

**MASTER OF COMMUNITY PLANNING / MASTER OF LANDSCAPE  
ARCHITECTURE DUAL DEGREE CURRICULUM**

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The dual master's program in Community Planning and Landscape Architecture combines key elements of the Master of Community Planning and the Master in Landscape Architecture. Students have two options for the Landscape Architecture portion of the dual degree. Those who did not major in landscape architecture as undergraduates will be enrolled in the first MLA professional degree curriculum. Those students who already have a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture will enroll in LARC's post-professional degree program.

The dual degree enables students to complete the MCP and either of the two MLA degrees in a shorter period of time than if they earned one degree first and then enrolled in the other degree program, as shown below.

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. This means that completing both degrees separately (one after the other) would require:

- 87 credit hours for the MCP and the 2 year MLA post-professional degree; or
- 118 credit hours for the MCP and the 3 year MLA first professional degree.

By participating in the dual degree program, the credit hour requirements would be:

- 60 credit hours for the MCP and the 2 year MLA post-professional degree; or
- 91 credit hours for the MCP and the 3 year MLA first professional degree.

The reduction in total credits from 87 to 60 credits for the 2 year MLA post-professional degree and MCP is achieved by counting courses towards both programs. 12 credits of the current MLA program would be satisfied by counting URSP courses. 18 credits of landscape architecture courses count as electives and specialization for the Master of Community Planning degree. This amount of double-counting for the proposed MCP/MLA program is possible because of the complementary missions of the two underlying degrees. The same type of double counting applies to the dual degree for students in the post-professional MLA program.



REQUIRED COURSEWORK

MCP and MLA Post-Professional degree (2 year course)			
MLA Requirements	Credits	MCP Requirements	Credits
<b>6 Credits: Courses in Theory and History</b>		30 Credits in core courses in city and regional planning knowledge and skills development	
<input type="checkbox"/> LARC 670 Theory & Criticism	3	<input type="checkbox"/> URSP 600 Research Design	3
<input type="checkbox"/> LARC 671 Research Methods	3	<input type="checkbox"/> URSP 601 Research Methods	3
<b>15 Credits: Courses in Studio Design &amp; Planning</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> URSP 603 Land Use Planning	3
<input type="checkbox"/> LARC 642 Graduate Studio III	5	<input type="checkbox"/> URSP 604 Planning Process	3
LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV	5	<input type="checkbox"/> URSP 605 Planning History and Theory	3
<input type="checkbox"/> LARC 748 Graduate Studio V	5	<input type="checkbox"/> URSP 606 Microeconomics	3
<b>18 Credits: Courses in Electives, Independent Study and Research, with Thesis or Creative Design project</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> URSP 673Community Social Planning <b>or</b> URSP 688Z-Planning and Design in the Multicultural Metropolis	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Elective	3	<input type="checkbox"/> URSP 708 Community Planning Studio	6
<input type="checkbox"/> LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project	6	<input type="checkbox"/> URSP 709 Field Instruction (Internship)	3
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 credits to be satisfied by URSP	9	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Credits Specialization (Satisfied by LARC Courses)	9
		<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Credits Electives (Satisfied by LARC Courses)	9
		<b>Total Credits for proposed dual MCP/LACP degree</b>	<b>60</b>



MCP and MLA Post-Professional degree (3-year course)			
MLA Requirements	Credits	MCP Requirements	Credits
<b>12 Credits: Courses in Theory &amp; History</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 670 Theory &amp; Criticism</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 671 Research Methods</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 663 Landscape and Garden History</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 460 Landscape and Identity</li> </ul>	3  3  3  3	<b>30 Credits: Core courses in city &amp; regional planning knowledge and skills development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> URSP 600 Research Design</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> URSP 601 Research Methods</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> URSP 603 Land Use Planning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> URSP 604 Planning Process</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> URSP 605 Planning History and Theory</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> URSP 606 Microeconomics</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> URSP 673Community Social Planning <b>or</b> URSP 688Z-Planning and Design in the Multicultural Metropolis</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> URSP 708 Community Planning Studio</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> URSP 709 Field Instruction (Internship)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 9 Credits: "Specialization" (Satisfied by LARC courses)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 9 Credits: Other electives (Satisfied by LARC courses)</li> </ul>	3  3  3  3  3  3  6  3  9  9
<b>25 Credits: Courses in Studio Design &amp; Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 640 Graduate Studio I</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 641 Graduate Studio II</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 642 Graduate Studio III</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 748 Graduate Studio V</li> </ul>	5  5  5  5  5		
<b>15 Credits: Courses in Graphic Communication &amp; Practice Technology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 620 Graphic Tools</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 621 Digital Mapping &amp; Drawing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 720 Analysis and Site Engineering</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 721 Landscape Construction</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 420 Professional Practice</li> </ul>	3  3  3  3  3		
<b>3 Credits: Courses in Ecology, Plant &amp; Soil Sciences</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 450 Environmental Resources</li> </ul>	3		
<b>15 Credits: Courses in Electives, Independent Study &amp; Research, with Thesis or Creative Design project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Elective</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 9 credits to be satisfied by URSP</li> </ul>	3  6  9		
		<b>Total Credits for MCP &amp; MLA 3 year course</b>	<b>91</b>



**COURSE SCHEDULING**

Classes offered in any given semester are determined by student demand and available resources. Students should speak to their mentor to ensure that planned programs of study are feasible given projected class offerings. University guidelines mandate that all students (full time and part time) complete the degree within five years. University guidelines also mandate that the student must be registered for at least one credit in the semester the degree is to be awarded: [Graduate School Registration Policies Link](#).

**Post Professional MLA degree track for the MCP/LACP degree (2 years)**

Curriculum for the LACP Dual Degree for students who majored in landscape architecture as undergraduate students. (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.)

**A) Post Professional MLA Degree Track**

FALL TERM		SPRING TERM	
FIRST SEMESTER	Credits	SECOND SEMESTER	
Credits			
URSP 600 Research Design	3	URSP 601 Research Methods	3
URSP 605 History & Theory	3	URSP 604 Planning Process	3
LARC 642 Graduate Studio III	5	LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV	5
LARC 670 Theory & Criticism	3	LARC 671 Research Methods	3
	<b>14</b>		<b>14</b>
*SUMMER SESSION I			Credits
URSP 705-Comm. Plan. Studio			4
SUMMER SESSION II			
URSP 706-Comm. Plan. Studio			2
			<b>6</b>
(Note: URSP 705 + URSP 706 in summer sessions are equivalent to URSP 708 offered in Fall or Spring semester)			
THIRD SEMESTER	Credits	FOURTH SEMESTER	
Credits			
URSP 606 Microeconomics	3	URSP 688Z Planning . . . in Multicult Metrop.	3
		OR Elective	
URSP 673 Social Planning	3	URSP 603 Land Use Planning	3
LARC 748 Graduate Studio V	5	*URSP 708 Community Planning Studio	6
*	11		
12		* if not taken over the summer	
session			
FIFTH SEMESTER			
Credits			
LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project			6
Elective			3
URSP 709 Internship**			0 or 3
			<b>9-12</b>

Total Credits: 60



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**B) MLA First Professional Degree track for the MCP/LACP degree (3 years)**

Curriculum for the LACP Dual Degree for students who did NOT major in landscape architecture as undergraduate students. (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.)

FALL TERM		SPRING TERM	
FIRST SEMESTER	Credits	SECOND SEMESTER	
Credits			
LARC 450 Environmental Resources	3	LARC 621 Digital Mapping & Drawing	3
LARC 620 Graphic Tools	3	LARC 641 Graduate Studio II	5
LARC 640 Graduate Studio I	5	LARC 663 Landscape and Garden History	3
URSP 605 History and Theory	3	LARC 720 Analysis and Site Engineering	3
	<b>14</b>		<b>14</b>
Remedial Requirements			
PLSC 253 Woody Plant Materials I	3	PLSC 254 Woody Plant Materials II	3
THIRD SEMESTER		FOURTH SEMESTER	
URSP 600 Research Design	3	URSP 601 Research Methods	3
LARC 642 Graduate Studio III	5	URSP 604 Planning Process	3
LARC 670 Theory and Criticism	3	LARC 648 Graduate Studio IV	5
LARC 721 Landscape Construction	3	LARC 671 Research Methods	3
	<b>14</b>		<b>14</b>
SUMMER SESSION I			Credits
URSP 705-Comm. Plan Studio			4
SUMMER SESSION II			
URSP 706-Comm. Plan. Studio			2
			<b>6</b>
(Note: URSP 705 + URSP 706 in summer sessions, are equivalent to URSP 708 offered in Fall or Spring semester)			
FIFTH SEMESTER		SIXTH SEMESTER	
LARC 420 Professional Practice	3	URSP 603 Land Use Planning	3
URSP 606 Microeconomics	3	URSP 688Z-Planning in Multicult. Metrop.	
	3		
LARC 460 Landscape and Identity	3	URSP 708 Community Planning Studio	6
LARC 748 Graduate Studio V	5		
	<b>14</b>		<b>12</b>
SEVENTH SEMESTER			
LARC 799 Thesis or Creative Project			6
URSP 673 Community Social Planning			3
OR Elective			
URSP 709 Internship**			0 or 3
			<b>9-12</b>
			<b>Total Credits: 91</b>



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### **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

A complete listing of courses offered by the URSP program can be found at:

<https://www.arch.umd.edu/ursp/courses>

### **COURSES OUTSIDE THE PROGRAM**

With the approval of their faculty mentor, students can take courses outside of the URSP program to meet specialization and elective requirements. The graduate catalog provides a list of all graduate courses offered at UMD ([http://apps.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/registration\\_policies.htm](http://apps.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/registration_policies.htm)).

UMD is a partner with the local higher education consortium. The Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area includes American University, Catholic University, Gallaudet University, George Mason, George Washington, Georgetown, Howard University, Marymount University, Mt. Vernon College Trinity College, the University of the District of Columbia, and the University of Maryland, College Park. Up to nine (9) credits from courses taken at other institutions may be applied towards the MCP degree. Before registering for any non-UMD courses, students should confirm that the courses (a) will be accepted by Registrar's Office at the University of Maryland, and (b) will be accepted by the LACP program and will apply toward the degree requirements.