Applications are invited for admission in September 2022 to read for the degree of Postgraduate Diploma in Landscape Architecture.

To be eligible for admission to the programme, a candidate shall satisfy both the University Admissions Requirements and the Programme Specific Requirements as listed below:

(a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
(b) shall hold a Bachelor’s degree with honours of this University or a qualification of equivalent standard from this University or another comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
(c) for a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to high degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b).

An application for exemption from the above requirements shall be considered on a case by case basis.

The Division will admit up to 15 local and international students to the Postgraduate Diploma in Landscape Architecture (PDLA) program each year. We welcome applications from students from a broad range of academic and cultural backgrounds. The PDLA provides a foundational education in the discipline of landscape architecture focusing especially on the creative and intellectual aspects of the field. The diploma program is designed to prepare students without design backgrounds for continuing studies at a master’s level. Those students enrolled in the PDLA who wish to continue in the Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) program at the University of Hong Kong will be granted a fast-tracked application process.

PDLA students engage in a broad range of core landscape architecture studies covering the history of the discipline, landscape materials and their technologies, representational methods, and studio design. Topical issues addressed during the program currently include issues such as urbanism, human settlement, community and heritage, public space, green infrastructure, impacts of climate change, environmental remediation, conservation, and sustainable development.

Students are exposed to diverse approaches to a broad range of environmental, contextual and problem-solving challenges. Students will build individual skills as develop their abilities to work productively in groups. As with any studio-based learning, this program features a high
degree of one-on-one instruction but also expects students to develop self-initiating and reflective work methods.

The PDLA program extends over one year (three semesters) of full-time study. There is no part-time mode. The curriculum and syllabuses can be found at the Faculty of Architecture website (http://www.arch.hku.hk/).

All students who are accepted into the PDLA program are required to participate in the PDLA Landscape Architecture Intensive Course. This is a three-week intensive course (starting in the second week of August) introduces candidates to the culture of the landscape discipline. Through frequent field-trips within Hong Kong and through in-studio workshops, candidates will approach landscape through a series of critical and reflexive exercises dealing with perception, representation, typology, and time. Students need to ensure that they can attend and participate in the whole course.

The composition fee for the 2022-2023 academic year is HK$165,000* (excluding expenses for materials, books, and printing). (*Subject to approval). The Application fee is non-refundable and non-transferrable.

After submitting an online application via the University’s online application system (https://admissions.hku.hk/tpg/programme-list-2223), applicants will receive an email from the Faculty and be requested to submit supporting documents in soft copies via the Faculty’s PDLA Application Documents Submission System (https://extranet.ad.arch.hku.hk/Admission/PDLA) by 12:00 noon (HKT), March 1, 2022. Applicants will only be requested to submit hard copies of supporting documents when they receive admission offers from the Faculty.

Admission is both rigorous and competitive. Candidates should show that they:

- Have an appreciation for the natural and built environment and its communities;
- Are critical and articulate thinkers; and
- are motivated, collaborative and willing to learn.

The PDLA Admissions Panel selects candidates for interview based on their academic background, working experience, letters of recommendation, personal essay, and portfolio of creative works. Admission is offered on the basis of both interview performance and original submissions.