MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
Landscape architects make a direct, tangible and positive impact on the world. As a discipline, landscape architects profoundly shape the built environment—the environment you interact with every day—from site to city to region. As a community of faculty and students, we study the physical, ecological and social dimensions of the world around us in order to shape it in sensitive, intelligent and dynamic ways. Landscape architects give form and substance to a broad range of spaces, from parks and memorials to districts, cities, farms and coastlines. In today’s complex world, landscape architects are ideally suited to address a broad range of questions, from urban vacancy to agricultural production, from water management to climate adaptation.

Ohio State’s Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) is an accredited program leading to an established and rewarding professional career as a professional landscape architect.

Students enrolled in the three-year program come from all over the world and possess a diversity of academic backgrounds from art to environmental studies, from dance to biology. Their diversity of experience contributes to a rich conversation about the discipline and an education that is applicable at many scales of future practice, from private design firm to public agency. The breadth of our students, combined with the wide-ranging expertise and research interests of the faculty, fosters a that is collegial and curious. We take delight in the work that we do. Our graduates go on to careers all over the world because they have the skills they need to take on the problems of today and a love of learning that enables them to continue to grow.

The MLA program at Ohio State has been consistently ranked in the top 10 nationally by the yearly DesignIntelligence survey that tracks employers’ satisfaction with landscape architecture graduates.

**MAKE A DIRECT, TANGIBLE AND POSITIVE IMPACT.**

Joie Chan (MLA ’17), Arctic Imaginaries: Boundaries of the Canadian North, Directed Research Project, 2017
Our faculty is a dynamic and collegial cohort engaged in scholarship, practice, speculative design and material research. Faculty bring academic and professional credentials with an established track record in scholarship, critical practice, and speculative design thinking. We are committed to teaching landscape architecture through meaningful, engaged design research and making.

Renowned visiting professors allow students the opportunity to examine a particular design or research method.

The faculty’s areas of expertise are broadly defined as follows:

**Jake Boswell** focuses on the intersection of landscape and climate through publications, design competitions and material research.

**Kristi Cheramie** visualizes landscape systems in the flood landscapes of river basins and coastal communities and devises strategies for vacant land.

**John Dean Davis** is a historian whose primary research is on technology, design, construction and the environment in North America in the 19th century.

**Michelle Arevalos Franco** cultivates narrative as a design tool, engaging the confluence of landscape, infrastructure and the unintended consequences of urbanization.

**Dorothee Imbert** has published extensively on twentieth-century landscape modernism and maintains an award-winning design practice.

**Katie Jenkins** studies the exchange between site analysis and design intervention, proposing alternative representational techniques that combine contemporary technologies with hand drawing and site materials.

**Jason Kentner** is design principal of IMPLUMN, a design and research practice engaging infrastructure and urban design, community workshops and other outreach projects.

**Forbes Lipschitz** uses representation to examine productive landscapes through the lens of ecology, water management and cultural patterns.

**Ethan McGory** translates a deep knowledge of plants and horticulture to a flourishing practice in residential design and instruction in planting design.

**Paula Meijerink** brings a wealth of professional experience to the program and a commitment to material research, witnessed in her experiments with rammed earth and experimental forestry.

**Justin Parscher** studies and writes on how people communicate about landscapes through branding and performance, from community gardens to open-air museums.

**Tameka Sims** envisions how landscape strategies can transform dying retail infrastructure, both ecologically and socially.

**Halina Steiner** combines experience in green infrastructure with mapping to retrace hydrologic and infrastructure systems across time.

**Parker Sutton** brings an interest in emerging technologies to bear on landscape interpretation and observation and a re-interpretation of landscape representation.

**Karla Trott** brings decades of experience in critical practice to instruction in site planning and design.
The MLA program develops critical thought, inventiveness and skill. Our STEM approved curriculum centers around the design studio—an intense one-on-one pedagogical approach where students actively engage the problems of the discipline and the world at large. Lectures, workshops and seminars in representation, ecology and technology, and history and theory support the design studio.

**G1**
During their first two semesters, students with a non-design background acquire the necessary skills to design, analyze, visualize and present their work. Design studios focus on conceptual exercises, small scale built interventions, and site design.

Complementary courses in hand and digital representation, plants and grading, as well as a survey of landscape history, culture and practice establish a solid foundation for understanding the themes and scales of landscape architecture.

For students with an undergraduate degree in an allied, design based discipline we offer advanced placement, allowing students to shave as much as a year off of their degree program.

**G2**
In the second year, design studios expand in scale and complexity to engage larger scale site planning and speculative questions. Students develop their understanding of landscape architecture through deep-dive history/theory courses and a variety of electives from digital animation to planting design and green infrastructure.

**G3**
In the final year of the curriculum, students can tailor the curriculum to further develop their design and research interests. In this year, studios focus on developing an individualized approach to design through both guided and independent design research.

**Glimcher Seminar**
Each year, the Glimcher Distinguished Visiting Professorship allows MLA students the chance to interact with internationally renowned landscape architects such as Michel Desvigne (Paris), Shannon Nichol and Jennifer Guthrie (GGN, Seattle), João Nunes (PROAP, Portugal), Walter Hood (Oakland), and Mikyoung Kim (Boston).

**Trott Professorship**
The Trott Distinguished Visiting Professorship has brought renowned educators and professionals to work with our students. These include author Gina Crandell, Swedish landscape architect Roland Gustavsson and Laura Solano, principal at Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates.
We are committed to thinking through making. As our interactions with sites and communities become increasingly virtual, we recognize the need to engage the real, physical environment that surrounds us in new ways. To accomplish this, we combine digital proficiency with on-site intervention, physical and digital fabrication, hybridized drawings and material testing.

Our vision is to educate future professionals who will shape the world around them in respectful and profound ways.

Our students have the opportunity to:
- participate in faculty research;
- study abroad;
- interact with internationally acclaimed professors and visiting lecturers;
- contribute to exhibitions and books;
- carry out hands-on experimentation with materials and planting;
- develop individual research interests with the support of faculty and critics.
We are a tight-knit community, deeply invested in preparing our graduates for future practice in and beyond landscape architecture. We are devoted to attracting the brightest students, to supporting them during their education and to directing them toward their own best career opportunity.

Students have access to university fellowships, landscape architecture scholarship aid, grant and section funded individual research and travel, and graduate associate (GA) positions.

In addition to supporting the teaching of core courses in the undergraduate program, graduate associates support the Knowlton School’s Digital Library, Materials and Fabrication Lab, Woodshop, Laser Lab, and contribute to special projects with section leadership and assist faculty in their scholarship and creative practice.

BECOME A PART OF OUR COMMUNITY.

85% OF MLA STUDENTS AWARDED FUNDING OVER LAST 3 YEARS

TYPES INCLUDE:
TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS
ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS
RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS
TRAVEL GRANTS

MLA ALUMNI SPAN THE NATION.
TOP 5 CITIES OUTSIDE OHIO ALUMNI CALL HOME:
NYC DC
LA SF

11:1 STUDENT:FACULTY RATIO IN MLA STUDIOS

10TH RANKED GRADUATE PROGRAM NATIONALLY BY DESIGNINTELLIGENCE

Columbus Dirt: Illuminating the Invisible, Harvard Gallery Exhibition by Paula Meijerink and independent study students, 2017
To learn more, visit go.osu.edu/knowltonlandscape

Request info at go.osu.edu/knowltongradinfo

Applications completed by January 1 will receive priority consideration for funding opportunities through the Knowlton School.

Learn more about the application process at knowlton.osu.edu/grad-admissions