

Landscape Architecture Ph.D. Concentration

This proposal is to request a Landscape Architecture Ph.D. concentration within the Major of Design, Construction and Planning (DCP) for the “Doctor of Philosophy” degree at the University of Florida.

It is the desire of the Landscape Architecture faculty that each student completing the Landscape Architecture Ph.D. Concentration have the concentration identified in writing as part of the student’s official UF transcript.

Basic Requirements for the Landscape Architecture Ph.D. Concentration within the DCP Doctoral Program

Total Credits: A minimum of 90 credits beyond the bachelor's degree is required for the DCP doctoral degree. Entering doctoral students are not required to have completed a master’s degree in landscape architecture or an affiliated discipline. Such a student will be expected to take UF’s Master’s of Landscape Architecture core coursework as needed to supplement prior coursework. This core coursework is more fully described below.

Transfer of Credit: No more than 30 semester credits of a master's degree from another institution and 45 credits from a UF master’s degree may be transferred to a DCP doctoral program, and therefore to the Landscape Architecture Ph.D. concentration. The student’s supervisory committee chairperson, Director of the DCP doctoral programs, and the Dean of the Graduate School must approve the transfer of graduate credits.

Upon enrollment in the DCP doctoral program, students identifying a desire to obtain a Landscape Architecture Ph.D. Concentration shall be assigned a temporary supervisory faculty member/mentor by the graduate coordinator. Working with the mentor, each student must develop, during the first semester in the Ph.D. program, a proposed plan of study. The official, permanent chair should be determined by the second semester of study.

All credits transferred from the master’s degree must be graduate level credit, with a letter grade of B or better. All such transfer requests must be made by petition of the supervisory committee no later than the third semester of doctoral study.

General DCP doctoral requirements

A 10 credit hour core and a minimum of 15 credit hours for the dissertation are required.

DCP Doctoral Core Courses:

DCP 7790 - Doctoral Core I (3 credits) Philosophy, theory, and history of inquiry into the processes of design, urban development, and building systems. (Required)

DCP 7911 - Advanced Design, Construction and Planning Research I (3 credits) prerequisite DCP 7790. This survey course covers critical analysis of research in the disciplines of design, construction and planning with an emphasis on theory and methods. (Required)

DCP 7794 - Doctoral Seminar (1 credit; maximum: 4 credits) prerequisite: DCP 7911, for entering Ph. D. students. Successfully negotiating graduate school and writing a dissertation. (Required)

A three credit graduate course in DCP but external to Landscape Architecture (required). This requirement is to present an interdisciplinary opportunity for DCP doctoral students within the college.

Procedures for substitution of course work for DCP 7911 “Advance Design, Construction and Planning Research 1”.

The process provides for only three opportunities to fulfill the DCP 7911 requirement. If a student elects to substitute a course for the DCP 7911 the course substitution must be approved by the doctoral student’s supervisory chair/mentor. A letter explaining why the substitution is appropriate must be provided to the Director of the Doctoral Program. The letter must be accompanied by the course syllabus for the substitution. The director of the Doctoral Program must approve the substitution by written notification to the student and a copy of the approval letter must be placed in the student’s record.

All doctoral students are encouraged to attend the DCP 7911 course unless their individual research would be better supported by a course substitution. The following three course areas may be substituted for DCP 7911 Advanced Design, Construction and Planning Research 1.

Spatial Statistics: A doctoral student may choose to substitute a UF graduate level spatial statistics course from the courses offered on campus.

Quantitative (Traditional) Statistics: A doctoral student may choose to substitute another UF graduate level statistics course in the Statistics Department.

Qualitative Methods: A doctoral student may choose to substitute another UF graduate level qualitative methods course from the Social Science Department available on campus.

If a doctoral student wishes to substitute a course not offered in one of the three previously defined areas s/he must get additional permissions from the department/school graduate/Ph.D. coordinator and the department chair or school director.

Landscape Architecture Department Doctoral Concentration Requirements

The following core courses are required for all Ph.D. students with a Landscape Architecture concentration who have not completed a masters or undergraduate degree in Landscape Architecture:

DCP 5331 Site Design Methodologies (3 credits)

DCP 6716 History of Landscape Architecture (3 credits)

DCP 6231 Landscape Architecture Theory (3 credits)

LAA 6xxx Principles of Landscape Architecture (5 credits)

LAA 6xxx Design Communications in Landscape Architecture (4 credits)

Doctoral Colloquium course requirements

All DCP doctoral students are required to take one-credit of DCP 7794 (Doctoral Seminar) and may take up to 4 credits of DCP 7794. The Landscape Architecture concentration doctoral students are required to take at least three (3) additional graduate credits of DCP 7794 or the landscape Architecture Graduate Seminar. The additional two credits of doctoral seminar for Landscape Architecture are designed as a mechanism for sharing research notes and doctoral work with doctoral students in the Landscape Architecture concentration.

Pedagogy course requirements

All students in the Landscape Architecture Concentration are encouraged to take one graduate level pedagogy course (3 credits) from the UF College of Education or a supervised teaching course (DCP 7940). The DCP 7940 for Landscape Architecture doctoral students may be taken as individual directed study with any Landscape Architecture doctoral faculty.

External course requirements

To broaden the Landscape Architecture doctoral student's knowledge base, at least two courses that are closely associated with the student's main research interests are required from departments or schools external to DCP. This requirement is in addition to the pedagogy requirement and the DCP doctoral core course requirements.

Dissertation Proposal

Each student is required to successfully complete a written doctoral dissertation proposal which must be orally presented to and accepted by the student's doctoral committee.

Qualifying Examinations

Before taking the written and oral qualifying examinations, the student is required to successfully complete a written "dissertation proposal" which must be orally presented to and accepted by the student's doctoral committee.

The written qualifying examination for the Landscape Architecture Ph.D. concentration may cover core preservation knowledge, research methods, and questions regarding the student's doctoral dissertation proposal.

The oral qualifying examination may also cover core landscape architecture knowledge and research methods. However the oral examination is primarily used to determine the qualifications of the student to proceed with completion of a written dissertation. Therefore the oral qualification examination may concentrate on the student's dissertation topic.

Dissertation Defense

A DCP doctoral student is required to successfully complete a written dissertation and to successfully complete an oral defense of his/her written dissertation before his/her dissertation committee. The dissertation must strictly follow Graduate School policy, in substance and procedure. Students are strongly encouraged to contact the Graduate School Editorial Office, the Graduate School Catalog, and the DCP prior to beginning their dissertation.

Peer Reviewed Paper Publications

All Landscape Architecture concentration doctoral students are strongly encouraged to publish in peer reviewed journals as they advance within the Landscape Architecture doctoral concentration. The Landscape Architecture sections of DCP 7940 may be employed by Landscape Architecture doctoral faculty to assist in review and editorial assistance of journal publications by Landscape Architecture doctoral students.