plan, and manage natural systems.

Both the Landscape Industry and Urban Forestry options provide a focus on the empirical aspects of open space and green infrastructure with unique applied practical experience.
Unique opportunities at Rutgers

Travel and Study Abroad
There is only so much you can learn about places from text books. You have to see them, experience them. Every year, the Roy DeBoer Travel Prize funds the best individual student proposals to travel in the U.S. and abroad. We also offer a 5-week summer studio abroad that is taught by our faculty, in collaboration with partner institutions. These programs take place in Germany, Italy, Spain, Japan and other countries. SEBS scholarships are available to support international study.

Student Clubs
A close knit community supports the learning experience. Student clubs organize field trips, travel to conferences and special educational sessions. Most of all, they provide opportunities for students to develop their own voice, work collaboratively on self-directed projects, and socialize outside of class. Student Clubs advance initiative and leadership skills.

Independent Research
The Master’s Thesis in the MLA program is the capstone of our graduate education. Topics include creative site design projects, innovative planning approaches, and research in history and theory. Our faculty further supports individual undergraduate research via the George H. Cook Scholar Program and welcomes student participation in faculty research projects.
The Office of Agriculture and Urban Programs (OAUP)

Our students are actively engaged in community outreach in New Jersey cities, suburbs, and rural areas. OAUP supports campus outdoor learning labs, including our student farm where students can learn about urban agriculture and community food security.

Under the umbrella of OAUP, the Center for Urban Environmental Sustainability (CUES) integrates design, sciences, and engineering to bring innovative solutions for open space, resilience and habitat issues to New Jersey’s urban communities.

Rutgers Gardens

The Gardens are, in many ways, our extended outdoor classroom where we can study the horticulture collections throughout the changing seasons. The grounds are used for design-build projects, providing hands-on student learning while improving the experience for garden visitors. We also offer Rutgers Garden internships and a Public Garden Management course taught by the Director of Rutgers Gardens.
BSLA Timeline

**FRESHMAN YEAR**
- Drawing
- Architectural design
- Environmental planning
- People and environment
- Core education requirements

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**
- Design studio
- Materials and grading
- Plants
- Site design studio
- Geographic information systems
- Computer graphics

**JUNIOR YEAR**
- Environmental planning studio
- History of Landscape Architecture
- Ecology
- Parks
- Open topic studio
- 3D-computer drawing
- Garden design
- Society, culture & design

**STUDY ABROAD** during summer break
- Kyoto, Japan
- Düsseldorf, Germany

For more information:
http://landarch.rutgers.edu/BSLA

GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL

TRANSFER FROM ANOTHER COLLEGE.
Transcript evaluation will determine program placement.
Urban design studio
Construction details
Electives

Open topic studio
Plants/ecology elective
Electives

SENIOR YEAR
Working in...
Continuing education in...

...LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
offices, large and small
...INTERDISCIPLINARY
engineering firms
...COMMUNITY DESIGN CENTERS
and land trusts
...PARKS DEPARTMENTS, FROM
city departments to the National
Park Service
...REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT
companies

...GRADUATE STUDIES

Please go to
http://landarch.rutgers.edu/4plus1
to learn more about our
4 PLUS 1 PROGRAM

Our graduates speak:

April Maly
BSLA Class of 2011
“...RULA teaches you how to think through complex problems in a human and creative way; a skill valued by any professional firm...”

Maria Torres
BSLA Class of 2013
“...RULA gives you the necessary tools to break out of your comfort zone and take on new challenges that will expand your knowledge. This is necessary at any new job you step into...”

Jimmy Brosius
BSLA Class of 2010
“...I always felt challenged in a way that pushed me to be a better designer (...) I received the individualized attention and feedback from professors that I needed to help develop my designs and work through my ideas...”

Ty Triplett
BSLA Class of 2010
“...the Rutgers Landscape Architecture department allows students to tackle a wide range of landscape issues from urban to agricultural, giving students the full breadth of ways Landscape Architecture can affect positive change for our future...”
BSEPD
Timeline

GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL

TRANSFER FROM ANOTHER COLLEGE.
Transcript evaluation will determine program placement.

FRESHMAN YEAR

Drawing
Architectural design
Environmental planning

People and environment
Core education requirements

SOPHOMORE YEAR

Design studio
Materials and grading
Plants

Geographic information systems
Urban ecology

JUNIOR YEAR

Environmental planning studio
Ecological history
Parks

Open topic studio
Soils
Climate
Society, culture & design

For more information:
http://landarch.rutgers.edu/BSEPD

Study abroad during summer break

Florence
Italy

Bavarian Alps
Germany
Our graduates speak:

Aaron D’Addio
BSEPD Class of 2013
“...my experience in Blake Hall significantly prepared me for my career through its comprehensive curriculum, knowledgeable instructors, networking with industry professionals, and practical internship opportunities. I owe my success to my solid foundation built at Rutgers...”

Sarah Moran
BSEPD Class of 2010
“...the program opened my eyes to all of the analysis and technology that goes into planning for things that most people take for granted, such as welcoming public spaces or highway ramp configurations...”

Eliot Nagele
BSEPD Class of 2016
“...the Department of Landscape Architecture taught me that true knowledge lies in your ability to address real world scenarios. This program has empowered me to develop strategic solutions to environmental problems within my own community...”

Brandon Rogers
BSEPD Class of 2015
“...I learned that in the field of Environmental Planning and Design, mapping is an incredibly powerful tool to convey information and ideas in a complete and concise way...”

Please go to http://landarch.rutgers.edu/4plus1 to learn more about our 4 PLUS 1 PROGRAM.
MLA Timeline
(MLA 1)

YEAR 1
Design studio
History of Landscape Architecture
Drawing
Plants

Site design studio
Theory of Landscape Architecture
Computer graphics
Materials and grading

YEAR 2
Urban design studio
Construction details
Elective

Open topic studio
Geographic information systems
Research methods
Elective

YEAR 3
Environmental planning studio
Plants
Electives

Master thesis
Original scholarly work resulting in a rigorous master's thesis which can have a focus on creative design or scholarly research.

For a list of thesis topics see:
http://landarch.rutgers.edu/gradprojects

For more information:
http://landarch.rutgers.edu/MLA

Study abroad during summer break

BACHELOR'S DEGREE from any discipline
Our recent graduates speak:

Jennifer Burkhalter
MLA Class of 2015
“...I was immersed in art and science and surrounded by people that wanted me to succeed. I was exposed to different ideas and opinions and had access to great faculty...”

Miloni Mody
MLA Class of 2015
“...best labs, professors with diverse specializations, and very friendly student body (…) being an international student, I never ever felt a lingual or cultural barrier (…) I will always cherish my Rutgers LA memories...”

Andrew Op’t Hof
MLA Class of 2015
“...The RU LA graduate faculty is broad in its interests, but deep in its commitment to teaching and training students. It’s a lot of work, but a great profession...”

David Hanrahan
MLA Class of 2013
“...it was great fit for me as a second-career student, interested in exploring the amazing breadth of interdisciplinary work in the field of landscape architecture...”

Han Yan
MLA Class of 2015
“...the program offered way more than I expected. It set me on the best track for pursuing my career researching environmental and ecological challenges under the impact of urbanization (…) The excellent and caring faculty ensured a rewarding experience as an international student. These were the best three years of my life...”

Joseph Cherichello
MLA Class of 2012
“...with two degrees from the Rutgers LA program (BSEPD ’03, MLA ’12), I am quite familiar with Blake Hall. The quality of education, creativity and camaraderie that can be found there continues to be exceptional...”

Working in...

...Landscape Architecture offices, large and small
...interdisciplinary endeavors that combine your two degrees.
...teaching and research in Landscape Architecture
...community design centers and land trusts
...parks departments, from city departments to the National Park Service
...real estate development companies
Some of our distinguished alumni

Andrea Cochran  FASLA  
Principal  
Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture  
Class of 1976

“Landscape architecture has been a pathway for me to be an ‘artist of the land.’ It has been a way for me to combine my interests and craft a career in the arts and the environmental sciences.”

In 1998, she founded Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture in San Francisco. Her projects include corporate headquarters, hotels, urban redevelopment, wineries, public spaces and parks, and high-end residential designs.

Andrea and her team have won over 15 national and international prizes.

acochran.com

E. Timothy Marshall  FASLA  
Principal  
ETM Associates, LLC  
Class of 1983

“There’s a general recognition that more needs to be done with fewer resources. What’s not clear is how to do it.”

ETM Associates was formed in 1997 and specialized in public space design and management. The firm is concerned with all aspects of public space and sees design, implementation and ongoing management as a continuum of related professional activities.

As former Deputy Administrator and Vice President for NYC’s Central Park Conservancy, Timothy was involved in the development and implementation of the park’s restoration and management plan.

etmassociatesllc.com
Kenneth H. Klipstein  
Director Watershed Protection Programs  
NJ Water Supply Authority  
Class of 1988  

“New Jersey is a great place to practice Environmental Planning because of the state’s population density and the complexity of its ecology and geology. My passion for the field, and in particular Watershed Management, has been challenged and more than fulfilled by my career path.”  

Ken began his career in public service in 1988. He has served as an Assistant to the NJ DEP Commissioner, Bureau Chief in the Hazardous Waste Cleanup Program and Bureau Chief of the Division of Watershed Management. Ken is now the Director of Watershed Protection Programs for the New Jersey Water Supply Authority.  

raritanbasin.org

Tara Kenyon  AICP/PP  
Principal Planner  
Somerset County Planning Division  
Class of 2004  

“My degree in Environmental Planning and Design has given me the opportunity to marry traditional planning practice with sustainable, healthy, efficient, and vibrant concepts and designs. This career truly allows you to see the positive mark you have made on the natural and built environment.”  

Tara is a Principal Planner at the Somerset County Planning Division, and Administrator of the Somerset County Agriculture Development Board. Her role includes a focus on farmland preservation, Right-to-Farm, community outreach, and implementation of sustainability initiatives and projects.
“...reuse and reconstitution of land, soil, materials and water are strategic practices that confront the question of original authorship in architecture...”

“...Landscape Architecture is at the forefront of mastering the ever-increasing environmental challenges through creative and meaningful designs at sometimes unexpected places...”

“...the ultimate test in design or environmental planning is a vibrant, competent ecological function within the urban context. Urban forestry programs link design to execution and long-term management planning...”

“...how can restoration ecology of urban and degraded habitats mesh with Landscape Architecture design?”

“...(landscape) is simply the by-product of people working and living, and sometimes coming together, sometimes staying apart, but always recognizing their interdependence...”

J. B. Jackson (1984)
“...between the people and the environment, Blake Hall is a welcoming place...”

“...landscape is common ground to create connections between people within studio, link to communities, create bridges with clients, and gather together artisans and contractors...”

“...dedicated to serving the Blake Hall community...”

“...technology should facilitate, never encumber, the design of our environment. And even though virtual environments often seem to be close representations of reality, those are still only abstractions of where we live our lives...”

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“...dedicated to serving the Blake Hall community...”

“...landscape is common ground to create connections between people within studio, link to communities, create bridges with clients, and gather together artisans and contractors...”

“...studying ways to apply geographic information science (GIS) to creating healthier and more sustainable communities through both teaching and research...”

“...our lives occur in a landscape imbued with cultural and environmental significance. Design has the potential to enable good choices as well as delight...”

“...my scholarship is on environmental factors and health, centering on infrastructure for safe and sustainable production and accessibility of food to low income populations; agricultural practices that conserve resources...”

“...both planning and design are about decisions, made with purpose and guided by knowledge of the tools of the discipline and the context in which they are to be applied...”

“...Landscape Architecture has the opportunity and ability to utilize design in order to problem solve in myriad ways; it is a field in which one can both create and give back...”
Admission
The Landscape Architecture Department’s website provides links to both the undergraduate and graduate school requirements for admission to Rutgers.
In addition to the University’s application requirements, graduate program applicants must also submit a portfolio that contains samples of original work. Recognizing that many MLA 1 students may not have any art or design background, applicants are challenged to use this opportunity to organize a small collection of work of any kind that expresses creativity.
More information and all links are available at landarch.rutgers.edu

Tuition*
Full time undergraduates who are residents of New Jersey can expect to pay approximately $17,500 for tuition and campus fees annually. Non-resident undergraduates can expect to pay approximately $34,500 annually.
On-campus housing costs vary, but are likely to add $6,000 or $7,000 per year. Meal plan costs vary widely and represent an additional expense.
In-state annual tuition for graduate students is about $20,000 and for nonresident graduate students, about $32,000. Housing and meal plans are available and represent additional expenses.
Detailed information is available at studentabc.rutgers.edu/tuition-and-fees

Financial Support
Awards, internships, research and teaching assistantships, and financial aid are available through the Department of Landscape Architecture, the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers University, and from external organizations.
Descriptions of many of the department awards are available at landarch.rutgers.edu/awards.html
A list of graduate fellowships is available at gradstudy.rutgers.edu/financial/fellowships

* All $ amounts are based on 2016 tuition.
Rutgers: NYC, Philly, Jersey Shore

Located between the metropolitan areas of New York City and Philadelphia — and just 35 miles away from the Jersey Shore — Rutgers University is a hub of knowledge exchange and cultural diversity.

As a research institution with deep ties to communities, businesses, and alumni in the surrounding areas, Rutgers also serves as an incubator of innovative ideas and a resource for career opportunities.

Rutgers’ location offers access to a great variety of natural and urban landscapes to explore and experience. Students can visit the preserved coastline at Island Beach State Park in New Jersey, a restoration project at Liberty State Park in Jersey City, or the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge adjacent to the Philadelphia International Airport.

Surrounding Rutgers is a vast array of gardens, parks, and arboreta including Central Park, Longwood Gardens, Liberty State Park, and the NYC Botanical Gardens.