

(January 2011) Revised

Kathmandu University

International Graduate Program

On

**Landscape Management and Heritage
Studies**

January, 2011

Kathmandu University, Dhulikhel

POBOX 6250, Kathmandu, Nepal

www.ku.edu.np

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Course Title: Landscapes Management and Heritage Studies

RATIONALE

Current development phenomena and resulting growth in urban activities are causing systematic conversion of traditional landscapes into other forms of land-use, resulting in complex environmental, socioeconomic and psychological impacts on societies. Although a global trend, land-use change and associated impact 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

This program will be an international program and offered in post graduate /research level in different formats depending on the demand and available resources as;

- Ph. D./ M. Phil level
- M. S./ M. S. by Research level
- Postgraduate Diploma Level
- Summer School level

The academic programs will 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.

Each level of programs will have 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 as well as planning and design of sustainable landscapes. Field studies, individual projects, internships and thesis/dissertations will be the integral part of the program ingredients.

The academic programs will encompass full time study involving class lectures, workshops, field research and project activities. However, the degree can be undertaken on part-time basis in consultation with the degree supervisors. Besides, the program 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 at Kathmandu University Nepal. It is expected that students enrolled for academic degrees will publish at least two research articles in peer reviewed international/national journals.

Summer School will be a 3 month full time program.

PROGRAM OPERATION

The programs will be primarily offered by Kathmandu University in collaboration with international partner Universities, for example the Institute for Interculturality, BTU Berlin-Cottbus, UNESCO Chair World Heritage, Germany. The program-committee will be composed of three members, including two members from the university and local institutions and one member from the international partner universities. It will be an interschool program of KU. A program coordinator will be appointed to run the program in coordination with concerned schools/ departments and partner institutions and organizations. Specific courses will be offered by School of Science, School of Engineering and School of Arts of the Kathmandu University.

Cooperation and collaboration of Government of Nepal, University Grant Commission (UGC), Nepal and other relevant organizations as HimalAsia Institute, within the country will be sought to run the program. Similarly, international organizations as UNESCO, DAAD, Erasmus Mundus program of EU and other similar institutions will be requested to contribute to the program. Collaboration with other international reputed and interested universities is envisaged as well for the program. Expert individuals will be also involved. Individual MOU documents will be signed with each partnering university/institutions as per mutual interest. Interested academic institutions are also invited for joint research supervision of the students.

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, 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 degree.

The university will invite applications in February or July/August of each academic year.

Successful completion of the degree will require candidates to accomplish all the necessary requirements of the specific academic work load as prescribed by Kathmandu University for the specific program.

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.

HUMAN RESOURCES

In addition to the KU faculties, the University will invite expatriates, guest lecturers and supervisors from the government and non-government organizations and partner universities in Nepal and overseas to convene and supervise specific courses and projects/research.

Masters in Landscape Management and Heritage Studies

Course Curriculum

First Year – Semester I

	Course Title	Credits
LaMHS 511	Philosophy and theories of conservation	3
LaMHS 512	Urban Environment and Infrastructural Planning	3
LaMHS 513	Cultural Treasures of Nepal	3
LaMHS 514	Archaeology I	3
LaMHS 515	Landscape Design and Management	3
	Total Credits	15

First Year – Semester II

	Course Title	Credits
LaMHS 516	Environmental and Heritage Conservation Plan Policies and Regulation	3
LaMHS 517	Archaeology II	3
LaMHS 518	Principles of Management Science	3
LaMHS 519	Historical and Cultural Resource Management	3
LaMHS 520	Environmental, Social and Cultural Impact Assessment	2
LaMHS 521	Conservation Planning Workshop	1
	Total Credits	15

Second Year – Semester I

	Course Title	Credits
LaMHS 611	Conservation Methods and Techniques	3
LaMHS 612	Research Methodology (Including Quantitative Technique with Thesis Proposal)	3
LaMHS 613	Disaster Management and Urban Development	3

LaMHS 614	Construction Planning and Graphic Design	3
LaMHS 6*	Electives *	3
	Total Credits	15

Electives

LaMHS 616 Human Dimensions of Development and Sustainability

LaMHS 617 Archaeology II

LaMHS 618 Neighborhood Planning and Design

Second Year – Semester II

	Course Title	Credits
LaMHS 619	Thesis	6
LaMHS 620	Water Resource Management In Cultural Perspectives	3
LaMHS 621	Construction Materials and Technology / Sustainable Construction and Earthquake Technology	3
LaMHS 62*	Electives *	3
	Total Credits	15

Electives

LaMHS 622 Economics and Heritage Conservation

LaMHS 623 Real Estate Development

LaMHS 624 Local Resource and Crafts Industry

Brief description of the selected core courses

Semester I

1. LaMHS 511: Philosophy and Theories of Conservation

Historical theories, philosophies, and practices of building conservation, preservation, and restoration both in Nepal and world, historical and contemporary attitudes towards 'history' and their influences on conservation, planning and restoration today, development of personal conservation ethic through discussion of conservation theory and philosophies.

2. LaMHS 512: Urban Environments and Infrastructural Planning

History of early building forms and human settlement, changing forms and pattern of settlements and their linkages to socio-cultural, economic, ecological, technical and political dimensions, design and development of the built environment at different scales, planning and design issues, design components in the built environment- landscape, road traffic, architecture, interior design etc.

3. LaMHS 513: Cultural treasures of Nepal

History and Culture, Ethnic Groups and Concentration, Religions, Customs and Religious Symbols, Holy Sites and Pilgrimage Destinations, History, Myths and Legends, Festivals and Celebrations, UNESCO Heritage Sites, Art, Architecture, Sculpture and Painting, Other Specialties .

4. LaMHS 514: Archaeology I

History of archaeology, Purpose, theory and principles, Archeological sites, archives, geophysical surveys, Methods and excavation

5. LaMHS 515: Landscape Design and Management

Ecological and cultural landscape characteristics, consideration for landscape management and existing issues, Concept, theories and methods of landscape design and management.

Semester 2

1. LaMHS 516: Environmental and Heritage Conservation Plan, Policies and Regulations

Definition or description of the physical form of the heritage resources with their locations and dimensions; Ownership, custodial, and responsible agencies; The conditions of the sites, structures, and materials of the resources; The geo-climatic environment of the resources; The macro-, meso- and micro- environments of the resources itself; The social, cultural, political, and economic factors, which influence the resources or are relevant to their preservation in both the long and short term; The physical, technical, legal, and managerial means of securing the immediate and future conservation of the resources.

2. LaMHS 517: Archaeology II

3. LaMHS 518: Principle of Management Science

4. LaMHS 519: Historical and Cultural Resources Management

Historical developments about management of cultural resources including the role of organized and unorganized institutions such as governments, non-governments and private enterprises at national and international level.

5. LaMHS 520: Environmental, Social and Cultural Impact Assessment

Definition, Scope and Principles of Environmental Impact Assessment, project-specific assessment of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environmental and Social Analysis (ESA), and Socio-Cultural Analysis (SCA) or Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA). . Types and Methods of Impact Assessment, Legal and Policy level instrument in Planning history and process, EIA Process and Practice in Nepal. Socio-cultural analysis, Impact on social and cultural resources and management.

6. LaMHS 521: Conservation planning workshop

A selected neighborhoods or region is studied, researched, and analyzed. The tools of conservation planning are practiced in the field, including the analysis and history of individual buildings, the study of various building types and their place in the community, the impact of development on the historic fabric. Students conduct surveys of historic resources, prepare a comprehensive report, and findings before the community.

Semester 3

1. LaMHS 611: Conservation Methods and Techniques

Practical and philosophical concept of conservation of natural and man-made resources, national/international significance of conservation, approaches to conservation such as planning, designing and implementation of strategies, plans, and policies and role of various agencies to conservation.

2. LaMHS 612 : Research Methodology (Including Quantitative Technique with Thesis Proposal)

3. LaMHS 613: Disaster management and urban development

Definition of disaster; Disaster management; floods; natural disasters; photography; reconstruction; recovery; Urban Development, vulnerable to the impacts of natural disasters.

4. LaMHS 614: Construction Planning and Graphics designing

Concepts of planning and graphic design, building design, interior architecture and detailing, site design and construction planning services; with graphic and related design

5. LaMHS 615: Field study: Study of significant infrastructures and heritage sites e.g monuments, natural landscapes, buildings and report writing (2 credits)

Study of significant individual building (or building complex) or urban/rural landscape either from conservation perspective of urban/rural design framework depending on the selection of site, field visit, measured drawing, data collection, analysis and findings on numerous issues or problems including short term and long term solutions of policy level and physical design scale, documentation of the whole study and presentation in the community and concerned organization.

Electives

LaMHS 616: Human Dimensions of Development and Sustainability

Critical analysis of issues related to the concept of development and environmental resources by considering the relationship between environmental quality and various development theories, practices and patterns around the world leading to Sustainability

LaMHS 617: Archaeology II

LaMHS 618: Neighborhood Planning and Design

Introduction of Planning & Design, Neighborhood Planning and Architectural Design ecological concept with urban planning implications, concepts used to implement traditional neighborhood planning or conservation neighborhood design

Semester 4

1. Thesis writing and Presentation (6 credits)

All the students should finalized the thesis topic and present their proposal with aims and objectives and study methodology at the end of this semester. A thesis coordinator along with other thesis supervisors will decide the finalization of thesis topic.

The final thesis project comprises of research work to be carried on the topic chosen in semester III, accompanied by series of presentation and report submission according to the university guidelines. Each student will be supervised and guided by senior faculty member. The executive summary of all the research works will be published in a book format. Students will also be encouraged to publish their research findings in local and international journals.

2. LaMHS 620: Water Resources Management in cultural perspectives

Technical, historical, cultural background of water resources, Historical Perspectives of water, political and socio-cultural functions, cultural perspectives on water, Indigenous cultural values and water resource management

3. LaMHS 621: Construction Materials and Technology / Sustainable Construction and Earthquake Technology

Study of the materials and techniques used in building construction (in Nepal), history and development of materials, their physical properties, and characteristics, building construction methods including brick, wood, stone, adobe, concrete, and steel construction, skills, knowledge, technique for documenting and evaluating historic buildings.

Electives

LaMHS 622: Economics and Heritage Conservation

Issues and Ideas on Valuing Heritage, economics and the conservation of cultural heritage, measurable of the economic impacts of heritage conservation, heritage conservation and sustainable development

LaMHS 623: Real Estate Development

LaMHS 624: Local Resource and Crafts Industry

Meaning, values and role of culture in community development and resources conservation; discussions about the opportunities, challenges and threats associated with commercial application (such as industrialization and tourism) of local resources, customs and traditions.