

BLA Landscape Arch BLA

Under Review | Fall 2025

Proposal Information

Workflow Status

In Progress

Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate

expand ▲

Waiting for Approval | Faculty Senate Approval

Nancy Middlebrook

Proposal Information

Sponsoring faculty/staff member

Katya Crawford

Sponsoring faculty/staff email

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College

School of Architecture and Planning

Department

Architecture & Planning

Campus

Main Campus

Effective Term and Year

Proposed Effective Term and Year

Fall 2025

Justification

Program Justification

The Landscape Architecture Department currently offers a Masters degree with two and three year tracks depending upon the undergraduate field of study. The department proposes adding a new Baccalaureate degree that would align us with the other two departments within our School, the School of Architecture and Planning. Both the Architecture and the Planning Departments currently offer undergraduate and graduate degrees.

By offering an undergraduate degree, the department would be able to recruit students directly into the program from high schools, specifically students from New Mexico. Thereby, increasing the diversity of our student population as well as increasing enrollment in the department and school.

The curriculum would work well with the required core education classes offered throughout the University, and with our beginning level courses already offered in our current program. The anticipated start date is the fall of 2024.

Program Category and Level

Program Category Program	Program Level Undergraduate	Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name BLA
Degree Type Bachelor of Arts		
Degree/Certificate Level Undergraduate	CIP Code ⓘ 04.0601	CIP Title ⓘ Landscape Architecture
Is this program also offered online? No		

New program courses

Composition of new program

Existing courses	Revised courses	New Courses	Total Credits
26	0	7	120

Pre-proposal (new degrees/certificates only)

Pre-proposal Executive Summary

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- Executive Summary_PP.pdf
- BLA_memo_common core.pdf
- MOJ_LARC.pdf
- Spreadsheet of SLOs.xlsx

Program Duplication

There is only one Landscape Architecture Department at UNM. The BLA does not exist yet. Students have the option to do one year concentrations in Landscape through the Community and Regional Planning or Architecture programs. However, no four year degree in Landscape Architecture exists.

Correspondence

Pre-proposal Approved?

Approved

File uploads

Proposal File Upload

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- Final BLA Proposal Document.pdf
- HED Undergrad Application Form_UNM_BLA.docx

Associated Forms

Select any associated course forms that exist

Select any associated program forms that exist

Shared Credit and Dual Degree information

Interdepartmental Program

No

Catalog Information

Program Description

Landscape architecture is the design and stewardship of built and natural environments with the goal of creating a more sustainable, just, and beautiful world for all inhabitants.

The Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) degree is a four-year (120 credit hour), STEM designated, professional degree. The BLA seeks to provide students with the skills and knowledge to position them for professional practice and subsequent licensure, and to foster curiosity, critical awareness, and confidence to be active agents of positive social and environmental change.

Through design studios, seminars, field work, labs and lectures, the degree curriculum centers on five core values articulated by the Landscape Architecture Accrediting Board: 1. Environmental health, sustainability, resilience and stewardship, 2. Diversity, equity, and inclusion, 3. Human and community health and safety, 4. Professional ethics and responsibility, and 5. Leadership and Innovation.

Admissions Requirements

Students admitted to the University of New Mexico, and interested in studying landscape architecture are automatically considered landscape architecture majors if they fill out enrollment forms, available during the first meeting with the Undergraduate Advisor as a part of New Student Orientation.

Graduation Requirements

The student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5.

Professional Credential/Licensure Program Information

License/Certification associated with program

Yes

Licensure Information

Pre-licensure

Licensure requirements met in the following states:

New Mexico

Licensure requirements not met in the following states:

Licensure requirements undetermined in the following states:

For each state selected, is there a state or regional licensing board that oversees Professional Licensure?

Yes

State or Regional Licensure Information

Board of Landscape Architects

<https://www.rld.nm.gov/boards-and-commissions/individual-boards-and-commissions/landscape-architects/>

Eligibility Requirements – Initial Licensure [An applicant must submit a CLARB Council Record with the application for licensure.] Passage of a [the LARE].

In order to qualify for the examination, the applicant must have:

- Graduated from an accredited program in landscape architecture at a school, college or university and have a minimum of two years of practical experience acceptable to the board, at least one year of which must be under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect.
- Graduated from a non-accredited program of landscape architecture at a school, college or university offering minimum four year bachelor's degree curriculum or a minimum two-year master's degree curriculum and has a minimum of four years of acceptable practical experience, at least one year of which must be under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect.
- Graduated from a program in a field related to landscape architecture at a school, college or university offering a minimum four year bachelor's degree curriculum or a minimum two-year master's degree curriculum and has a minimum of five years of acceptable practical experience, at least one year of which must be under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect.
- A minimum of ten years of acceptable practical experience in landscape architectural work, at least one year of which must be under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect.
- Each satisfactorily completed year of study in an accredited program of landscape architecture may be accepted in lieu of one year of practical experience; or a baccalaureate degree from a school, college or university may be accepted in lieu of two years of practical experience.

National licensing board

Yes

National Board Information

<https://www.clarb.org/home/about-clarb>

The Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) works to protect the public's health, safety and welfare by establishing and promoting professional licensure standards. Our members are the licensure boards across the United States and Canada.

We prepare, administer and score the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (L.A.R.E.) which assesses the ability of prospective licensees to protect the public's health, safety and welfare.

We also manage a professional information system called the CLARB Council Record, through which landscape architects document and verify their education, experience, examination and licensure history. The Record helps reduce barriers to mobility by streamlining the initial and reciprocal licensure processes.

Additionally, CLARB works to defend landscape architectural licensure in support of protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare.

Degree Information

Degree Hours

120 credit hours

Minimum Major Hours

120 credit hours

Professional Accrediting Bodies

Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board

Degree Requirements

Requirements

120

Total Credits

- Complete all of the following
 - Complete the following:
 - LA404 - Capstone Studio (6)
 - LA482 - Graphic Communications (3)
 - LA458 - Plant Materials (3)
 - ARCH1125 - Design Fundamentals (3)
 - ARCH1115 - Introduction to Architectural Graphics (3)
 - ARCH2315 - Architectural Design I (5)
 - ARCH2112 - Architectural Visualization I (3)
 - LA421 - AutoCAD for Landscape Architects (3)
 - LA461 - History and Theory of Landscape Architecture (3)
 - LA481 - Landscape Construction Materials and Techniques (3)
 - LA463 - Theory in Landscape Architecture and Environmental Design (3)
 - LA301 - Designing for the More than Human (6)
 - LA403 - Indigenous Design Studio (6)
 - LARC1115 - Land Literacy and Representation (3)
 - LARC1110 - Introduction to Landscape Architecture: 21st Century Superhero (3)
 - LARC2411 - LA Design Studio: Speculation (6)
 - LA302 - Urban Landscapes and Climate Change (6)
 - LA486 - Professional Skills in Landscape Architecture (3)
 - LA480 - Landscape Architecture Technology I: Grading and Drainage (3)
 - Completed at least 4 courses from:
 - LA
 - ARCH
 - CRP
 - FA
 - GEOG
 - CLST
 - NATV
 - HIST
 - ENGL
 - Earn at least 46 credits from the following types of courses:

Completed at least 46 credits from the following types of courses: In addition to the program-specific requirements outlined here, all undergraduate students are required to fulfill UNM's General Education Program requirements. In some instances, courses included in an undergraduate degree program's requirement may also fulfill a General Education requirement. Please review the General Education Program in this Catalog for General Education information.

Grand Total Credits: 120

Concentrations

Program Concentrations

Code

Title

Concentration Required

No

Emphases

Emphasis required

No

Emphasis Hours**Emphasis Rules**

No Rules

Sample Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan Upload

- BLA_Degree Plan.pdf

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

The program seeks to prepare students for the profession practice of landscape architecture through successful demonstration of the following outcomes.

1. The ability to conduct a comprehensive site analysis
2. The ability to consider programmatic needs and design in response to cultural values and ecological resiliency
3. The ability to communicate design propositions using analog and digital technologies critical to the field of landscape architecture
4. The ability to demonstrate professionalism through collaboration, accountability and leadership
5. The ability to conduct and synthesize research as it pertains to environmental and social/cultural/political/economic systems
6. The ability to demonstrate an understanding of the history and theory of landscape architecture
7. The ability to represent design propositions graphically, verbally and through writing
8. The ability to demonstrate appropriate and ecologically sensitive planting design at multiple scales
9. The ability to demonstrate and understanding of landscape building methods and construction documents
10. The ability to complete a comprehensive capstone project