



## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LICENSURE EXAMINATION

### Annex A

## SYLLABI FOR THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LICENSURE EXAMINATION

### PREAMBLE

1. The following syllabi are intended to provide guidance to candidates taking the Landscape Architecture Licensure Examination. They consist of six major areas which will test the competencies of candidates in preparation for the practice of the profession of landscape architecture.
  2. The subject areas with their corresponding weights include the following:
    - a. Landscape Architecture Design (40%)
    - b. Landscape Technology and Materials (20%)
    - c. Planting Design and Interior Landscaping (12%)
    - d. History of Landscape Architecture and Theory of Design (10%)
    - e. Ecology and Nature Conservation (10%)
    - f. Professional Practice and Ethics (8%)
  3. Each major area is subdivided into specific subareas or concerns, as well as their corresponding rationale and description.
  4. These syllabi shall be made available to all recognized schools of landscape architecture in the country, the Philippine Association of Landscape Architects, and other concerned entities in the republic.
- b. Investigation, selection and allocation of land and water areas for appropriate uses,
  3. Technical ability to transmit design ideas, including the ability to draft and sketch and to write their design relationship; and the ability to explain and interpret design ideas fully and accurately through graphic, written and/or oral presentation.
  4. Creative design ability including, where feasible, ability to conserve natural resources and preserve and enhance actual and potential aesthetic values.

### B. Scope

Landscape architectural design and site planning, problems involving the following types of landscape development problems and their built environment.

1. Residential  
Outdoor open space and landscape development for all types of residential, apartment, condominium, vacation villa, lodging or other special housing gardens; indoor open space (atrium, courtyard, etc.) and outdoor open space (driveway, parking, lawn area, recreation area, terrace, etc.) where landscaping and/or landscape architectural work is deemed necessary.
2. Commercial and Business  
Indoor and outdoor open spaces of business (office, bank, hotel, etc.), commercial (department stores, market, etc.), mixed business-commercial or mixed business-residential use.
3. Industrial and Agricultural  
Outdoor grounds of industrial, mixed Industrial-residential, or Industrial estate/agro-Industrial establishments.
4. Public and Government
  - a. Outdoor grounds of educational and cultural institutions (schools, library, museum, historical/monument structures, etc.); health and medical (hospital, medical centers, etc.); government and quasi-public complex (national or public buildings, embassy, consulate,

### SYLLABI

#### Area A

#### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

##### A. Rationale and Description

1. Creative application of the functional, orderly and aesthetic solutions to given landscape architectural design problems involving the analysis, planning, design and development of natural scenery and various land areas and open spaces towards attaining a desirable environment including well-related and conforming land uses and site-structure relationships.
2. Ability to produce both overall lands and project designs for integrated land development. The work may include:
  - a. Analysis of land characteristics, operational requirements, land-use densities, and commensurate land values,



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etc.); sports and athletic open spaces (sports plaza, golf course, tennis/basketball courts, etc.).

- b. Grounds and outdoor component areas for religious and funerary (church, temple, mosque, monastery/convent, memorial park, cemetery, etc.)
- c. National parks and parkways, national forests, wildlife and flora conservation parks, botanical gardens, highways, recreational and resort areas.
- d. Water-related projects (urban waterfronts, river front development, beach resort, marine and coastal conservation, estuarine, wetlands and/or mangrove areas, etc.)

## 5. Facilities

Outdoor component areas and grounds for transportation (airports, railway station, terminal stations, etc.); service stations (power station, multiuse reservoirs, water-treatment/filtering plants, telecommunication and or satellite facilities, etc.); and military installations.

## 6. Complex Projects

Including grounds and outdoor components for a combination of several buildings and structures in a given site or area.

### Area B

#### LANDSCAPE TECHNOLOGY AND MATERIALS

##### A. *Rationale and Description*

Application of the various technological knowledge necessary for appropriate development of land areas, which include the following:

- a. Understanding of the fundamentals of strength of materials, and theory of structures; general design, and principles of the structural elements of various types of construction materials and systems;
- b. Understanding of the properties of hardscape construction and finishing materials; their application and articulation, systems and methods of specification and construction.
- c. Ability to analyze, design and recommend site grading and surfacing work solutions for site construction and land improvement work with the minimum standards required for the project, including such work as topsoil removal, contour

- d. Ability to analyze, design and recommend for the following landscape construction: Irrigation (manual and automated sprinkler irrigation), drainage layout (swale, canals, underground piping, etc.), lighting (electrical power and lighting supply, distribution, fixtures, etc.), and other outdoor utilities and fixtures as needed for the landscape development project (water features, sculptures, etc.)

##### B. *Scope*

The design and specifications of materials and methods of construction for the following works:

- a. Civil Works
- b. Carpentry and joinery
- c. Asphalt, concrete and masonry
- d. Metals in construction
- e. Concrete and reinforced concrete
- f. Painting and varnishing
- g. Glass, plastics, and fabrics
- h. Geotextiles
- i. Soils and Aggregates
- j. Specialized works: water features, street furniture, historic landscapes, disturbed landscapes, sound control, playground equipment, roof deck landscapes, etc.)

### Area C

#### ECOLOGY AND NATURE CONSERVATION

##### A. *Rationale and Description*

1. Understanding of the ecosystem, i.e., the characteristics and symbiotic relationships of the natural elements, of animals and plants, of man and nature. The study of the protection, conservation, and rehabilitation of the natural scenery and environment.
2. Understanding of the natural condition of the ecosystem as a balanced network of biotic relationships that is all too easily upset by pollution and other man-made disturbances.
3. Application of ecological theory and knowledge to provide a basis for sound protection and/or management programs for the living environment.

##### B. *Scope*

1. The General Principles of Ecology
  - a. Definitions, influences of climate, geology and soils, hydrology, and vegetation.



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- b. The ecology of the land, wetlands flood plains, watershed drainage, coastal and marine systems.
- c. General ecological process.
2. Landscape Assessment
  - a. Ability to make a professional analysis of an ecosystem to determine its values and vulnerabilities and to devise effective controls on potentially adverse activities.
  - b. The framework for analysis of an ecosystem must include not only a survey of natural systems and the important biota, but also knowledge of the major physical factors that affect the carrying capacity of the ecosystem and the ways in which these factors interact and in combination govern the life of the system.
  - c. Ability to assess an environment for its unique values based on perceptual constructs and objective inventory of its natural and cultural resources.
  - d. Ability to interpret and plan the landscape for energy conservation.

## **Area D PLANTING DESIGN AND INTERIOR PLANTSCAPING**

### **A. Rationale and Description**

The functional, ecological, economics, and aesthetic applications of plants and plant materials; their documentary representations for design purposes; the design relationships of landscape architecture and building exterior and interiors; and the applications of plant materials to the design of outdoor gardens and interior spaces.

### **B. Scope**

1. The specification and layout of plant materials for the landscape project as applicable including: trees, shrubs, grounds covers, and grass lawns in the form of a planting plan with sizes, quantities, distances, and other pertinent information indicated therein.
2. The specification of appropriate soils, composts, fertilizers, and other landscape materials for both outdoor landscaping and indoor plantscaping.
3. The recommendation of a maintenance program for the healthy development of the plant materials as specified for the project.

## **Area E HISTORY AND THEORY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

### **Part I HISTORY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

#### **A. Rationale and Description**

1. The developmental history of landscape architecture; its relevance to civilization and society.
2. Analysis of the influences of environmental, historical, and sociocultural factors and their impact on the natural and cultural landscape.

#### **B. Scope**

1. Major Historical Epochs
  - a. Prehistory: Paleolithic, Neolithic
  - b. Ancient World: Egypt, Mesopotamian Civilization, Persian Influence, Greece, Rome
  - c. Middle Ages: Spanish Moorish, Medieval
  - d. Renaissance: Italy, France, Northern Europe
  - e. Modern World: England, Germany, France
2. Major Historical Developments
  - a. Medieval
  - b. Georgian
  - c. American Roman and Romantic
  - d. Picturesque Revival
  - e. Beaux-Arts
  - f. Park Development
  - g. Enlarged Environmental Concerns
3. Tropical Landscape Architecture
  - a. Landscape Architecture in the Philippines
  - b. Landscape Architecture in the Pacific Rim and South America

### **Part II THEORY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

#### **A. Rationale and Description**

1. Understanding of the theories and principles of landscape architectural design.
2. Understanding of the landscape architectural design process and procedure.
3. Understanding of the landscape architectural design methods.
  - a. Rational methods: incremental adaptation, optimizing, problem analysis, disaggregation
  - b. Intuitive methods: focus on form, subconscious, design probes



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- c. Comprehensive design strategies: limited set of alternatives, sequential alternatives, combination.

## B. Scope

1. Introduction
  - a. The nature of landscape architecture
  - b. Landscape architecture as art and science.
  - c. Processes in landscape architectural design
  - d. Basic design perception: anthropometrics, territoriality, visual and perceptual language, psychology of space, proxemics and culture.
  - e. Theories of Landscape Design: Composition, Spatial Form, Mass/Void relationships, Circulation, Land Use
2. Principles, Criteria, Standards
  - a. Natural and cultural systems
  - b. Design principles, criteria, and standards
  - c. Relationships of materials, methods and requirements
3. L. Arch. Design Process and Procedures
  - a. Program phase
  - b. Schematic phase
  - c. Design development phase
  - d. Design implementation phase
  - e. Citizen involvement
  - f. Post design evaluation
4. L. Arch. Design Methods
  - a. Rational methods: incremental adaptation, optimizing, problem analysis, disaggregation
  - b. Intuitive methods: focus on form, subconscious, design probes
  - c. Comprehensive design strategies: limited set of alternatives, sequential alternatives, combination
5. Tropical Landscape Architecture
  - a. Influences and elements of tropical landscape architecture
  - b. Specific examples of tropical landscape architecture: Pacific rim, South American
6. Landscape Architecture Masters
  - a. Philosophies of renowned Landscape Architects
  - b. Examples of great works

## Area F

### PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND ETHICS

#### A. Rationale and Description

1. Understanding of the role, legal rights and obligations, and responsibilities of the architect

2. Analysis and application of the various statutes, codes, and regulations affecting the practice of landscape architecture in the Philippines.
3. Understanding of the various aspects of the professional practice of landscape architecture, including the tools and techniques related to production, construction, resource allocation, and project management, as well as the efficient conduct of client and business relations for landscape architectural design and construction projects.

## B. Scope

1. Legal Aspects of Practice
  - a. Definitions: agency, contracts, liens, bonds, litigation/arbitration/liability, professional development, licensure, and registration
  - b. Meaning and implication of professional practice: duties and responsibilities, legal principles
  - c. Certification of Landscape Architects and Standards of Professional Practice
  - d. Statutes regulating the practice of landscape architecture in the Philippines
  - e. Professional organization of landscape architects: Philippine Association of Landscape Architects (PALA)
  - f. Landscape Architect's National Code of Ethics
2. Administration Aspects of Practice
  - A. Office Management
    - a. Basics of Office Operations - Staff, equipment, business ethics
    - b. Document production - Proposals, contracts and other documents
    - c. Professional Organization
  - B. Professional Services

Due to the comprehensive nature of services offered through practice, a landscape architect should have knowledge of the scope of services and contractual implications of various types of projects and the requirements of documentation and management specific to each.

    1. Typical Professional Landscape Architecture Design Services:
      - (i) Feasibility studies
      - (ii) Formulation of graphic and written criteria to govern land planning and construction programs



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- (iii) Preparation, review and analysis of master plans for land use development
  - (iv) Production of graphic area plans;
  - (v) Preparation of working drawings such as site plans, grading and drainage plans, planting plans and construction details
  - (vi) Specification, costs estimates, and report for and development
  - (vii) Collaboration in the design of roads, bridges, and other major structures with other consultants with regards to the functional and aesthetic requirements of the areas on which they are to be placed
  - (viii) Negotiation and arrangement for execution of land area construction, restoration, and maintenance.
  - (ix) Inspection and supervision of landscape construction.
2. Landscape Planning Studies: Analysis and specific studies consist of work related to a specific project or site. Scope of services considered under analysis, feasibility, and planning studies include the following services:
- (i) Programming: Analysis of needs
  - (ii) Land Use Planning: Resource analysis, market studies, and feasibility studies
  - (iii) Master Planning: A generalized plan illustrating the major organization of a specific site plus other aspects such as general financing, market feasibility, phasing, location of major physical elements
  - (iv) Specific Studies: Studies which involve consultation on specific factors relevant to site inventories such as climate, soils, geology, hydrology
  - (v) Management: Advising, organizing, supervising design time, interdisciplinary teams, client designer relationship
- C. Contractual Relationship
- a. Landscape architect's relationship to clients:
    - 1. Practice client relationships
    - 2. Contractual agreements
    - 3. Production management
    - 4. Contract documents and specifications
    - 5. Contract management and contractor relationships
  - b. Landscape architect's relationship to consultant
  - c. Landscape architect's relationship to the public welfare