Discover Plants

Major in
Landscape Design & Construction
Department of Plant Sciences

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Or view these Web addresses:
Landscape Design & Construction:
http://plantsciences.utk.edu/ug_conc_design.htm
Career examples: http://plantsciences.utk.edu/jobs/
Department of Plant Sciences:
http://plantsciences.utk.edu/
College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources: http://casnr.tennessee.edu/
Undergraduate Admissions:
http://admissions.utk.edu/undergraduate/
Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships:
http://web.utk.edu/~finaid/

What is Landscape Design & Construction?

We crave beautiful surroundings and the varied and inspiring designs of nature. When we carve out of the natural environment places for us to work, live and play, we sometimes overlook the natural beauty. We make great efforts to recreate meaningful spaces for people through preserved or designed gardens.

While plants make up a considerable part of any garden, landscapes consist of so much more. Water, rocks, pathways, play structures, lighting, irrigation, art and architecture may also be considered part of the garden. It is not simply an issue of aesthetics or being “pretty.” Creative landscaping also enhances both emotional and physical wellbeing.

In the Landscape Design and Construction concentration in the department of Plant Sciences, our focus is on all of the elements that create the landscape. The landscape designer and contractor balance the concerns of people and the environment in designing landscapes, installing plantings and stewarding these creations. Ours are “green” endeavors, melding art, science and business into creative acts of beautifying our surroundings.

Financial Aid
In addition to the Tennessee Hope Scholarship, a variety of financial aid is available. About one-third of the students in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources receive scholarships directly from the college, averaging about $2200 per student annually. Students are also eligible for a variety of university scholarships, as well as scholarships offered by horticultural organizations.
Landscape designers create aesthetic concepts and practical designs for improved outdoor living. While obtaining their bachelor’s degrees, our students study fundamental and advanced landscape design, landscape design graphics, computer-aided landscape design, surveying, field botany, landscape construction, irrigation and outdoor lighting, and landscape maintenance. Also emphasized are learning both native and exotic plants and the environmental considerations in designing with them.

A variety of student activities are available on campus, ranging from intramural sports to student branches of professional horticulture societies. Hort Club activities include community gardening projects, campus beautification projects, field trips, professional conferences and competitions. Each year we send a team to an undergraduate landscaping competition, sponsored by the Professional Landscape Network, to compete against students from across the country. These events give students valuable hands-on experience and provide opportunities to learn about lucrative future internships and careers.

Students wishing to do so may apply for acceptance in UT’s Master of Landscape Architecture program. This interdisciplinary program is jointly administered by the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) and the College of Architecture and Design (COAD). The MLA offers a variety of tracks to accommodate the natural diversity of undergraduate candidates. Students receiving an undergraduate degree in Plant Sciences with a concentration in Landscape Design and Construction may wish to begin the application process the semester before that in which they intend to graduate. The profession of Landscape Architecture was recently identified as one of the 50 most promising professions for the 21st century by Money magazine.