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## Graduate Preparation Program Overview

Gray Nance | Fall 2021

# LLAIIIIAADD

Los Angeles Institute of Architecture & Design

A small private school intended to provide an alternative way for students to begin their education in architecture or interior design. Our mission is to provide an unsurpassed and affordable education for a group of talented and motivated students who will be prepared to excel at the schools they enroll in.



Online



213 251 4500



Schedule an  
Online Meeting



[inquiries@laiad.com](mailto:inquiries@laiad.com)



[laiad.com](http://laiad.com)

# Introduction

**Los Angeles Institute of Architecture and Design (LAIAD)**'s objectives focus on the most difficult aspects of the architectural practice, specifically the development of form language through conceptual thinking, design process, and visual communication.

## Online Instruction (2024)

Beginning Spring Semester 2024, The Graduate Preparation Program will be taught all online.

The online classes will be taught on **GoToMeeting** which is an online meeting platform similar to Zoom, together with **Conceptboard**, which is a Visual Collaboration tool.

## Admission

The Grad Prep Program is open to all students who have a bachelor's degree in **any field**, and who wish to get a Master of Architecture degree.

### **There are no portfolio or other entry requirements.**

We assume you are starting your design education from zero. Of course, if you do have some design experience, that may help you. **All students with a bachelor's degree will be accepted.**

[LAIAD Application Form >>>](#)

Since the courses are all online, this makes it very easy for International Students to participate in our programs. Classes will be held from 6:00 pm (18:00) to 10:00 pm (22:00).

Prospective students are encouraged to contact the school to discuss how LAIAD fits with your overall educational and career goals. To make an appointment, see 'Contact'.

## Graduate Preparation Program

The "Grad Prep" Program is intended for students with bachelor's degrees in other fields who wish to apply to a Master of Architecture program. LAIAD Courses focus on the development of conceptual design skills and the assembly of a professional quality portfolio. The goal of this series of courses is not only to facilitate admission to leading Master of Architecture programs, but also to enable the student to take a leading position within these programs. The classes we offer are appropriate for students with no design experience as well as students with a design background.

If students take all the recommended courses, The Grad Prep Program is 1 year (2.5 semesters) of architectural communication and design training. This is intended to provide students a solid body of work to build a portfolio, transfer, and excel in a Master of Architecture program.

LAIAD offers an optional portfolio studio in the Fall (intended to align with graduate applications) for students with limited 2D design background or experience.

## Contact

**(213) 251-4500**  
[inquiries@laiad.com](mailto:inquiries@laiad.com)

[Schedule an Online Meeting >>>](#)

## Completion / Objectives / Credits

The LAIAD Grad Prep Program is a professional development program and is not taken for transferable credits. Master of Architecture (MArch) programs do not normally accept credits taken elsewhere.

Upon completion of the Grad Prep Program students will have:

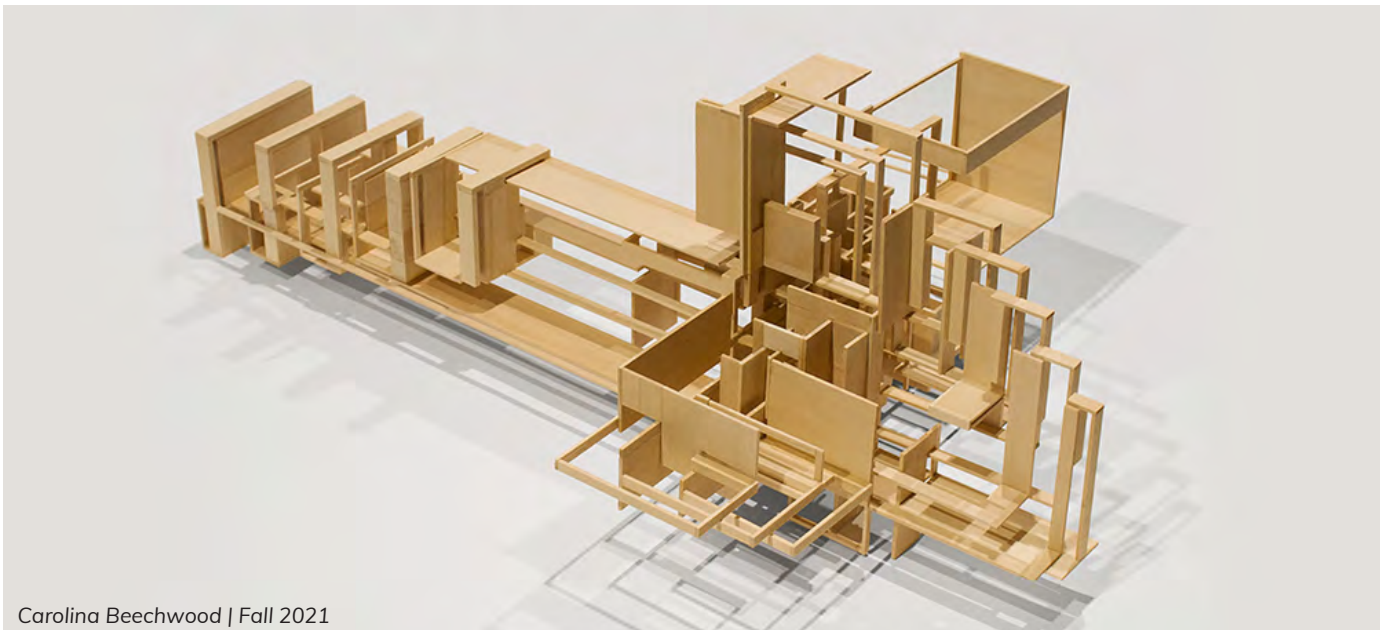
1. A professional quality portfolio, created specifically for successful applications to MArch program admissions.
2. A significantly increased chance of getting into their preferred MArch programs.
3. Potential scholarship offers (see 'Outcomes' on the right)
4. Proficiency in the following software: Rhino, 3D Adobe Creative Suite, Sketchup.
6. The ability to enter their selected MArch program with an understanding of design process workflow, and presentation techniques.

## Outcomes

For students with an undergraduate degree and a desire to pursue a master degree in architecture, LAIAD's Graduate Preparation Program offers a low-cost and low-commitment way to start your design career. Of the previous 25 students that completed LAIAD's Grad Prep program, 100% got accepted into MArch programs with a total of \$1.2 million in scholarship offers. Students applying to March 1 Programs got these results:

- Accepted to an average of 4 Graduate Programs
- 58% of acceptance letters came with scholarship offers
- An average of \$96,000 in scholarship offers per student

Details of LAIAD's Graduate Preparation student application results including accepting schools and offers can be found [HERE](#). We will be updating this list soon, but results have remained consistent.



# Curriculum

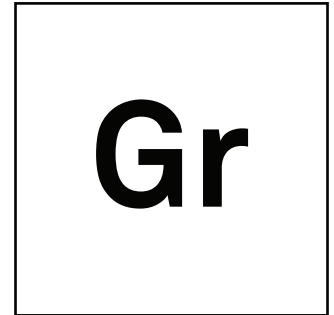
## Time Commitment

### Class times:

8 hours per week

### Project work outside of class:

Successful students estimate 24-36 hours per week



## Course Descriptions

### DES.1 Order and Form

An introduction to the processes of conceptual design through studio projects addressing the relationship between idea, order, structure, and form. Design projects are assigned which involve the study of various ordering systems and the creation of 3D objects that manifest the principles and structures of those systems.

### COM.1 Sketchup 3D and Color

An introduction to computer based 3D modeling (Sketchup) and use of color in the analysis, design, and communication of a basic design problem.

### DES.2 Generating Form Language

Design projects are assigned that involve concepts such as hierarchy, transition and connection as they relate to simple spatial constructs. The development of a clear relationship between architectural form language and spatial idea is stressed.

### COM.2 Portfolio Prep - Adobe Creative Suite

An introduction to the Adobe Creative Suite (software) that includes applications for drawing, image design, and presentation. This course will provide the student with the tools to create a professional quality presentation of their projects and portfolio.

### DES.3 Architectural Form Language

The conditions, principles and issues that are considered in the decision making process of architectural design are studied in the context of studio projects. This course involves the integration of architectural issues like program, site and context into design solutions. The development of a personal architectural design process and form language is stressed.

### COM.3 Rhino 3D Software 1

An introduction to Rhino 3D, which is a professional level 3D parametric modeling software. Rhino will be used in conjunction with the concurrent design studio projects for design, presentation, and 3D printing.

### DES.4 Architectural Design

Architectural design projects are assigned that require students to consider increasingly complex architectural programs, site conditions and ordering ideas. Function and program begin to be understood as ordering ideas and form determinants.

### COM.4 Rhino 3D Software 2

This course continues the development of Rhino for architectural drawing and computer modeling as an integral part of the design workflow. Additional 3D computer modeling and rendering applications such as Grasshopper are introduced.

### COM.5 Portfolio Compilation

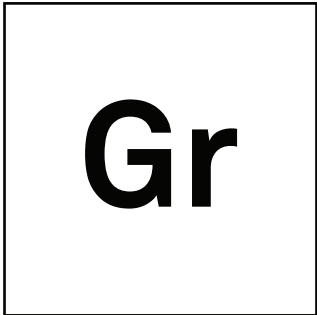
This course continues the development of architectural drawing and computer modeling and rendering as a means of communication. Students compile their earlier work with an emphasis on depicting their design process.

### COM.6 Portfolio Development

More advanced computer-based presentation software such as Adobe InDesign is presented. Students continue to explore graphic design techniques and develop their portfolios for publication.

# Course Schedules

**NOTE:** Students may enroll at the beginning of any semester. Since MArch applications are generally due in December or January, students starting in the Summer who wish to apply in December can only take the abbreviated program (1.5 semesters). Students starting in Spring or Fall can take the full program (2.5 semesters).



Students normally take 4 courses per Semester

## Spring Start

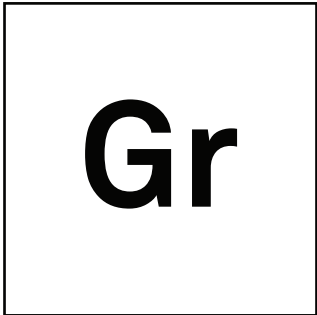
	Course	2024 Dates		Class Times
Spring Session 1	Order and Form	02/12—04/04	8 Weeks	M, Th 6-8 pm
	Sketchup 3D and Color	02/12—04/04	8 Weeks	M, Th 8-10 pm
Spring Session 2	Generating Form Language	04/08—05/30	8 Weeks	M, Th 6-8 pm
	Portfolio Prep - Adobe Suite	04/08—05/30	8 Weeks	M, Th 8-10 pm
Summer Session 1	Architectural Form Language	06/17—07/11	4 Weeks	M, T, W, Th 6-8 pm
	Rhino 3D Software 1	06/17—07/11	4 Weeks	M, T, W, Th 8-10 pm
Summer Session 2	Architectural Design	07/15—08/08	4 Weeks	M, T, W, Th 6-8 pm
	Rhino 3D Software 2	07/15—08/08	4 Weeks	M, T, W, Th 8-10 pm
Fall Session 1	Portfolio Compilation	08/26—10/17	8 Weeks	M, Th 6-8 pm
Fall Session 2	Portfolio Development	10/21—12/12	8 Weeks	M, Th 6-8 pm

## Summer Start

	Course	2024 Dates		Class Times
Summer Session 1	Order and Form	06/17—07/11	4 Weeks	M, T, W, Th 6-8 pm
	Rhino 3D Software 1	06/17—07/11	4 Weeks	M, T, W, Th 8-10 pm
Summer Session 2	Generating Form Language	07/15—08/08	4 Weeks	M, T, W, Th 6-8 pm
	Rhino 3D Software 2	07/15—08/08	4 Weeks	M, T, W, Th 8-10 pm
Fall Session 1	Architectural Form Language	08/26—10/17	8 Weeks	M, Th 6-8 pm
	Portfolio Compilation	08/26—10/17	8 Weeks	M, Th 8-10 pm
Fall Session 2	Portfolio Development	10/21—12/12	8 Weeks	M, Th 8-10 pm

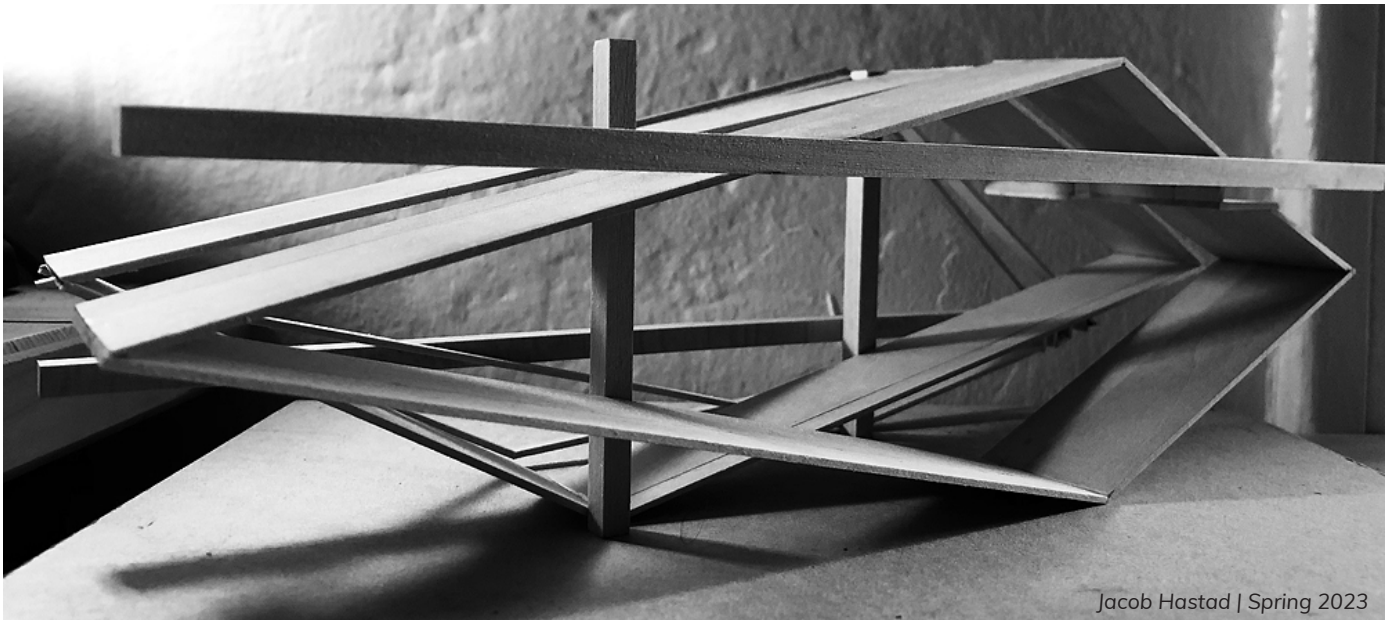


# Course Schedules



## Fall Start

	Course	2024—2025 Dates		Class Times	
Fall Session 1	Order and Form	08/26—10/17	8 Weeks	M, Th	6-8 pm
	Sketchup 3D and Color	08/26—10/17	8 Weeks	M, Th	8-10 pm
Fall Session 2	Generating Form Language	10/21—12/12	8 Weeks	M, Th	6-8 pm
	Portfolio Prep - Adobe Suite	10/21—12/12	8 Weeks	M, Th	8-10 pm
Spring Session 1	Architectural Form Language	02/10—04/03	8 Weeks	M, Th	6-8 pm
	Rhino 3D Software 1	02/10—04/03	8 Weeks	M, Th	8-10 pm
Spring Session 2	Architectural Design	04/08—05/29	8 Weeks	M, Th	6-8 pm
	Rhino 3D Software 2	04/08—05/29	8 Weeks	M, Th	8-10 pm
Summer Session	Off				
Fall Session 1	Portfolio Compilation	08/25—10/16	8 Weeks	M, Th	6-8 pm
Fall Session 2	Portfolio Development	10/20—12/11	8 Weeks	M, Th	6-8 pm



Jacob Hastad | Spring 2023

# Tuition

Students normally take 4 courses per semester

LAIAD tuition is per course. Tuition is due one week before the course begins.

There are 2 sessions per semester, so there will be 2 tuition payments of **\$1990** per semester.

	Course	Hours	Tuition	Payment Due
COM.1	Sketchup 3D and Color	32 Hours	\$995	Payable one week before classes begin. See Enrollment Agreement for Dates.
DES.1	Order and Form	32 Hours	\$995	Payable one week before classes begin. See Enrollment Agreement for Dates.
COM.2	Portfolio Prep - Adobe Suite	32 Hours	\$995	Payable one week before classes begin. See Enrollment Agreement for Dates.
DES.2	Generating Form Language	32 Hours	\$995	Payable one week before classes begin. See Enrollment Agreement for Dates.
COM.3	Rhino 3D Software 1	32 Hours	\$995	Payable one week before classes begin. See Enrollment Agreement for Dates.
DES.3	Architectural Form Language	32 Hours	\$995	Payable one week before classes begin. See Enrollment Agreement for Dates.
COM.4	Rhino 3D Software 2	32 Hours	\$995	Payable one week before classes begin. See Enrollment Agreement for Dates.
DES.4	Architectural Design	32 Hours	\$995	Payable one week before classes begin. See Enrollment Agreement for Dates.
COM.5	Portfolio Compilation	32 Hours	\$995	Payable one week before classes begin. See Enrollment Agreement for Dates.
COM.6	Portfolio Development	32 Hours	\$995	Payable one week before classes begin. See Enrollment Agreement for Dates.

## Financial Aid

LAIAD does not provide financial aid.

## Catalog

Information about Los Angeles Institute of Architecture and Design is published in a school catalog that contains a description of all policies, procedures, and other information about the school. The Los Angeles Institute of Architecture and Design reserves the right to change any provision of the catalog at any time. Notice of changes will be communicated in a revised catalog, an addendum or supplement to the catalog, or other written format. Students are expected to read and be familiar with the information contained in the school catalog, in any revisions, supplements and addenda to the catalog, and with all school policies. By enrolling in Los Angeles Institute of Architecture and Design, the Student agrees to abide by the terms stated in the catalog and all school policies.

[Download Catalog >>>](#)

## Cancellation / Withdrawal From The Program

Students have the right to cancel their enrollment and receive a full refund without any penalty or obligation until the end of the cancellation period - seven calendar days after class begins.

You may withdraw from the school at any time after the cancellation period (See below). For a full description of LAIAD's Tuition & Financial Policies, see our Catalog.

If the student withdraws from the program after the cancellation period and before completing more than 60% of the scheduled hours, the student will receive a pro rata refund. The refund amount will equal to the hourly charge for the program (total institutional charge, minus non-refundable fees, divided by the number of hours in the program), multiplied by the number of hours scheduled to attend, prior to withdrawal. If the student has completed more than 60% of the period of attendance for which the student was charged, the tuition is considered earned and the student will receive no refund.





## Faculty

### **William Taylor, FAIA** *Founding Director / Design Faculty*

William Taylor earned his Master of Architecture degree from Cranbrook Academy of Art and his Bachelor of Architecture from Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Before founding LAIAD in 2001, William has taught architectural design since 1983, with positions at Harvard University, the University of Houston, and at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, where he developed an innovative new program for basic architectural design. William is also a founding principal of StreetStudio.LA and is involved with a variety of local and international projects.

William has persistently explored the relationship between form and idea and his work at LAIAD is an outgrowth of a 30-year effort, in both teaching and practice, to develop and promote a design methodology based on idea and order rather than visual composition. In recognition of his work at LAIAD, William was recognized with the AIA Los Angeles Educator of the Year award in 2005. His design work has been featured in magazines such as L'Arca, Arkkitehti, and A+U and been included in international exhibitions including the Venice Biennale, the Milan Triennale, the Centre Pompidou, and the Museum of Finnish Architecture, where it is part of the permanent collection.

### **Carl Smith, AIA** *Co-Director / Design Faculty*

Carl Smith received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from Cal Poly Pomona in 1997. He was a founding member of Telemachus Studio in 1995 and began his professional career in a long-term collaboration with William Adams, FAIA. Throughout his design career, Carl has always maintained focus on the connection between design and construction. Today, Telemachus Studio is a multidisciplinary design firm with numerous built and ongoing projects throughout Southern California and beyond. Carl is a licensed architect and licensed general contractor.

Carl's teaching experience includes 4th and 5th year design studios at Cal Poly Pomona that dealt with the integration of digitally-based entertainment and virtual-reality technologies into an urban environment. He began teaching at LAIAD in 2003, became

co-director in 2006, and has since been responsible for guiding LAIAD's evolving curriculum. Carl oversees LAIAD's academic programs and teaches advanced design studio.

### **Alan Guillen** *Design Faculty*

Alan Guillen earned his Bachelor of Architecture degree from SCIArc in 2008 and has been a part of the LAIAD faculty since 2009. Alan is a licensed Architect working at R&A Architecture and Design located in Culver City. At LAIAD, Alan has instructed courses on various computer applications as they relate to design, practice, and focusing on implementation of the architectural design language through various mediums of representation.

### **Jacob Zindroski** *Design Faculty*

Jacob Zindroski received a Master of Science in integrative technologies and architectural design research from the University of Stuttgart and a Bachelor of Architecture from SCIArc. He is an experienced professional with an emphasis in additive research with a demonstrated history in robotics, 3D printing, 3D modeling, and design engineering. At LAIAD, Jacob teaches 3D modeling and computational methods as they relate to design.

### **S. Minah Yeo** *Design Faculty*

Joining LAIAD in 2023, S. Minah Yeo has been practicing commercial interior design for over 20 years. She received her Bachelor of Science in Interior Design from Woodbury University in 1998 and Master of Science in Integrated Design, Business and Technology from University of Southern California (USC) in 2021. Minah is a professional member of IIDA and a Certified Interior Designer, Commercial (CID) in the state of California, and currently working as an architectural lighting designer.

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