

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Landscape Culture and Nature
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	7
4	Module Code	LAN 7343

5	Module Overview
<p>Landscape – Culture and Nature forms part of the ‘foundation’ in Landscape Architecture for students undertaking the ‘Conversion’ Route MA Landscape Architecture (MALA). It offers an ‘introduction’ to the complex set of interactions and change that have brought about the UK Landscape. Many of the principles underlying these will also, by implication, be ‘transferable’ to the study and understanding of other cultures and landscapes. The term ‘Landscape’ in this context does not only refer to the ‘green’ environment but also to the processes of industrialisation and urbanisation set in their historical and spatial context. The Module will seek to present ‘culture’ and ‘nature’ as being intrinsically linked and interactive; both being crucial to a full understanding of the ‘Landscape’.</p> <p>A range of teaching and learning methods will be used (with supporting readings and discussion) that will cover the origins, purposes and aesthetic conventions of the main periods of development of Landscape and Garden design. It will set this in the wider socio-cultural context and situate landscape design within a sequence of historically contingent events and change. It will cover seminal examples and theory from a UK, European and global perspective.</p> <p>One of the key theoretical approaches that the Module employs will be one that seeks to develop student’s understanding of ‘critique’ applied through investigative research methods in accounting for the circumstances of production of both ‘cultural’ and ‘natural’ landscapes. Additionally, the module will encourage students to visit a range of sites on their own to reinforce their physical experience of a range of significant pieces of landscape design, past and contemporary.</p> <p>The cultural and natural context of the discipline is explicitly identified as being ‘core’ to the study of professional Landscape Architecture by the L.I., IFLA and the QAA Subject Benchmark and is part of the Criteria by which the Programme’s professional accreditation status is assessed. This Module will form a strong foundation in this topic area for future study in the remainder of the Programme.</p> <p>The module is, thus, part of a comprehensive ‘introduction’ to the skills, knowledge and understanding that is necessary to equip students to successfully enter the second year of the ‘Conversion’ MALA. This is to reflect the previous educational and academic skills that students entering the Programme will be expected to bring to it, i.e. significant research and communication skills appropriate to Masters level study.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
<p>The module provides an opportunity to develop and explore a research question or a theme with an emphasis on landscape history. The module explores possibilities for group activities, including group tutorials and seminars focussing on critical debate and discussion.</p> <p>Tutored series with supporting readings and discussion will introduce the relationship between the physical geography of the UK and the incremental changes to it brought about by human intervention by presenting 'culture' and 'nature' as being intrinsically linked and interactive in understanding landscapes.</p>	

7	Module Learning Outcomes	
On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:		
	1	Evaluate 'histories' of the designed landscape across time and cultures
	2	Demonstrate understanding of natural processes and human intervention leading to change in the natural and productive UK landscape
	3	Deploy critical research methods appropriate to studying the historical and cultural context of the landscape
	4	Critically evaluate and account for the factors that have brought about a specific piece of landscape design by means of a Seminar Paper and leading an associated discussion

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1-4	X		

9	Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities	
Learning Activities	Hours	
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	30	
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	130	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	40	
Total Study Hours:	200	