Required Materials, Equipment and Reading List
For
LANDSCAPE AND GARDEN DESIGN COURSES
DRAWING EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

The following is a list of materials and equipment which is necessary to help you complete your course. Those items marked with an ‘E’ are essential. The essential equipment will be needed during the design studio sessions in the first semester.

Do not buy too much before the beginning of the course. It is better to start with a small balanced selection of equipment which can be added to with knowledge and experience. Bring any mixed media you already have, your tutors will give you advice on these materials.

Students will be providing the paper and materials for their project work, which is available to buy in the Library or local shops.

Technical Drawing Equipment

Those items marked with an ‘E’ are essential for the design studio sessions in the first semester.

- Disposable Pen, Black 0.3mm
- Disposable Pen, Black 0.5mm
- Disposable Pen, Black 0.7mm
- Disposable Pen, Black 1mm
- E Drafting pencils 4H, 2H, HB, 2B, 4B
- E Compass set (large), comprising compass and extension bar
- E Scale Rule 300mm (Scales 1:10, 1:50, 1:100, 1:250, 1:500, 1:1250, 1:2500)
- E Steel Rule 30cm
- E Linex Circle Template
- E Set Square bevelled edge 45 deg. 320 mm
- E Set Square bevelled edge 30 deg. 320 mm
- Flexible curve 375 mm
- E Low tack drafting tape
- E A pocket sketch book/design diary that may be taken everywhere to record quick sketches and features that will be developed through the course.
- E Layout pad A3 50gsm 160pp
- E Cutting mat A3
- Circular cutters 1-15cm diameter
- E Scalpel and Blades
- E Metal rule (for cutting against)
- E Human figures to scale (1:200, 1:100, 1:50)
- E An India rubber
- An A1 portfolio for presenting and storing your drawings. These portfolios are available in PVC, Corrugated plastic and cardboard in a variety of sizes, dependent on your budget
- Adjustable plastic tubes for transporting your drawings
- A drawing board for home use
- E A padlock for the locker provided by the college to store your equipment.

Specialist Equipment

Camera
Initially a basic digital model will be sufficient but at a later stage you may consider a model/type that will allow greater range of options and control (such as a digital SRL camera).

Clothing
Safety boots
Full waterproof clothing
Gloves for landscape maintenance
Computers

The Design Studios are equipped with computers for students to freely access and it is therefore not essential that a computer is purchased. However, students may find it more convenient and efficient to have their own machine. Personal preference will determine whether you choose a PC or Mac, however the College is PC based and support for Mac is very limited. Ensure that the computer is sufficiently powerful to operate a range of graphic software simultaneously and to produce quality graphic/artwork.

Personal Computer Specification
When purchasing a PC / laptop choosing the highest specification possible is best. A number of Software packages are used on the design courses and those software suppliers will be able to provide the latest specifications for their software products on their websites. We would recommend avoiding the minimum guidelines due to the continuing improvements and updates being made to the software that you will need to run and you will want your PC to last the duration of your course.

IMPORTANT
Please be advised that prior to purchasing a computer you check it is compatible with the following software:

Autodesk AutoCAD 2016 – onward
System requirements for AutoCAD 2016

Computer Software Tutorials
During the first year of study you will be introduced to and be expected to become familiar with a number of software packages and their applications. All these packages are available on the college’s computer network but it may be in your interest (but not essential) to acquire copies of their latest versions for personal computers. Avoid purchasing software until you start your course as many packages are available free or with discounts to students. College staff will be able to assist you on the best way of doing this. We recommend that you use online tutorials rather than books as introductions to the software. By searching the www you will be able to find tutorials for all of the software mentioned below.

General Software used throughout the course includes

- Microsoft Windows 64-bit Professional operating system
- Latest version of Microsoft® Internet Explorer®, Apple® Safari®, or Mozilla® Firefox® web browser

Adobe Creative cloud® www.adobe.com
1. Photoshop – image manipulation
2. Illustrator – image and text composition
3. In Design – page layout and publishing
4. Adobe Reader, Adobe Acrobat Pro – desk top publishing

- Autodesk® www.autodesk.com
  1. AutoCAD 2016 onward – For producing plans and 3D visualisation
  2. Revit – Advanced 3D modelling
  3. 3D Map – Manipulating digital download map data


- Microsoft Office, www.microsoftstore.com
  1. Word - Used for report writing and presentations
  2. Powerpoint – Used for presentation and publication
  3. Excel – Used for calculating survey data and costing
Reading List

The following is a selective list of standard texts/books from year which will be used from the first year of your course. Copies will be available for loan from the college library but students may wish to select two or three to purchase. We suggest you try to purchase used copies.

Drawing and Representation


Ecology


Plant sciences


Introduction to Landscape Architecture and Garden Design


Landscape & Garden Design history


Learning strategy


