June 3, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cheng-i Wei
Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

       David Cronrath
Dean, School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

FROM: Elizabeth Beise
Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to Establish a Dual Degree Program for the Master of Landscape Architecture and the Master of Community Planning (PCC log no. 14032)

At its meeting on April 3, 2015, the Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula and Courses approved the proposal to establish a dual degree program for the Master of Landscape Architecture and the Master of Community Planning. A copy of the approved proposal is attached.

The change is effective Fall 2015. Please ensure that the change is fully described in the Graduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials.

MDC/
Enclosure

cc: Gregory Miller, Chair, Senate PCC Committee
Barbara Gill, Office of Student Financial Aid
Reka Montfort, University Senate
Erin Taylor, Division of Information Technology
Pam Phillips, Institutional Research, Planning & Assessment
Anne Turkos, University Archives
Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar
Alex Chen, Graduate School
Evelyn Cooper, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Donald Linebaugh, School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
Angus Murphy, Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
James Cohen, Department of Urban Studies and Planning
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM/UNIT PROPOSAL

• Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

• Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

College/School: Architecture
Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: 01202600
Unit Codes can be found at: https://hypprod.umd.edu/Html_Reports/units.htm

Department/Program:
Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits: 1260301

Type of Action (choose one):
☐ Curriculum change (including informal specializations) ☑ New academic degree/award program
☐ Curriculum change for an LEP Program ☐ New Professional Studies award iteration
☐ Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration ☐ New Minor
☐ Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration ☐ Request to create an online version of an existing program
☐ Suspend/delete program

Italics indicate that the proposed program action must be presented to the full University Senate for consideration.

Summary of Proposed Action:
The School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation (MAPP) and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (AGNR) propose the creation of a new dual degree master’s program that will enable graduate students to obtain both the existing Master of Community Planning (MCP) degree and the existing Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) degree in an integrated format. The proposed program will provide an opportunity for graduate students interested in community planning and landscape architecture to complete these complimentary degrees by using courses in the partnering programs to satisfy specialization and elective requirements.

Departmental/Unit Contact Person for Proposal: Jim Cohen

APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit programs.

1. Department Committee Chair
   James R. Cohen JUN 12 2015 2/26/15

2. Department Chair
   James R. Cohen JUN 12 2015 2/26/15

3. College/School PCC Chair
   Michael A. Ambrose JUL 10 2015 2/27/15

4. Dean
   David Croninath FEB 15 2015 3/2/2015

5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)

6. Chair, Senate PCC

7. University Senate Chair (if required)

8. Senior Vice President and Provost

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Department/Program:
Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits:

Type of Action (choose one):
- Curriculum change (including informal specializations)
- Curriculum change for an LEP Program
- Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration
- Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration
- Suspend/delete program

Italics indicate that the proposed program action must be presented to the full University Senate for consideration.

Summary of Proposed Action:

Establish a joint Masters of Community Planning (MCP) and Landscape Architecture (MLA) program.

The proposed joint degree program does not require any new resources or expenditures. The proposed program simply streamlines the path to graduation for two existing degree programs.

Once approved, the program will be implemented entirely through normal advising procedures in both existing degree programs.

Departmental/Unit Contact Person for Proposal: Christopher D. Ellis – cdellis@umd.edu 301 405 7782

APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit proposals.

1. Department Committee Chair

2. Department Chair

3. College/School PCC Chair

4. Dean

5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)

6. Chair, Senate PCC

7. University Senate Chair (if required)

8. Senior Vice President and Provost
Proposal of the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation (MAPP) and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (AGNR) to create a

**Dual Masters of Community Planning (MCP) and Landscape Architecture (MLA), to be named Landscape Architecture and Community Planning (LACP)**

**Summary**

The School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation (MAPP) and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (AGNR) propose the creation of a new dual degree master’s program that will enable graduate students to obtain both the existing Master of Community Planning (MCP) degree and the existing Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) degree in an integrated format. The proposed program will provide an opportunity for graduate students interested in community planning and landscape architecture to complete these complimentary degrees by using courses in the partnering programs to satisfy specialization and elective requirements.

The offering of the dual masters reflects similar dual or joint master’s programs between community planning and landscape architecture found in peer institutions. Existing joint master’s programs between Community Planning and other programs at the University of Maryland include Master of Architecture and Master of Community Planning (M. Arch. / MCP) and Master of Historic Preservation and Master of Community Planning (MHP / MCP). The proposed dual masters will offer opportunities for a small number of ambitious students who are pursuing two masters’ degrees to meet the growing needs of multifaceted multi-disciplinary perspectives to solve complex design and planning problems. Today’s planning and design problems are increasingly intertwined and the proposed joint program will offer highly motivated students from the university and around the country this opportunity. The proposed joint program will also align the University’s program offerings in the planning and design fields with peer institutions.

**Rationale**

As planning and design problems become more complex, employers in the planning and design fields are increasingly looking to hire graduates who are well-grounded in tools and concepts in both the planning and design disciplines. In recognition of this demand, several universities around the country have designed master’s programs that combine education in community planning and landscape architecture. An example of this is University of Illinois’ joint degree program between their “Master of Urban Planning” and “Master of Landscape Architecture.” Other universities in the nation that have similar dual programs between planning and landscape architecture include: Iowa State, UMass Amherst, Harvard, Cornell, University of Florida, NC State, Virginia Tech, University of Virginia, Auburn University, Ohio State, University of Oklahoma, Washington University St. Louis, Texas A&M, University of Colorado Denver, University of Southern California, UC Berkeley, University of Michigan and University of Washington.

The trend towards master’s programs that combine landscape architecture with community planning is also mirrored by UMCP student interest. For students who pursue an advanced degree from the BLA program (a professionally accredited degree) a degree in community or urban planning has been historically a common graduate pursuit. The joint degree would provide the opportunity for masters’ students who wish to pursue careers in Community Planning and Landscape Architecture.
A dual degree program in Community Planning and Landscape Architecture will build on the unique strengths of faculty in the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation and in the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture (PSLA) by bringing together expertise in sustainable design, landscape performance, environmental behavior, and expertise in physical, social and economic planning. The program will increase the number of highly performing students in classes offered within existing master’s programs, help promote interdisciplinary education by providing advanced knowledge of planning to landscape architecture students and advanced knowledge of landscape architecture to students in planning.

Current Degree Requirements and Program Features
The proposed dual master’s program in Community Planning and Landscape Architecture will combine key elements of two existing master’s degrees – the Master of Community Planning and the Master in Landscape Architecture.

Master of Community Planning
URSP offers the Master of Community Planning (MCP), a professional degree accredited by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and the American Planning Association. More than 450 students have earned M.C.P. degrees since 1973, when the program began at the University of Maryland's Baltimore campus. The aim of the program is to prepare planning practitioners who will be generalists with a specialization. The core curriculum emphasizes student understanding of the political, institutional and social context in which professional planners develop and implement programs. Areas of specialization include housing and economic development, land use, growth management and environmental planning, transportation planning, and social planning. The MCP Program is accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board of the American Institute of Certified Planners and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning.

Existing Credits
Master of Community Planning (MCP)
Graduation requires satisfactory completion of 48 credits of course work. The 24 credits in core courses introduce students to the foundations of city and regional planning, research design and methods, planning process, land use planning, microeconomics, planning technology and social planning. A studio course (6 credits) is also required, as is a one-semester internship (3 credits, although a student may opt to take it for no credit so (s)he can have 18 total elective credits). If the student takes the internship for 3 credits, then (s)he must take 15 elective credits to achieve the 48 credits required for graduation. Nine (9) credits are required for a specialization. Specialization options include: a) housing and economic development; b) transportation planning; c) land use, growth management environmental planning; and d) social planning. Courses are listed under URSP. The MCP program accepts up to nine credits from other graduate programs from which the student did not matriculate. Applicants to this program should use the CMPL program code.

Master in Landscape Architecture
The Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) program is accredited by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB) of the American Society of Landscape Architects. LAAB standards require that first-professional degree curricula must include the core knowledge skills and applications of landscape architecture: landscape architectural history, philosophy, theory, values, ethics, practice, planning, design, implementation, and management. The MLA program is a relatively new program on campus established in 2008 and granted initial accreditation in 2011. The program maintains a balance between design theory and application in a professional degree curriculum. The MLA program builds upon the strengths of the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture (PSLA) and the Landscape Architecture Program (LARC). The PSLA Department is composed of faculty members who specialize in landscape architecture,
landscape history, ecology, plant science, urban forestry, turf and golf course management, and landscape management. It provides a strong, comprehensive grounding for landscape design, planning and preservation, landscape assessment, site and ecological systems analysis, plant identification, and plant conservation.

Existing Credits

A Three-Year First MLA Professional Degree Curriculum and Two-Year Post-Professional Degree are offered:

Three-Year First Professional Degree Curriculum (70 Credits + 6 credits @ 200-level, if required).
Students will be advised to take remedial Woody Plant Identification courses prior to arrival or in the first year of study at Maryland. The MLA Program requires these courses in order to meet accreditation standards.

Courses in Theory and History (12 Credits)
Courses in Studio Design and Planning (25 Credits)
Courses in Graphic Communication and Practice Technology (15 Credits)
Courses in Ecology and Plant and Soil Sciences (3 Credits + 6 credits of remedial courses)
Courses in Electives Independent Study and Research, with Thesis or Creative Design project (15 Credits)

Two-Year Post-Professional Degree Curriculum (39 credits)
This curriculum is for those students with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture or other approved environmental design degree.

Courses in Theory and History (6 Credits)
Courses in Studio Design and Planning (15 Credits)
Courses in Electives, Independent Study and Research, with Thesis or Creative Design project (18 Credits)

Combining Curriculums

Existing Degree Requirements

The current MCP degree requires the completion of 48 credit hours, while the current MLA degree requires 39 credits for a two-year post-professional degree and 70 credit hours (plus 6 credits at the 200 level) for a three-year first professional degree.

Completing both current degrees thus now requires:

87 credits hours (MCP+ 2 year MLA post-professional degree)

or

118 credit hours (MCP+ 3 year MLA first professional degree)

Proposed Degree Requirements

Due to the complementary nature of the missions of the two programs and the overlap in planning and design, the proposed joint program would require:

Completing both degrees would require:

60 credit hours (MCP+ 2 year MLA post-professional degree)

91 credit hours (MCP+ 3 year MLA first professional degree)
Proposal for: MCP / MLA Duel degree: Master of Landscape Architecture and Master of Community Planning

MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE/ MASTER OF COMMUNITY PLANNING DUAL DEGREE

ADVANCED STANDING

Prerequisite: B.A., B.S, or B.L.A.

Proposed Initiation date: Fall 2015

Approved by Faculty of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
Approved by Faculty of Urban Studies and Planning

Landscape Architecture and Community Planning requirements (including seminars) may be met by appropriate courses numbered 400 or higher. Approval of elective courses by the student’s graduate advisor is required.

FOR: Post Professional MLA degree (2-Year) candidates pursuing the LACP (MLA/MCP) dual degree. Note that the URSP 688L-Planning Technology class would not be required for students in the joint degree because of the MLA required course LARC 620-621.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FALL TERM</th>
<th>SPRING TERM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIRST SEMESTER</td>
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<td>URSP 600 Research Design</td>
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<td>URSP 605 History &amp; Theory</td>
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*SUMMER SESSION I  
URSP 705-Comm. Plan Studio  
4

SUMMER SESSION II  
URSP 706-Comm. Plan. Studio  
2  
6  
(Note: URSP 705 + URSP 706 in summer sessions are equivalent to URSP 708 offered in Fall or Spring semester)

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<tr>
<th>THIRD SEMESTER</th>
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<td>URSP 603 Land Use Planning</td>
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<td>LARC 748 Graduate Studio V</td>
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<td>*URSP 708 Community Planning Studio</td>
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* if not taken over the summer session

FIFTH SEMESTER  
LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project  
6  
Elective  
3  
URSP 709 Internship**  
0 or 3  
9-12  

Total Credits: 60
FOR: First Professional MLA degree (3-Year) candidates pursuing the LACP (MLA/MCP) dual degree

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<td>LARC 450 Environmental Resources</td>
<td>LARC 621 Digital Mapping &amp; Drawing</td>
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<td>LARC 620 Graphic Tools</td>
<td>LARC 641 Graduate Studio II</td>
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<td>LARC 640 Graduate Studio I</td>
<td>LARC 663 Landscape and Garden History</td>
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<td>URSP 605 History and Theory</td>
<td>LARC 720 Analysis and Site Engineering</td>
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Remedial Requirements
PLSC 253 Woody Plant Materials I

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<td>URSP 600 Research Design</td>
<td>URSP 601 Research Methods</td>
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<td>LARC 642 Graduate Studio III</td>
<td>URSP 604 Planning Process</td>
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<td>LARC 670 Theory and Criticism</td>
<td>LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV</td>
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<td>LARC 721 Landscape Construction</td>
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**SUMMER SESSION I**
URSP 705-Comm. Plan Studio

**SUMMER SESSION II**
URSP 706-Comm. Plan. Studio

(Note: URSP 705 + URSP 706 in summer sessions, are equivalent to URSP 708 offered in Fall or Spring semester)

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<th>FIFTH SEMESTER</th>
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<tr>
<td>LARC 420 Professional Practice</td>
<td>URSP 603 Land Use Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>URSP 606 Microeconomics</td>
<td>URSP 688Z-Planning in Multicult. Metrop.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LARC 460 Landscape and Identity</td>
<td>URSP 708 Community Planning Studio</td>
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<td>LARC 748 Graduate Studio V</td>
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**SEVENTH SEMESTER**
LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project
URSP 673 Community Social Planning

**OR** Elective
URSP 709 Internship**

**Total Credits: 91**

* Student will be encouraged to take remedial courses (or equivalent courses) prior to initiating the program.

** Internship requirement could be met during any summer after the second semester. Students are not required to take the internship for course credit.
2 year MLA post-professional degree and MCP

The reduction in total credits from 87 to 60 credits for the 2 year MLA post-professional degree and MCP would be achieved by counting courses towards both programs. 12 credits of the current MLA program would be satisfied by counting URSP or RDEV as courses. 15 credits (6 credits of landscape architecture meeting the “specialization” intent and 9 credits serving as elective credits) of the current MCP program would be satisfied by counting LARC courses. This amount of double-counting for the proposed MCP/MLA program is possible because of the complimentary missions of the two underlying degrees.

3-Year First Professional Degree Curriculum and MCP

The reduction in total credits from 118 to 91 credits for the 3 year MLA post-professional degree and MCP would be achieved by counting courses towards both programs. 9 credits of the current MLA program would be satisfied by counting URSP or RDEV as courses. 18 credits (9 credits of landscape architecture meeting the “specialization” intent and 18 credits serving as elective credits) of the current MCP program would be satisfied by counting LARC courses. This amount of double-counting for the proposed MCP/MLA program is possible because of the complimentary missions of the two underlying degrees.

Admissions and Retention Criteria

Prospective LACP students would need to apply and be admitted independently to both the MCP and MLA programs. If a student were only accepted to one of the two programs, he or she would only be permitted to pursue that specific program. Students would also have to meet the usual progress requirements for each of the two master’s programs to remain in the joint degree program.

Administration

The Director of the MCP program and the Director of MLA program would oversee the administration of the dual degree program.

Short, Medium, and Long-term Requirements for Program Development

During its first year the dual degree program would probably primarily attract students from the existing master’s programs in the MCP and MLA programs. To increase the program’s visibility and attraction to prospective students, current advertising channels, such as open houses, recruiting events, and existing web sites, would be modified to increase the program’s visibility and attraction to prospective students. We are
confident that the value and quality of the program will soon become well known and respected among those advising undergraduate students about graduate programs in planning and design and that therefore the joint program will have no problem attracting as many high-quality students as we have the room to admit.

**Resources**
Because the proposed dual program is based on existing degree programs, the joint program would not require any additional resources.

**Library**
No impact on library resources is anticipated.
Master of Community Planning
30 Credits of Required Courses

URSP 600 Research Design 3
URSP 601 Research Methods 3
URSP 603 Land Use Planning 3
URSP 604 Planning Process 3
URSP 605 Planning History and Theory 3
URSP 606 Microeconomics or
RDEV 688N Microeconomics 3
URSP 708 Community Planning Studio 6
*URSP 709 Internship/Field Instruction 3*
URSP 688L Planning Technology** 3**
and either:
URSP 673 Comm. Soc. Planning or
URSP 688Z Plan. and Design in Multi-Cult. Metro 3

*An MCP student may opt to take the internship for no (0) credit, so (s)he can take an additional elective course.

**URSP 688L Planning Technology, a required 3-credit course for MCP students (not listed above), will not be required for proposed LACP dual degree because the same technologies are included in the required LARC 620-621 sequence.

Master of Landscape Architecture
Post-Professional Degree (2-year curriculum)
27 Credits of Required Courses

Courses in Theory and History (6 Credits)
LARC 670 Landscape Architecture Theory & Criticism 3
LARC 671 Landscape Architecture Research Methods 3

Courses in Studio Design and Planning (15 Credits)
LARC 642 Graduate Studio III 5
LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV 5
LARC 748 Graduate Studio V 5

Courses in Thesis or Creative Design project (6 Credits)
LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project 6

Master of Landscape Architecture
First-Professional Degree (3-year curriculum)
61 Credits of Required Courses

Courses in Theory and History (12 Credits)
LARC 663 Garden and Landscape History 3
LARC 670 Landscape Architecture Theory and Criticism 3
LARC 671 Landscape Architecture Research Methods 3
LARC 460 Landscape and Identity 3
Courses in Studio Design and Planning (25 Credits)

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<th>Course Code</th>
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<td>LARC 640</td>
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<td>LARC 641</td>
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Courses in Graphic Communication and Practice Technology (15 Credits)

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<td>LARC 420 Professional Practice</td>
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<td>LARC 620 Graphic Tools for Landscape Representation</td>
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<tr>
<td>LARC 621 Digital Mapping and Drafting</td>
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<td>LARC 720 Environmental Analysis and Site Engineering</td>
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<td>LARC 721 Landscape Construction Methods and Materials</td>
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Courses in Ecology and Plant and Soil Sciences (3 Credits + 6 credits of remedial courses)

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<td>LARC 450 Environmental Resources</td>
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Courses in Thesis or Creative Design project (6 Credits)

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<tr>
<td>LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project</td>
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Proposed MCP and 2-year MLA post-professional degree

**MLA Requirements**
6 Credits: Courses in Theory and History
- LARC 670 Theory & Criticism 3
- LARC 671 Research Methods 3

15 Credits: Courses in Studio Design and Planning
- LARC 642 Graduate Studio III 5
- LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV 5
- LARC 748 Graduate Studio V 5

18 Credits: Courses in Electives, Independent Study and Research, with Thesis or Creative Design project
- Elective 3
- LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project 6
(9 credits to be satisfied by URSP or RDEV)

**MCP Requirements**
30 Credits in core courses in city and regional planning knowledge and skills development
- URSP 600 Research Design 3
- URSP 601 Research Methods 3
- URSP 603 Land Use Planning 3
- URSP 604 Planning Process 3
- URSP 605 Planning History and Theory 3
- URSP 606 Microeconomics or RDEV 688N Microeconomics 3
- URSP 673 Community Social Planning or URSP 688Z Planning and Design in the Multicultural Metropolis 3
- URSP 708 Community Planning Studio 6
- URSP 709 Field Instruction (Internship) 3

(18 Credits - Satisfied by LARC courses)

Total Credits for proposed dual LACP degree 60
Proposed MCP and 3-Year MLA First Professional Degree Curriculum

**MLA Requirements**

12 Credits: Courses in Theory and History
- LARC 670 Theory & Criticism 3
- LARC 671 Research Methods 3
- LARC 663 Landscape and Garden History 3
- LARC 460 Landscape and Identity 3

25 Credits: Courses in Studio Design and Planning
- LARC 640 Graduate Studio I 5
- LARC 641 Graduate Studio II 5
- LARC 642 Graduate Studio III 5
- LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV 5
- LARC 748 Graduate Studio V 5

15 Credits: Courses in Graphic Communication and Practice Technology
- LARC 620 Graphic Tools 3
- LARC 621 Digital Mapping & Drawing 3
- LARC 720 Analysis and Site Engineering 3
- LARC 721 Landscape Construction 3
- LARC 420 Professional Practice 3

3 Credits: Courses in Ecology and Plant and Soil Sciences
- LARC 450 Environmental Resources 3

15 Credits: Courses in Electives, Independent Study and Research, with Thesis or Creative Design project
- Elective 3
- LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project 6
- 9 credits to be satisfied by URSP or RDEV

**MCP Requirements**

30 Credits: Core courses in city and regional planning knowledge and skills development
- URSP 600 Research Design 3
- URSP 601 Research Methods 3
- URSP 603 Land Use Planning 3
- URSP 604 Planning Process 3
- URSP 605 Planning History and Theory 3
- URSP 606 Microeconomics or
- URSP 673 Community Social Planning or
- URSP 688Z Planning and Design in the Multicultural Metropolis 3
- URSP 708 Community Planning Studio 6
- URSP 709 Field Instruction (Internship) 3

9 Credits: “Specialization” Satisfied by LARC courses
9 Credits: Other electives Satisfied by LARC courses

Total Credits for proposed MCP and MLA 91
Course Descriptions:

PLSC 253 Woody Plants for Mid-Atlantic Landscapes I (3 credits) Two hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. A field and laboratory study of trees, shrubs, and vines used in ornamental plantings. Major emphasis is placed on native deciduous plant materials.

PLSC 254 Woody Plants for Mid-Atlantic Landscape II (3 credits) Two hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. A field and laboratory study of trees, shrubs, and vines used in ornamental plantings. Major emphasis is placed on introduced and evergreen plant materials.

LARC 420 Professional Practice (3 credits) One hour of lecture and two hours of discussion per week. An introduction to the practice of Landscape Architecture and a comparative study of the professional concerns of design firms. Focus on planning, legal, ethical, marketing and management considerations of interdisciplinary practices.

LARC 450 Environmental Resources (3 credits) Two hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week. A review of ecosystems and an examination of planning strategies for preservation, conservation, management and development of sensitive natural and cultural landscape resources in the mid-Atlantic region.

LARC 460 Landscape and Identity: Placemaking across World Cultures (3 credits) Restriction: Permission of AGNR-Plant Science & Landscape Architecture department. Comparing and contrasting the Eurocentric view of landscape with various other cultural perspectives that offer alternative narratives of landscape and identity. The examination of cultural perspectives will parallel an ongoing exploration of how landscape can inform questions about the personal and social implications in an era of globalization.

LARC 620 Graphic Tools for Landscape Representation (3 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 2 hours of laboratory per week. Methods of digital and analog modes of communication, providing an introduction to computer tools and techniques commonly used in landscape architecture practice. Non-drafting software programs orient students to basic digital image capture, manipulation, and presentation formatting. Students experiment with traditional and innovative drawing techniques in a variety of graphic media.

LARC 621 Digital Mapping and Drawing (3 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 2 hours of laboratory per week. The development and application of computing tools used by the landscape architecture profession, including Computer-Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Students are introduced to drafting techniques and industry standards, mapping technologies, computational representations, and modeling of landscape processes.

LARC 640 Graduate Studio I (5 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of studio per week. Principles and techniques of design as applied to shaping the landscape; developing concepts in visual thinking, environmental awareness, and design intervention through studio exercises and projects.

LARC 641 Graduate Studio II (5 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of studio per week. Principles and techniques of site analysis, environmental design and site development for human settlements and interaction with natural systems. This course will expand analytical skills through complex site design problems. Students will research, observe and apply low impact and sustainable development practices, investigate alternative site arrangements, and incorporate user needs for diverse populations with a range of abilities.

LARC 642 Graduate Studio III (5 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of studio per week. A comprehensive studio that explores the interaction of landscape science with the necessities and mechanisms of human settlements, emphasizing innovative solutions to urbanization and ecological problems. Topics of study include landscape analysis, recreational planning and design, community development, resource management, spatial organization, and landscape character.
LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV (5 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of studio per week. A special topic comprehensive landscape architecture studio that explores issues such as campus planning, urban housing and recreation, and neighborhood preservation, restoration and development. Projects will emphasize the value of responsible academic and civic landscapes, the place of historic resources in contemporary life, and innovative solutions for the integration of past and future landscapes.

LARC 663 Landscape and Garden History (3 credits): 1 hour of lecture, 2 hours recitation per week. This course is about the history of garden making and its evolution into a design practice. Students will acquire familiarity with narratives of garden art, and landscape architecture, through a study of selected key sites, designers—when known—visual and written sources, organized diachronically from antiquity to the present. Occasional synchronic references to later examples will be introduced and discussed in class.

LARC 670 Landscape Architecture Theory & Criticism (3 credits): 1 hour of lecture, 2 hours recitation per week. Review and analysis of the body of literature concerning landscape architecture and relationships between humans and both natural and designed environments. Topics may include: rationalism, ethics, aesthetics, social and economic values, postmodernism, feminist, multiculturalism, ecological determinism, preservation/conservation, and sustainability and ecological design. Each week students will lead a debate and discussion on a different theoretical issue based on the assigned readings for that week.

LARC 671 Landscape Architecture Research Methods (3 credits): 1 hour of lecture, 2 hours recitation per week. Investigation and discussion of a broad scope of research methods and the development of landscape design and planning research techniques and skills. The urban environment will be viewed primarily as a social and psychological environment, with concern for who uses these environments and the conflicts that can arise between user groups.

LARC 720 Environmental Analysis and Site Engineering (3 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 2 hours of laboratory per week. Techniques for prediction of alterations in social and natural processes brought about by human use of the land; application of such assessments to environmental management; basic methods of landscape alteration, augmentation, and control including grading, drainage, road and trail design, and stormwater management.

LARC 721 Landscape Construction Methods and Materials (3 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 2 hours of laboratory per week. Basic methods of constructing landscapes and manipulating the appropriate plant and inorganic materials for the creation of ecologically sustainable environments for human use. An examination of the use, properties, and detailing of materials used in landscape construction.

LARC 748 Graduate Studio V (5 credits): 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of studio per week. Advanced special topic comprehensive landscape architecture studio (variable and not repeatable). This studio exploration will focus on cultural and behavioral issues in the physical planning and design of urban landscapes.

LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project (6 credits): Development of a terminal thesis on a problem in landscape architecture, designed to demonstrate comprehensive skills and knowledge achieved in the graduate program. The subject will be selected in consultation with an advisor and periodically reviewed with a committee headed by the advisor.

URSP 600 Research Design and Application (3 credits)
Techniques in urban research, policy analysis, and planning. Survey of descriptive and normative models. Objective and subjective measurements. Emphasis on assumptions of research.

URSP 601 Research Methods (3 credits)
Prerequisite: approved statistics course or permission of instructor. Use of measurement, statistics, quantitative analysis, and micro-computers in urban studies and planning.
URSP 603 Land Use Planning: Concepts and Techniques (3 credits)
Basic techniques for regulating the use and appearance of land. Legal framework, social implications, planning approaches, communicating land use information.

URSP 604 The Planning Process (3 credits)
Problem formulation, goal setting, generating and evaluating alternatives, budgeting, implementation. Working with committees and communities, conducting meetings, making decisions, and making presentations.

URSP 605 Planning History and Theory (3 credits)
Exploration of the major events and issues in United States planning history, the prevailing theories of planning, and the planning history-theory relationship. Emphasis on urban planning.

URSP 606 Microeconomics of Planning and Public Policy (3 credits)
Fundamental concepts and principles in microeconomics; economic theories such as consumer theory and production theory; market failures; theoretical and empirical understanding of urban functions, intra-metropolitan location of activities, and the role of metropolitan planning in a market economy; conceptual and analytical framework for studying the function and structure of metropolitan areas

URSP 607 Human Behavior and the Physical Environments (3 credits)
Recommended: URSP 603. Theories and research about ways human-produced environments change and are changed by the behavior of individuals and groups.

URSP 612 Geographic Information Systems for Urban Planning (3 credits)
An introduction to GIS and its application to urban planning. Topics include: thematic mapping, GIS data structure, spatial analysis, Internet GIS, using census data to study urban areas, and examples of urban GIS application. Weekly laboratory and project work use ArcGIS software.

URSP 630 Introduction to Transportation Planning (3 credits)
An introduction to the planning of all transportation modes, concentrating on automobile and public transit. Characteristics of each mode, including capacity, right of way requirements, cost, and relationship with land use. Forecasting travel demand, determining levels of service, traffic operations techniques, parking, demand management, pedestrian and bicycle facility planning and transportation modeling.

URSP 631 Transportation and Land Use (3 credits)
Credit will be granted for only one of the following: URSP 631 or URSP 688L. The interrelationship between transportation and land use. What are the impacts of various transportation modes on land use patterns, and how can land use solutions influence travel demand. The integration of transportation into master planning and site impact analysis. Using quantitative methods to understand the land use and transportation linkage.

URSP 640 Growth Management and Environmental Planning (3 credits)
Topics associated with growth management, defined as policies and strategies by which governments attempted to control the amount, location, pace, pattern and quality of development within their jurisdictions. Readings and discussion on "sustainability" and its relationship to growth management.

URSP 660 Function and Structure of Metropolitan Areas (3 credits)
Theoretical and historical examination of basic urban functions. Intra-metropolitan location of activities. Role of metropolitan planning in a market economy. Examination of cases of metropolitan planning to assess alternative strategies for future metropolitan development.
URSP 661 City and Regional Economic Development Planning (3 credits)
Spatial patterns of employment and populations, and models of urban and regional growth and decline. Focus on application of economic theory and urban planning techniques to issues of local economic development and planning.

URSP 662 Urban and Regional Planning in Developing Countries (3 credits)
Theoretical exploration of urban and regional change drawing upon international planning and social science literature, and case-study analysis of multiple challenges and opportunities facing planners and policy-makers in the urban-centered areas of less-developed countries.

URSP 664 Real Estate Development for Planners (3 credits)
Prerequisite: URSP 606. Planning, Architectural and Public Policy students are introduced to the real estate development process primarily from the point of view of the private entrepreneurial developer. It will include the steps in undertaking a real estate development from the initial concept to the property management and final disposition, the basic financial and tax concepts underlying real estate development, a review of national housing policy, including public-private partnerships, and solving specific real estate development problems using financial spreadsheets.

URSP 673 Social Planning (3 credits)
Examination of planning approaches and methods that can help communities – particularly low income communities – become stronger, more cohesive, and more capable of serving their interests. Examines urban poverty; urban politics; history, concepts and practice of community development; and community development approaches and methods.

URSP 688 Recent Developments in Urban Studies (2-6 credits)
Examination of selected current aspects of urban affairs and planning, including, for example, "new towns" in the United States or neighborhood preservation in Russia. Location of course may be off-campus.

URSP 688L Planning Technology (3 credits)
Fundamental concepts, hands-on experience and real-world applications of such urban planning technologies as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), data visualization, 3D modeling, mash-ups, digital design tools, web surveys, photo/video sharing (web/video conferencing), crowdsourcing web publishing and tools, search engine optimization, blogs, Twitter and social networking.

URSP 688O: Introduction to U.S. Housing Policy and Planning (3 credits)
Critical appraisal of U.S. housing policy in terms of production and allocation of housing services. An historical overview of federal, state, and local policy, followed by analysis of the organizational infrastructure around which housing is produce. (Previously URSP688M).

URSP688Z Planning and Design in the Multicultural Metropolis (3 credits)
Exploration of the changing patterns of immigration and ethno-cultural diversity shaping new geographies of race and immigration, and the various forms, meanings, and uses of urban space. Explores strategies for improving planning processes, policies, built spaces, and the culture of planning to support an appreciation of and right to difference in the city and the ethical and equitable treatment for all residents.

URSP 705 Summer Community Planning Studio I (4 credits)
Prerequisite: permission of instructor.
Intensive community planning group field work, typically five days a week for four weeks. Often outside the USA. Application of class work to actual planning and policy challenges. Students seeking to meet the URSP studio requirement must also take URSP 706.
URSP 706 Summer Community Planning Studio II (2 credits)
Prerequisite: permission of instructor.
Intensive analysis and report-preparation of work completed in URSP 705. Held in College Park. Students seeking to meet the URSP studio requirement must also take URSP 705.

URSP 708 Community Planning Studio (2-6 credits)
Prerequisites: URSP 600, URSP 601, URSP 604, URSP 605 and permission of program. Repeatable to 6 credits. The Community Planning Studio is a "capstone" course intended to provide students with an opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills to analyze current, pressing planning issues, in a selected community and to produce a report containing recommendations for addressing those issues. In essence, students act as a consulting team for a community client.

URSP 709 Field Instruction (3-6 credits)
Prerequisites: URSP 600, URSP 601, URSP 603, URSP 604, URSP605, URSP 606, and URSP 688L or permission of program. Repeatable to 6 credits. Credit will be granted for only one of the following: URSP 703 or URSP 709. Students will satisfy a 300-hour internship (20 hours for 15 weeks during the spring, 25 hours a week for 12 weeks during the summer). Suitable internships are approved by the Internship Coordinator or Instructor; they involve a significant amount of planning work (preferably in the student's area of interest) and provide an appropriate on-site supervisor. The Internship Coordinator will assist students in finding a suitable internship, but the ultimate responsibility rests with each student. Whether the internship is paid or not is a matter to be worked out between the student and the organization.

URSP 710 Research Seminar: Urban Theory and Issues (3 credits)
Prerequisite: 15 graduate credit hours in URSP.
An advanced research seminar for M.A. and M.C.P. students preparing their final research projects.

URSP 788 Independent Study in Urban Studies and Planning (1-3 credits)
Repeatable to 6 credits if content differs.
Directed research and study of selected aspects of urban affairs.

URSP 798 Readings in Urban Studies and Planning (1-3 credits)
Repeatable to 6 credits if content differs.
Directed readings in selected aspects of urban affairs and planning.

URSP 799 Master's Thesis Research (1-6 credits)