HARVARD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

Master in Landscape Architecture
Distributional Electives
2025–2026

The following courses have been pre-approved as fulfilling the distributional requirements in their respective categories for MLA I and MLA I AP candidates. The list is not to be construed as limiting the courses that might be considered. If another course (GSD, FAS, HKS, or other) is proposed by a student as a distributional elective, approval can be given by the Program Director via a petition form provided through the Program Coordinator. **Approval must be part of registration and not *ex post facto*.**

FALL 2025

REPRESENTATION / HISTORY / THEORY

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	UNITS	TYPE	TERM	FACULTY
2446	Drawing as Perception, Experience, and Action	4	Seminar	Fall	Harabasz
2476	Visualizing the Invisible: Drawing Attention to Temporal Patterns in Landscape Dynamics	4	Seminar	Fall	Douglas
2484	Interdisciplinary Art and Design Practices	4	Seminar	Fall	Shoshan
3348	The Idea of Environment	4	Lecture	Fall	Spinak
3520	Indigenous Philosophies for the Technological Age (at HKS)	4	Lecture	Fall	Risse
3534	Ephemeral Infrastructure	4	Seminar	Fall	Mehrotra
4454	The Project and the Territory: Japan Story	4	Lecture	Fall	Mostafavi
4487	Plants of Ritual: Creating a Spiritual Connection to the Designed Landscape	4	Seminar	Fall	Benedetto
4521	Translations & Negotiations: The Roman Landscape in the Modern World	4	Seminar	Fall	Tally-Schumacher
5210	Cities by Design	4	Lecture	Fall	Rowe, Blau, et al.
7453	Designers of Mountain and Water: Alternative Landscapes for a Changing Climate	4	Seminar	Fall	Kim
9341*	Preparation of MLA Design Thesis*	4	Seminar	Fall	Waldheim

**Only MLA I AP students enrolled in the thesis track may fulfill the Representation/Theory/History Elective with ADV 9341.*

ECOLOGY/TECHNOLOGY

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	UNITS	TYPE	TERM	FACULTY
3365	Material Practice and its Agency	4	Seminar	Fall	Mori
6141**	Ecologies, Techniques, Technologies I**	4	Lecture	Fall	Cunningham
6333	Water, Land-Water Linkages, and Aquatic Ecology	4	Lecture	Fall	Nelson, Dekker
6380	Working Landscapes: Natural Resiliency and Redesign	4	Seminar	Fall	Zimmerman
6381	Power||Energy: Mapping the Thickened Ground of Labor	4	Seminar	Fall	Monacella
6387	Digital Production at Scale	4	Lecture	Fall	Tish

***Only approved for MLA I AP students in Fall 2025.*

SPRING 2026

Please note that Spring 2026 distributional elective options are subject to change prior to the start of the Spring term.

REPRESENTATION / THEORY / HISTORY

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	UNITS	TYPE	TERM	FACULTY
2457	Drawing for Designers 2: Human Presence and Appearance in Natural and Buit Environment	4	Seminar	Spring	Harabasz
2475	Fortress of Solitude	4	Seminar	Spring	de Broche des Combes
2479	Plant Remains: Representing Disturbance through Digital Media	4	Seminar	Spring	Sobrino Ralston
3392	Shaping and Promoting Counter Practices around Cultural Landscapes	4	Seminar	Spring	Birnbaum
3514	African Landscape Architecture: Alternative Futures for the Field	4	Lecture	Spring	Doherty
3516	Contextual Capacities	4	Seminar	Spring	Stubbergaard
3517	Redefining Urban Design	4	Lecture	Spring	Busquets
3537	Eco-Machinae: Environmental Machines and Material Mechanisms	4	Seminar	Spring	Bar-Sinai
3539	Origin Stories: The Migration of Material Practices	4	Seminar	Spring	Choi
4455	Cotton Kingdom, Now	4	Seminar	Spring	Zewde
4526	Landscape, Architecture, and/on the Printed Page	4	Seminar	Spring	Eigen
4534	Environmental Histories: Ancient Practices and Modern Problems	4	Lecture	Spring	Tally-Schumacher
5382	Making Participation Relevant to Design	4	Seminar	Spring	Tato
5409	Climate Justice	4	Lecture	Spring	Spinak
5447	Creating Environmental Markets	4	Seminar	Spring	Zimmerman/ Bello Gómez
5509	Spatial Design Strategies for Climate Migration and Conflict-Induced Migration	4	Seminar	Spring	Shoshan
6509	Mapping the Region: Cartographic Methods for Place-Based Spatial Theory	4	Seminar	Spring	Kelly, Page

ECOLOGY/TECHNOLOGY

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	UNITS	TYPE	TERM	FACULTY
2477	Forests and Fields: A Collective Guide to Scaling Agroforestry	4	Seminar	Spring	Whitesides
5409	Climate Justice	4	Lecture	Spring	Spinak
5447	Creating Environmental Markets	4	Seminar	Spring	Zimmerman/ Bello Gómez
6379	Plants and Placemaking—New Ecologies for a Rapidly Changing World	4	Seminar	Spring	Cunningham
6458	Structures in Landscape Architecture, Joint & Detail	4	Lecture	Spring	McIntosh
6486	BioFabrication	4	Seminar	Spring	Tish
6494	Urban Soil Studies: From Field to Lab to Design	4	Lecture	Spring	Janosky, Piana
6497	Ecological Restoration	4	Lecture	Spring	Piana
6509	Mapping the Region: Cartographic Methods for Place-Based Spatial Theory	4	Seminar	Spring	Kelly, Page

MLA I AP THEORY/HISTORY***

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	UNITS	TYPE	TERM	FACULTY
4142	History, Theory, Culture II: Material Histories of Landscape Architecture	4	Lecture	Spring	Tally-Schumacher
4152	Urban Planning Theory and Praxis: Comparative-Historical Origins and Applications	4	Lecture	Spring	Davis
4374	Cities, Infrastructures, and Politics: From Renaissance to Smart and Sustainable Technologies	4	Lecture	Spring	Picon
4526	Landscape, Architecture, and/on the Printed Page	4	Seminar	Spring	Eigen
4534	Environmental Histories: Ancient Practices and Modern Problems	4	Lecture	Spring	Tally-Schumacher

*****MLA I AP students are required to select a Theory/History Elective in addition to the Representation/Theory/History and Ecology/Technology distributional electives. Courses may not be counted twice for any distributional elective requirement.*