

MAS LA

Master of Advanced Studies in Landscape Architecture

ETH Zurich - Switzerland

“Landscape Architecture Design Simulation”

Fall 2015 the ETH Master of Advanced Studies Program in Landscape Architecture – MAS LA – will resume with a stronger focus site study. An important part of this new program will be a kickoff 5-day project field trip (travel costs and hotel are covered by the tuition fee).

During the trip abroad, the group will visit a site of great landscape architectural relevance visiting projects commented by the landscape architects themselves. The trip will be done in conjunction with a local universities. Preliminary concepts will be sketched out, elaborated and discussed on site.

The central task addresses the current trend in large-scale projects: which without the use of parametric CAD-CAM technologies, can no longer be planned, realized nor managed. This trend presumes that the designer is able to work with a high level of expertise on a given design approach. In addition to specialized technical expertise, it also requires the ability to use design tools appropriately. The MAS LA program works within a range of technical and design inputs, theoretical issues and discussions, as well as feedback from international specialists, from landscape architecture and CAD-CAM to Landscape Design Simulation. The program will pick on current problems and investigate new workflows, which can be evaluated and applied experimentally to current site-specific issue.

The focus of the MAS LA will remain on the use and deployment of the latest modeling and visualization techniques as well as 3D landscape illustration methods. Through intense work with the latest modeling and visualization software, graduates will be capable to complete

complex design tasks and to develop new kinds of design methods. The CAD programs chosen (i.e. Rhino) are particularly appropriate for the visualization of large-scale landscape designs, they also offer the possibility for files to be exported to CNC mills. In addition, students will be asked to develop some solid competence in the area of 3D GIS. Photography and video will be developed as design tools for illustration.

The MAS LA has been offered 11 years with over 100 graduates. All our graduates have moved onto jobs in important landscape architecture offices in Switzerland, Europe and beyond. The program is geared towards university graduates in the areas of architecture and landscape architecture who have professional experience and are already familiar with various visualization and modeling techniques.

2-phase application process:

1. phase: submission of portfolio, letter of motivation, 3 letters of recommendation and CV to the Chair of Landscape Architecture, Prof. Christophe Girot via email: masla@arch.ethz.ch: period for pre-enrollment MAS LA 2015-16: June – Dec 2014,
2. phase: Jan. – April 2016 to the ETH admission office ZFW.
Diploma: “Master of Advanced Studies in Landscape Architecture” (MAS LA, ETH).

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