Masters in Landscapes Management and Heritage Studies (LaMHS)
(International Graduate Program)
Kathmandu University
Kathmandu University was established in November 1991. It is an autonomous, not-for-profit, non government institution dedicated to maintain high standards of academic excellence. It is committed to develop leaders in professional areas through quality education. It is an institution for higher learning dedicated to maintain high standard of academic excellence. It provides undergraduate, graduate and post graduate program in various fields through its six schools of Arts, Education, Engineering, Management, Medical Science and Sciences.

LaMHS
Current development phenomena and resulting growth in urban activities are causing systematic conversion of traditional landscapes into other forms of land-use, resulting to complex environmental, socioeconomic and psychological impacts on societies. Although a global trend, land-use change and associated impacts on natural and man-made environments is of particular significance in areas that are ecologically fragile, culturally rich and socio-economically vulnerable such as Nepal. In Nepal, there are over a hundred ethnic groups with unique traditions and culture, geographic regions with exceptional social and environmental circumstances with 10 locations registered under UNESCO’s Heritage list which make the country a site of great academic interest to anthropologists, archaeologists, conservationists and scientists equally. It is therefore important to study and understand the interrelated and complex relationships between development theories, nature and humans scientifically, in order to design sustainable strategies for planning and conservation of cultural landscapes, traditions and heritages, which is widely felt to be either completely lacking or insufficient thus far. The program will have a focus on Nepal, but will also make a regional coverage of South Asia region which is having unique and diversified natural and cultural heritages.
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Masters in Landscapes management and heritage studies is an academic program with a focus on the multidisciplinary and interrelated nature of problems that are visible in the form of alterations in natural landscapes, traditions and cultural heritages around the world, with specific reference to Nepal, the Himalayan area and the Southasian region.

The program has an advanced and interdisciplinary set of core and elective courses related to the scientific study of theories and practices in the field of management and conservation of natural and cultural heritages, archaeological excavations as well as planning and design of sustainable landscapes. Field studies, individual projects, internships and a thesis are the integral parts of the program ingredients.

The program will encompass full time study involving class lectures, workshops, field research and project activities. It also caters to those students who are enrolled in post-graduate programs at universities overseas and are willing to undertake specific courses offered by the program in order to fulfill their degree requirements.

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Given the interdisciplinary nature of the degree, the pool of prospective students will comprise of professionals, practitioners and decision makers in the field of environmental management, cultural management, community development, archaeology, infrastructural design, planning or development.

The program also offers opportunities for international researchers and scholars interested to broaden their academic and field experience in the field of natural and cultural heritages conservation and management in Nepal.

The prospective students will have to have successfully completed their four-year undergraduate degree in any relevant field from a reputed university in Nepal or overseas. However, candidates with 3 years of undergraduate degree with minimum of two years of verifiable work-experience will be eligible to undertake the course. Candidates need to have a minimum of 50% marks or CGPA 2.5 to become eligible to apply for the program. Candidates will be selected on the basis of interviews/written tests etc.

Successful completion of the degree requires candidates to accomplish all the necessary academic work loads as prescribed by Kathmandu University for the specific program.
Course Curriculum**

First Year – Semester I

LaMHS 511 Philosophy and theories of conservation
LaMHS 512 Urban Environment and Infrastructural Planning
LaMHS 513 Cultural Treasures of Nepal
LaMHS 514 Archaeology I
LaMHS 515 Landscape Design and Management
(Total Credits 15)

First Year – Semester II

LaMHS 516 Environmental and Heritage Conservation Plan Policies and Regulation
LaMHS 517 Archaeology II
LaMHS 518 Principles of Management Science
LaMHS 519 Historical and Cultural Resource Management
LaMHS 520 Environmental, Social and Cultural Impact Assessment
LaMHS 521 Conservation Planning Workshop
(Total Credits 15)
Second Year – Semester I

LaMHS 611 Conservation Methods and Techniques
LaMHS 612 Research Methodology (Including Quantitative Technique with Thesis Proposal)
LaMHS 613 Disaster Management and Urban Development
LaMHS 614 Construction Planning and Graphic Design
LaMHS 61* Electives *
   (Total Credits 15)

Electives*
LaMHS 616 Human Dimensions of Development and Sustainability
LaMHS 617 Archaeology III
LaMHS 618 Neighborhood Planning and Design

Second Year – Semester II

LaMHS 619 Thesis
LaMHS 620 Water Resource Management In Cultural Perspectives
LaMHS 621 Construction Materials and Technology / Sustainable Construction and Earthquake Technology
LaMHS 62* Electives *
   (Total Credits 15)

Electives*
LaMHS 622 Economics and Heritage Conservation
LaMHS 623 Real Estate Development
LaMHS 624 Local Resource and Crafts Industry
LaMHS 625 GIS Applications and conservation planning

** Offered in the academic year 2011-13; there might be some changes in the curriculum as per the suggestions from students and academic committee**
Career Prospects

In fact, the master program in Landscape management and heritage studies is the background education for new professions, especially evolving in Asia and Europe. Its combination with nature and culture conservation further widens the scope of career development. Graduates with the knowledge with skills to manage landscapes including rural migration and urban growth, and balance between development and conservation are of high demand not only in Nepal but also in the international market. This master degree can lead to a wide variety of careers in the public sector, private consultancy, in research and academic institutions, construction industry, non government organizations, and community based organizations at local, national or international level. This degree also provides strong foundation for doctorate course and further specialization in landscape management, urban design, conservation, disaster management, archaeology and any other related subjects.

GIZ (German Development Organization) is offering an internship of six months to the 3 best students after completion of the study for the next years.
Program operation and collaboration

In this regard, KU has signed MOUs with different universities in Europe and in India. The exchange program between these universities and KU concerning lecturers and student exchange has been started already in 2011.

KU is collaborating for this program since 2011 with international organizations like UNESCO, HimalAsia, DAAD as well as GIZ and partner universities, as for example, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Stuttgart University, BTU, UNESCO Chair World Heritage and Hyderabad University. Further collaboration with other international universities is under preparation. Expert individuals are also being involved.

TUITION FEE STRUCTURE

The total tuition fee for Nepali students will be NRS 250,000.00. This can be paid upfront at once or in four installments to Kathmandu University. Although there are provisions of university scholarships to deserving candidates, it is also expected that students organize their own sources of funds to support their academic pursuits. Students from SAARC region will have to pay 1.5 times and other international students should pay double of the fee as paid by Nepali students.

Once enrolled, the candidates will have access to Kathmandu University’s physical infrastructures and academic resources such as libraries, online resources, laboratories and equipments.

Program coordinators/ Further Enquiry
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