LA 497
Special Projects
Special projects.
Credit: Variable

LA 501
History, Theory, and Criticism I: Landscape Architecture Theory
Inquiry of natural factors and ecology (soil formations, geological
features, hydrological patterns, catastrophic events, etc.) in the
settlement and development of cities. The work of the seminar
will include an inventory of these factors in selected global cities,
including Chicago, and their influence on urban design and site-
specific landscape architecture projects.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

LA 502
History, Theory, and Criticism II: Landscape Architectural History
The chronological history of designed landscapes with an emphasis
on the emergence of the profession of landscape architecture in
North America in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

LA 503
History, Theory, and Criticism IV: Advanced Contemporary Theory --
Case Studies
Twentieth century and contemporary landscape architecture is
investigated through case studies including site visits to projects in the
Chicago region.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

LA 504
History, Theory, and Criticism III: Landscape Architecture Research
Seminar
Advanced study of landscape architecture topics with emphasis on
research methods, description, analysis, and criticism.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

LA 514
Professional Practice of Landscape Architecture I: Entrepreneurship
and Practice
Develop expertise in professional practice. Lectures, research
assignments, and case studies will investigate practice models,
proposals and contracts, schedules and budgets, project phases,
project and client types, project team structure, the role of
competitions, professional development, and licensure. In addition,
the role of landscape architects, urban planners, real estate trusts,
government agencies, developers, and others in directing the
economic, professional, political, and socio-cultural concerns and
responsibilities to initiate and manage landscapes will be
investigated.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

LA 516
Professional Practice of Landscape Architecture II: Landscape
Architecture and Time
Investigations of gardens, landscapes, infrastructure, and cities
as they are conceived, mature, and change over time. Study of
landscapes designed for successional processes, weathering,
biological growth and decay, seasonality, preservation and
conservation of historic landscapes, and other topics.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

LA 525
Design Media I: Drawing and Modeling the Landscape
Drawings (manual and digital) and models (physical and digital) will
be employed to explore and interrogate landscape processes and
envision ideas particular to landscape architecture such as mapping,
time, movement, line, contour, texture, and materials, among others,
while also developing a mastery of drawing conventions and media.
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

LA 526
Design Media II: Digital Media
Using digital tools to clarify, conceptualize, represent, and
communicate designed and engineered environments. A fluidity
between critical, visual, and quantifiable digital techniques will be
cultivated and will ground the management of information across
software platforms.
Prerequisite(s): LA 525 with min. grade of C
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

LA 527
Design Media III: Advanced Modeling and Fabrication-Dynamic
Processes
Investigate advanced digital fabrication and modeling techniques
necessary to understand complex three-dimensional surfaces,
objects, and space, as well as dynamic landscape and urban
processes. Modeling, rendering, scripting, and animation skills are
used to conduct, generate, and communicate research.
Prerequisite(s): LA 525 with min. grade of C and LA 526 with min.
grade of C
Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

LA 541
Landscape Architecture Studio I: Processes
Understanding the fundamental relationships of dynamic processes
with an emphasis on representing time, movement, space, light,
rhythms, shifting boundaries and enclosures, and physical materials
of landscape.
Lecture: 0 Lab: 12 Credits: 6

LA 542
Landscape Architecture Studio II: Site and City
Continued development of the core tools of the discipline of
landscape architecture focusing on the 21st century city. Rigorous
site analysis will include emphasis on material, cultural, and
ecological expression of city-scale networks and flows at the site
scale. Design investigations will explore the site itself, its adjacent
conditions, and the larger neighborhood or civic milieu.
Lecture: 0 Lab: 12 Credits: 6
LA 543
Landscape Architecture Studio III: Comprehensive Landscape Architecture
The integration of local ecologies, projected use, and the performance of ephemeral, semi-permanent, and permanent site interventions into cohesive and resilient design proposals for varied urban sites. Introduction to a wide range of site-specific professional design standards including the Americans with Disabilities Act and barrier-free regulations.
Prerequisite(s): LA 542 with min. grade of C
Lecture: 0 Lab: 12 Credits: 6

LA 544
Landscape Architecture Studio IV: Site, City, and Region
Development of landscape architecture as a multi-scalar framework for designing dynamic urban processes and sites. Emphasis on research and design strategies that focus on the region as an analytical lens for site-specific design.
Prerequisite(s): LA 541 with min. grade of C or LA 543 with min. grade of C
Lecture: 0 Lab: 12 Credits: 6

LA 545
Landscape Architecture Studio V: Metropolis
The cloud studio is a research-based design studio focused on investigating the complex forces that shape the built environment and proposing new strategies for urban development. The aim of the studio is to develop a commentary and transformative agenda toward the future metropolis and to drive urban, architectural and landscape design solutions with the most advanced technologies and critical thought. The studio production is oriented toward the development of new strategies and future urban models with the aim of advancing the knowledge of relationships between urban thinking and materiality, technology, energy, ecology, emerging media, and socio-political and cultural concerns. Strong emphasis is put toward engagement with external parties and agencies to connect the academic environment with the professional practice and to promote cross-disciplinary collaboration. Students will be able to select from a variety of studio topics. Vertical studio integrating advanced BArch, MArch, MLA, MS, and PHD students.
Prerequisite(s): LA 544 with min. grade of C
Lecture: 0 Lab: 12 Credits: 6

LA 546
Landscape Architecture Studio VI: Metropolis
The design-based research studio is a continuation of the LA 545 research-based design studio. It is focused on the development of the specific proposals based on the critical findings of LA 545. The aim of the studio is to develop formal solutions which address the complexities of modern metropolis and advance disciplinary knowledge at large. The studio production is oriented toward the development of projects in a variety of scales from large-scale master plans, urban designs, and landscape designs to new urban typologies and singular buildings, all of which can address a variety of the issues pertinent to the modern metropolis. The studios are formed in few thematic clusters which complement each other or serve as dialectical opposites. Each studio explores a variety of techniques from parametric design, digital fabrication, model making, and advanced geospatial software to cultural and theoretical discourses. Vertical studio integrating advanced BArch, MArch, MLA, MS, and PHD students. Students will be able to select from varied studio topics.
Prerequisite(s): LA 545 with min. grade of C
Lecture: 0 Lab: 12 Credits: 6

LA 547
Ecology and Materials Workshop I: Plants and Planting
The plants of the Western Great Lakes Basin, emphasizing both prominent native and commercially available species. Understanding and identifying species as found within typical plant communities. Familiarization with plant physiology as determined by climate, geology, topography, hydrology, soils, wildlife, and disturbances.
Lecture: 2 Lab: 2 Credits: 3

LA 548
Ecology and Materials Workshop II: Earthworks and Infrastructures
The qualities and characteristics of landscape materials with emphasis on a quantitative and interrelated understanding of the design of landform (grading) and water. Covers the influence of climate, geology, soils, hydrology, and disturbances on the design of a site’s constituent elements including paths and streets, infrastructure, plants, and water.
Lecture: 2 Lab: 2 Credits: 3

LA 549
Ecology and Materials Workshop III: Planting Design and Construction
Advanced understanding of planting typologies, the history of plants in design, and the preparation of planting construction documentation augmented by frequent investigations and analysis of built landscapes in the Chicago region.
Lecture: 2 Lab: 2 Credits: 3

LA 550
Ecology and Materials Workshop IV: Constructing the Urban Environment
Techniques and technologies to analyze, construct, remediate and/or restore urban sites including those that have been subjected to complex human disturbances such as landfills and brownfields. Includes special needs construction practices such as structured soils, phytoremediation, green roofs, and rooftop gardens.
Lecture: 2 Lab: 2 Credits: 3
LA 597
Special Problems
Special problems in landscape architecture. For students in the master program in landscape architecture only.
Credit: Variable

LA 999
Landscape Arch Elective(s)
Credit: Variable