LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY

Course information for applicants

This information applies to the course as it will be delivered to students starting the course in 2027/28.
Information provided here was confirmed on 06/10/2026

General information

Programme code

LANDM

Target award

If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:
MLA Landscape Architecture

Delivery mode

✓ On campus
☐ Distance learning

Where you will study

The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

Professional accreditation or recognition

Professional body

The course is designed and delivered in accordance with the accreditation requirements of the Landscape Institute and by the International Federation of Landscape Architects and the European Foundation for Landscape Architecture.

Summary of the accreditation or recognition

The Course is accredited by the Landscape Institute, the Chartered Professional body. The accreditation process is carried out by The Landscape Institute through the mechanism of a Professional Review Group (PRG). The PRG is the Landscape Institute's equivalent of a PSRB and is a group of local professional practitioners, approved by the Landscape Institute, who check that the course is being delivered in accordance with the accreditation criteria. The five accreditation criteria are listed below and the courses are designed and delivered within these parameters.

A. Schools must demonstrate that they have the staffing, expertise, resources and quality assurance mechanisms to deliver and maintain a high-quality programme of learning

B. Programmes must focus on a clear and defined area of professional landscape skills and expertise deliver appropriate underpinning skills, knowledge and understanding to provide a foundation for entering the profession

C. Programmes must deliver the key generic skills which underpin professional life and lifelong learning

D. Programmes must provide a foundation for progression to the workplace and professional practice

E. Schools must demonstrate a commitment to working in partnership with the Landscape Institute and the profession

The courses also comply with the International Federation of Landscape Architects Professional Definition of the Landscape Architect (International Standard Occupation number 2150).

Landscape Architects conduct research and advise on planning, design and stewardship of the outdoor environment and spaces, both within and beyond the built environment, and its conservation and sustainability of development. Tasks include:

(a) developing new or improved theories, policy and methods for landscape planning, design and management at local, regional, national and multinational levels;

(b) developing policy, plans, and implementing and monitoring proposals as well as developing new or improved theories and methods for national parks and other conservation and recreation areas;

(c) developing new or improved theories and methods to promote environmental awareness, and undertaking planning, design, restoration, management and maintenance of cultural and/or historic landscapes, parks, sites and gardens;

(d) planning, design, management, maintenance and monitoring functional and aesthetic layouts of built environment in urban, suburban, and rural areas including private and public open spaces, parks, gardens, streetscapes, plazas, housing developments, burial grounds, memorials; tourist, commercial, industrial and educational complexes; sports grounds, zoos, botanic gardens, recreation areas and farms;

(e) contributing to the planning, aesthetic and functional design, location, management and maintenance of infrastructure such as roads, dams, energy and major development projects;

(f) undertaking landscape assessments including environmental and visual impact assessments with view to developing policy or undertaking projects;

(g) inspecting sites, analysing factors such as climate, soil, flora, fauna, surface and subsurface water and drainage; and consulting with clients and making recommendations regarding methods of work and sequences of operations for projects related to the landscape and built environment;

(h) identifying and developing appropriate solutions regarding the quality and use of the built environment in urban, suburban and rural areas and making designs, plans and working drawings, specifications of work, cost estimates and time schedules;

(i) monitoring the realisation and supervising the construction of proposals to ensure compliance with plans, specifications of work, cost estimates and time schedules;

(j) conducting research, preparing scientific papers and technical reports, developing policy, teaching, and advising on aspects regarding landscape architecture such as the application of geographic information systems, remote sensing, law, landscape communication, interpretation and landscape ecology;

(k) managing landscape planning and design projects;

(l) performing related tasks;

(m) supervising other workers

On successful completion of the accredited course students are eligible to become associate members of the Landscape Institute. After gaining employment in a landscape practice they can continue their professional development by following the Landscape Institute's 'Pathway to Chartership'. This involves assembling a portfolio of their practice experience, typically over a period of about 2 years, meetings with a mentor and a final interview. Successful completion of the pathway results in Chartered membership of the Landscape Institute.

Awarding body

Leeds Beckett University

Regulator

Office for Students

Level of qualification

Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

Course duration

If you are made an offer of a place on the course, your offer letter will include the start date.

This course can be studied:
24 months full-time
48 months part-time

Part-time study

This course can be studied part-time.

If you study the course part-time, it will usually take twice as long to complete compared with the equivalent full-time course. The modules may be delivered in a different sequence than on the full-time course, but you will study the same modules at each academic level. With the agreement of the course team, you may be able to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration.

As a part-time student, you will not usually have the option of a work placement.

Entry requirements

Admissions criteria are available on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have previous relevant qualifications or experience, you could be exempt from certain parts of your course. Recognition of prior learning (RPL) allows you to start your course at a point appropriate to the learning and skills that you may have developed in a professional, vocational or community setting.

Find out more here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning
If you have questions about entry requirements and admissions, contact AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course fees

Course fees and a breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have questions about fees for this course, contact Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Timetable

You will receive your full timetable for the year during induction week.

What you will study

Course aims

The aims of the course are to:
Landscape Architecture is a career which is ideally placed to provide practical responses to biodiversity loss and climate change. It is a profession that designs, re-imagines and retrofits our open spaces in response to contemporary environmental challenges. Landscape Architecture can help address health and wellbeing and social inequality making our cities better places to live and helping our rural landscapes accommodate the changing needs of the 21st century.

Landscape architecture is the process of shaping the external environment through planning, design and management. It is a broad-based design discipline that considers the landscape of outdoor environments of all types, both urban and rural, and at a wide range of spatial scales from local to multi-national. Landscape architects need to understand, appreciate and enhance the natural and cultural landscape but, above all, display creativity in the development and communication of their ideas at all scales of intervention. In the organisation of the physical world the landscape architect must produce landscapes responsive to a wide range of aesthetic, ecological, social and technical requirements.

The course aims to provide advanced level study in Landscape Architecture. The course will provide for all students to further develop their abilities to become perceptive, creative, confident and effective landscape architects who display initiative, enterprise and independence of mind and have a system of values that recognises human needs and cultural diversity alongside environmental awareness.

Postgraduate study extends the experience of undergraduate education. The course facilitates student intakes from a range of educational backgrounds. Overall the Course aims to offer a high quality, creative design education as a basis for qualification and practice as a Landscape Architect in accordance with the requirements of the Landscape Institute and International Federation of Landscape Architects.

In more detail the aims of the Course are to develop in the student at an advanced level:

- A critical understanding of the nature, scope and role of landscape architecture in a changing world.
- A personal philosophy towards the design of landscape that recognises the interdependence of natural and human systems and establishes values appropriate to the discipline.
- An ability in the art and science of designing meaningful and enduring landscapes through appropriate analysis and sensitive, creative design solutions
- An understanding, critical awareness and application of contextual issues such as cultural, ethical and economic factors
- An ability in the application of landscape technology including plants, hard materials and construction to achieve creative solutions to design-based issues
- An ability to communicate ideas effectively to others, using visual, verbal and written media as appropriate.
- An ability to work collaboratively and autonomously and reflect upon the process and outcomes.

In combining scholarly activity at master's level with research activity and skills appropriate to professional competence, the Course seeks to advance the theory and practice of Landscape Architecture.

Teaching and learning activities

Emphasis is placed on learning through design projects for exploring, testing and demonstrating the application of theory to practice in a variety of situations and in accordance with professional requirements identified in the Employability and Professional Context section later. Projects are supported by the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, through lectures, visits, seminars, workshops and studio tutorials. In pursuit of capability and independence in learning, students' programmes of study are customized to suit the individual needs and prior learning experiences where necessary through the use of a learning agreement.

Modules are generally project based and the nature of projects can vary, not only between modules, but also because the course aims to utilise opportunities for external or externally related projects when these arise. Because of this the balance of studio work, lectures, visits, presentations, tutorials, seminars etc. can vary not only from module to module but also from year to year in the same module.

Students evidence their achievements through the development of a portfolio, which includes their projects and reports. On completion of the course students present their portfolio in an exhibition format.

Students have the opportunity to study overseas through reciprocal agreements with a number of universities in Europe and the USA.

Course structure

This information is correct for students progressing through the course within standard timescales. If you have to repeat study or take time out during your course, you may be taught alternative modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes.

The option modules listed may vary. Those listed here are likely to be offered in a typical year.

Level 7

Year 1

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
LA701 Landscape Architecture Studies	60	1 & 2
LA702 Personal Focus Portfolio	60	1, 2 & 3
LA703 Landscape and Urban Design Studios	40	1
LA704 Contemporary Landscape Architecture Theory and Practice	20	2
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	180	

Year 2

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
LA705 Advanced Landscape Architecture Project	60	1 & 2
LA706 Reflective Landscape Practice	60	1, 2 & 3
Total number of credits of elective modules a student must enrol on:	120	

Assessment and feedback

The balance of assessment may change depending on which option modules you choose.

Level 7

This course is assessed entirely on coursework. Progress on of design projects are normally assessed through submitted drawings, models and text in both digital and hard copy forms. Some modules do require the submission and assessment of written work.

Workload

You can expect to spend a total of 100 hours learning per 10 credits.

Typically, a student on this course can expect to divide their time like this:

Overall workload	**Level 7**
Teaching, learning and assessment	780 hours
Independent study	2220 hours
Placement study	X hours