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## **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES TO QUALIFY FOR PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION BY EFLA AND ECLAS**

### **DEFINITION OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

Landscape architects research, analyse and realise the potential of the landscape at all stages, scales and contexts of the development process including

- landscape planning and policy development
- feasibility studies,
- strategic vision, planning and review,
- master-planning and spatial design
- detailed design
- implementation
- long-term maintenance and management.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

These activities require students to have knowledge, understanding and abilities in 5 areas:

#### **1. Landscape Architectural Practice**

- The landscape as a cultural and natural concept, a physical and abstract entity, having both economic and social value
- Creating designs that satisfy both aesthetic, policy and technical requirements
- An understanding of the relationships between people and their landscapes, and of the relationships between natural and cultural environments
- A knowledge of urban and rural design, and the protection, planning and management of the landscape

#### **2. Theory and Precedent**

- Formulating and applying landscape architecture concepts, ideas and theory
- An understanding of the history of the landscape and the discipline and practice of landscape architecture
- An understanding of relationships with the arts, humanities, technology and science

#### **3. Technology and Sustainability**

- A knowledge of materials, physical properties and technologies



- A knowledge of standards and legal procedures necessary to realise proposals.
- Design skills necessary to meet society's response to environmental change and the need for sustainable development.

#### **4. Physical, Ecological Social, and Cultural Processes**

- engagement with society and how to enhance the perception and awareness of landscape identity
- Knowledge and understanding of the structure and development of spatial design and of abiotic, biotic and anthropogenic processes

#### **5. Professional Values and Ethics**

- Understanding, developing and communicating the methods of research and inquiry in the preparation of a brief for a landscape proposal
- An understanding of the profession of landscape architecture and the role of the landscape architect in society
- An ability to lead, coordinate and work in a multidisciplinary environment with related professions while respecting professional distinctions
- Knowledge and understanding of the process of planning and design and its main phases of research and analysis, defining goals and programmes, project management.
- An ability to engage and lead processes of participation
- An understanding of landscape architecture in the context of both private practice and the public sector

#### **DURATION OF STUDIES**

The minimum duration of studies should normally total 240 credits ECTS awarded or recognised as equivalent by an academic university program in landscape architecture in order to achieve the academic requirement for a later National or State Recognition. For conversion students, before embarking on a 180 credit programme, a maximum of 60 credits may be recognized prior learning arising from a preceding undergraduate degree.

The student workload for one ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) is equivalent to 30 hours of contact hours and independent studies.

These requirements refer only to the academic education of landscape architects and not to the requirements for the professional recognition as defined by National Associations



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**RELATED PAPERS**

- ECLAS: Tuning Landscape Architecture Education in Europe, Version 27, January 2011
- EFLA/IFLA: Guidance Document for Recognition or Accreditation 2009
- IFLA: Draft Definition of the profession for discussion with the International Labour Organisation (ILO), April 2008
- EFLA/IFLA: Charter for Landscape Architecture Education 2008
- Dutch Law on Architecture, Additional Regulations for Landscape Architects

First draft Birmingham, 11 February, 2011; edited Edinburgh College of Art, 17 March 2011.

Last amendment at the EFLA 2011 General Assembly, Tallinn, Estonia.

Adopted by EFLA at the EFLA 2011 General Assembly, Tallinn, Estonia, November 2011.

Adopted by ECLAS at the ECLAS 2012 General Assembly, Warsaw, Poland, 19 September 2012 with the recommendation to be further condensed.

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