



# Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies

## Doctoral School

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### Doctoral Study Programme

## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

General information about the study programme

Educational Classification Code of the Republic of Latvia – 51581  
Accredited until 27 October, 2028  
Qualification: Doctoral degree Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in Humanities and Arts  
Director of the Doctoral study Programme: **Ilze Stokmane**, Assoc. Professor, Dr. oec.  
Faculty of Forest and Environmental Sciences  
Address: Jelgava, Rigas Street 22, Valdeka palace, LV-3004  
E-mail: ilze.stokmane@lbtu.lv, phone: 63005629  
Admission requirements: Master's degree or equivalent in landscape architecture, architecture, urban planning or spatial planning. For studies in English: minimum level B2

#### 1. Legal and regulatory framework for the Programme

The doctoral study programme has been developed on the basis of the Constitution of the Republic of Latvia, in accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions, the Law on Scientific Activity, in compliance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulations, the Regulations of the State Scientific Qualification Commission, recommendations or instructions of the Council of Higher Education and the Latvian Council of Science, as well as the LBTU doctoral study standard, LBTU doctoral study regulations and in compliance with international standards of scientific qualification.

The PhD programme is designed as the final stage of the Landscape Architecture studies (Bachelor - Master - PhD)

#### 2. Aim and objectives of the programme

**The aim** of the doctoral academic study programme is to train highly qualified specialists in the field of landscape architecture in accordance with international standards, to provide doctoral students with a high level of theoretical studies necessary for the elaboration of a quality doctoral thesis and the obtaining of a scientific degree, as well as to carry out independent research, approbation and pedagogical work.

The most important part of the doctoral study programme is the individual research work of the doctoral students, including the study of scientific literature, the acquisition of data and materials, their analysis and the preparation of publications, according to the topic of the doctoral thesis. In addition, doctoral students study theoretical courses at the highest level, participate in Latvian and international scientific seminars and conferences and present the results of their work, assist lecturers in Bachelor's and Master's programmes in landscape architecture and acquire teaching experience.

#### Doctoral programme objectives:

- To train researchers and educators in the field of landscape architecture in accordance with international standards in the field;
- To provide students with the opportunity to undertake higher level theoretical courses that will enhance their ability to carry out research independently or in teams;

- To provide teaching practice through their involvement in undergraduate and postgraduate courses;
- To promote the publication of postgraduate research in high-impact international scientific journals, as well as independent journals, as well as independently producing scholarly publications both in the field of landscape architecture and on interdisciplinary topics;
- To enable students to defend their doctoral theses in the Sectoral Doctoral Council in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

### **3. Programme outcomes**

#### **Knowledge:**

- A high level of knowledge of current scientific theories and findings in landscape architecture and their relationship to other scientific fields;
- A high level of understanding of research methodology and contemporary research methods in landscape architecture.

#### **Skills:**

- Be able to independently evaluate and select internationally recognised research methods appropriate to scientific research;
- Be able to apply their research skills to research in the field, some of which will be at the level of internationally cited publications;
- Be able to present and report on their research and current developments in the field of landscape architecture at international academic conferences;
- Be able to carry out scientific projects independently or in a team and to achieve international success;
- Be able to solve research problems independently or in a team and contribute knowledge in line with current trends in landscape architecture science and interdisciplinary research;
- Be able to independently prepare and present study materials in the field of landscape architecture.

#### **Competences:**

- Independently address significant research or innovation challenges in the field of landscape architecture;
- Independently formulate a research problem, hypothesis or question, design a research plan, work on data collection and analysis, formulate research findings and conclusions;
- Convincingly demonstrate their ability and expertise in carrying out scientific projects or research and in developing new projects or research ideas.

### **4. Doctoral study content**

The total amount of the doctoral study programme is 180 CP - the amount of theoretical studies is 40 CP, the amount of scientific work - 140 CP (1 CP = 1 ECTS)

Theoretical studies of 39 CP consist of the following courses

- Landscape Transformation Processes (scientific sub-discipline specific course) - 12 CP
- Specialised course in the field of research - 12 CP
- Special course in a professional foreign language (English or German) - 6 CP
- Research Methodology - 6 CP
- Research methodology in landscape architecture - 3 CP

The research work of 141 CP consists of the following activities:

- Teaching practice - 6 CP
- Research - 81 CP
- Presentation of research results - 22 CP
- Publication of research results, including the course Preparation of scientific articles - 32 CP

## **5. Research directions**

### **In the scientific subfield of landscape architecture:**

Residential areas

- Urban gardens in high-rise residential areas;
- Greening of courtyards;
- Rainwater harvesting;
- Roof gardens.

Public spaces

- Squares, parks, urban parks, promenades;
- Urban gardens in public spaces;
- Synthesis of music and art in the urban environment (sculpture, open-air stages, green bridges, etc.).

Rural landscape and cultural heritage

- Manor parks, places of worship, hillforts;
- Industrial heritage;
- Military heritage;
- Water, woodland, roadscape;
- Anthropogenic agro-sensitivity;
- Regional landscape identity.

## **6. Evaluation of programme performance**

After admission, within one month and subsequently at the end of the academic year, the doctoral student and the supervisor draw up an individual plan for the following academic year. The doctoral student's work is certified in accordance with the LBTU Doctoral Studies Regulations, when the doctoral student submits a report and evidence confirming the information contained in the report.

Examinations for doctoral study courses are conducted by an examination committee approved by the LBTU Vice-Rector of Science and consisting of three PhDs representing the teaching staff of the institutes.

The PhD thesis is approved at the meeting of the Institute of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Engineering, at the inter-institutional meeting of the MVZF and at the PhD Council.

In case of a positive decision by the State Scientific Qualification Commission, the doctoral thesis is defended at the meeting of the Promotion Board.

**Study plan of the  
Doctoral Study Programme  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

No.	Code	Study course	CP	Control type	1st year		2nd year		3rd year	
					1 sem.	2 sem.	3 sem.	4 sem.	5 sem.	6 sem.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
A	<b>Theoretical study courses</b>		<b>39</b>							
1	ValoD001 ValoD002	English for research professionals or German for research professionals	6	PE	6					
2	CitiD016	Scientific research methodology	6	E	6					
3	MVmAD001	Research methodology in landscape architecture	3	E		3				
4	MVmAD002	Landscape transformation processes	12	PE				12		
5	MVmAD003	Course of Research Directions	12	PE						12
B	<b>Zinātniskais darbs</b>		<b>141</b>							
1	MVmAD023	Pedagogical practice I	2	CT	2					
2	MVmAD024	Pedagogical practice II	2	CT			2			
3	MVmAD025	Pedagogical practice III	2	CT				2		
4	MVmAD008	Research I	12	CT	12					
5	MVmAD032	Research II	21	CT		21				
6	MVmAD033	Research III	20	CT			20			
7	MVmAD034	Research IV	8	CT				8		
8	MVmAD035	Research V	20	CT					20	
9	MVmAD013	Presentation of research results I	3	CT		3				
10	MVmAD014	Presentation of research results II	3	CT			3			
11	MVmAD026	Presentation of research results III	5	CT				5		
12	MVmAD027	Presentation of research results IV	5	CT					5	
13	MVmAD028	Presentation of research results V	6	CT						6
14	CitiB003	Preparation of scientific papers	4	CT	4					
15	MVmAD018	Publication of research results I	3	CT		3				
16	MVmAD029	Publication of research results II	5	CT			5			
17	MVmAD020	Publication of research results III	3	CT				3		
18	MVmAD030	Publication of research results IV	5	CT					5	
19	MVmAD031	Publication of research results V	12	CT						12
		Total	<b>180</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>

Explanations: CT – control test, E – exam, PE – promotion exam.