



THE GARDEN DESIGN DIPLOMA

PROSPECTUS

LC
GD LONDON
COLLEGE
OF GARDEN
DESIGN



Our one-year Garden Design Diploma programme is dedicated to providing world-class training in garden design. Our students are passionate about getting the very best from leading garden design experts every day and many go on to work with some of the UK's leading garden designers and run their own successful garden design businesses.

Classes are delivered from the Orangery Conference Room facilities at the world-famous Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and we have many students enrol from across Europe not just the UK.

WHAT MAKES OUR GARDEN DESIGN DIPLOMA SO DIFFERENT?

We offer a fresh, new approach to training that will lead you into a professional career in garden design. As well as the lectures, tutorials, studio sessions and visits you would expect you will also:

- Learn from expert tutors, all of who are practising garden designers, landscapers and horticulturists.
- Meet some of the world's leading garden designers and specialists, learn about their work and benefit from expert tutorials.
- Visit and take part in live design and build projects so that you see the reality of a new garden project from start to finish.
- Access to the libraries and the gardens at Kew Gardens on class days.
- Free membership to the Society of Garden Designers, the UK's professional body for garden design.
- Free membership to the Royal Horticultural Society and friends membership of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew.
- Free access to our 'info burst' seminars used by working designers to update their professional skills in design, construction and business. You'll be able to network with professionals and learn additional specialist skills.
- Special visits and introductory services from some of the UK's leading plant and materials suppliers.
- Free Vectorworks Landmark software, the leading garden design software and free student access to SketchUp Pro.
- Your own website page to promote your work both during the course and when you graduate.
- Educational discounts whilst registered for the course.

And once you have graduated you will be able to take advantage of our series of short courses to keep your skills up to date.



Design & image: John Davies, 2011 Graduate, SGD 2014 Future Designer & APL Supreme Award Winner 2014

THE DIRECTORS

Our lead tutors and directors of the London College of Garden Design are widely recognised as being the best in their field.

Andrew Wilson



Andrew Wilson, Director of Garden Design Studies is an award winning garden designer and has been at the forefront of garden design teaching in the UK for the past 30 years. He teaches exclusively at the London College of Garden Design and leads the teaching on the Garden Design Diploma. His books include the recent best selling RHS Small Garden Handbook.

Mark Gregory



Mark Gregory has been at the forefront of professional landscape contracting for almost 30 years, winning numerous awards for his work including 5 supreme awards from BALI and APL. He is the former Chairman of the Association of Professional Landscapers in the UK and an RHS judge. He has an unrivalled technical expertise and knowledge of construction and design that students will benefit from.

Andrew Fisher Tomlin



Andrew Fisher Tomlin designs gardens worldwide and has been recognised for his work in a number of countries. He is a Chartered Horticulturist and a Fellow of the Society of Garden Designers. Andrew leads the teaching on the Planting Design Certificate.

He is the International Ambassador for the Australian Garden Show Sydney, Design Curator of the Istanbul International Garden & Flower Show, an RHS judge and an Ambassador for Streetscape.

OTHER TUTORS

You will also meet other tutors on the course including Peter Thurman, RHS Chelsea medal winners Jo Thompson, Philip Nixon, Olivia Kirk and Adam Frost and specialists such as James Hitchmough from the University of Sheffield, Paul Hensey, Fiona Silk and Tamsin Slatter, our CAD specialists.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON THE COURSE

The next few pages will tell you all about what to expect on the Garden Design Diploma. We are very happy for you to speak with Andrew Wilson, who is our Director of Garden Design Studies and lead tutor on the Diploma.

If you would like to arrange an informal one-to-one meeting with Andrew or visit our facilities at Kew Gardens then please contact us on 01483 762955 or email us at info@lcgd.org.uk

Our programme

The Garden Design Diploma programme runs for two days per week for 34 weeks over an academic year of three terms.

The first study day of each week will generally take the form of lectures and workshops. Students will then spend the second day for the development of skills, design project work and tutorial or small group seminars.

To enable greater access to tutors and the ability to work with student colleagues and tutors the class is split into two and the second day will be on either a Tuesday or Wednesday. Studio teaching operates on the basis of one tutor to every 10 students providing a supportive learning environment and the ability to deal with individual needs.

The intensive nature of the course means that you will also be expected to undertake work from home that will involve independent research, design development and reading.



Design: Catherine MacDonald, Hampton Court Palace Flower Show



The Diploma Course is taught from the Orangery Conference Facility in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

CORE DESIGN AND PLANT SKILLS

Design communication skills will be taught through the development of both manual and computer based skills. These skills include drawing and visual communication techniques, design principles, plant selection and designing with plants as well as detailed construction skills. You will meet some of the UK's leading garden designers and specialists, learn about their work and benefit from expert tutorials.

BUILDING YOUR SKILLS

As the year progresses you will develop core skills that will support you in working with landscape contractors and suppliers, launching a successful garden design career. You will refine planting and construction design awareness as well as designing solutions for real projects.

With the London College of Garden Design you'll get access to live design and build projects so that you see the reality of a new garden project from start to finish. Many of our students have also benefitted from work experience and assisting well-known garden designers.

With our unique resource of leading experts who work exclusively for the College our aim is that you benefit from a master class every day.

FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES

To boost your knowledge further you get free access to our successful evening 'info burst' series. These seminars are attended by working garden designers, landscape architects and landscapers to update their professional skills in design, construction, horticulture and business so you'll get to meet, learn and network with other professionals.

We also run a number of optional days in addition to the core two classroom-based days that include visits to nurseries, suppliers such as stone companies and sometimes construction projects. Many of our students take advantage of the opportunity to help with the planting of RHS Chelsea Flower Show gardens. Our unique relationship with the RHS and the show mean that we can make links between students and some of the world's best designers and provide expertise and inspiration at this world-class event.

Once you have graduated you are eligible for a 10% discount on any of our courses (except those at RHS Garden Wisley) including our Planting Design Certificate.



Course content in detail

TERM ONE

Term One will start with the delivery of foundation skills: drawing and visual communication techniques, design principles, the plant kingdom and hard materials before moving onto more detailed design with plants, and construction. Surveying will be taught as an introduction to the subject, working initially with two dimensions.

The programme works towards a design project aimed at producing an outline design solution to a given site and client brief. You will be introduced to CAD using Sketch Up in this term allowing you to explore this tool in the delivery of design concepts and initial ideas. We will also investigate the process of design and its development towards a successful solution.



Design: Dan Bowyer

TERM TWO

Term Two moves into the detail of design with projects and sites specifically selected to develop and refine planting and construction design awareness. The first part of the term is dedicated to planting design with design solutions detailed to produce planting plans and schedules.

The second half of the term is dedicated to construction design with the production of construction details in support of an overall design solution. Specifications in support of your design work will be introduced. Vectorworks will be taught in support of the move into greater design detail and surveying using levels will also be included.

TERM THREE

Term Three starts with a costing exercise based on one of your completed design projects, allowing a better understanding of actual costs, labour, skill requirements and budgetary planning to be developed.

You will also be required to locate a site for your large-scale design exercise that will form the main focus of design development over this term. The timetable also allows for more specialist garden design elements to be taught such as woodland and shelter planting, habitats, water, management and planning.

This term includes business and professional practice teaching in preparation for graduation looking at contracts, site management, fees and running your own business.

The year will end with a presentation of your work including your online design portfolio and final design project.

TUTORS AND LECTURERS

The Garden Design Diploma is led by Andrew Wilson and also takes advantage of the skills of the College's other Directors who teach regularly on the programme together with invited specialist lecturers and leading garden designers, landscapers and horticulturists such as Peter Thurman, Phillip Nixon, Jo Thompson and Adam Frost.

More details of our tutors can be found on our website www.lcgd.org.uk

Teaching is in both lecture and studio format and as the course progresses, specialist or specific interest lectures will support the main programme expanding the curriculum and introducing guest speakers.

If you would like to have an informal meeting with Andrew Wilson where you can find out more about the course contact us on info@lcgd.org.uk or call our office on 01483 762955. For more information go to our website www.lcgd.org.uk



One on one studio training means plenty of tutor support



Design: Fisher Tomlin & Bowyer

2016–2017 COURSE DATES

Term dates for the academic year 2016/2017 are as follows.

Autumn Term

19 September – 14 December 2016
Reading Week: 24, 25 & 26 October 2016

Spring Term

9 January – 5 April 2017
Reading Week: 13, 14 & 15 February 2017

Summer Term

24 April – 5 July 2017
Reading Week: 29, 30 & 31 May 2017
Graduation day 12 July 2017

Teaching is delivered between 10.15am and 4.15pm.
We normally break for lunch between 12.45 and 1.30pm
and there will be informal coffee breaks in the morning
and afternoon sessions.

Lectures are normally delivered by one tutor whilst other
days are based on providing at least 1 tutor per 10 students
for studio sessions, critiques and presentations according
to the specialisms required at that point in the course.

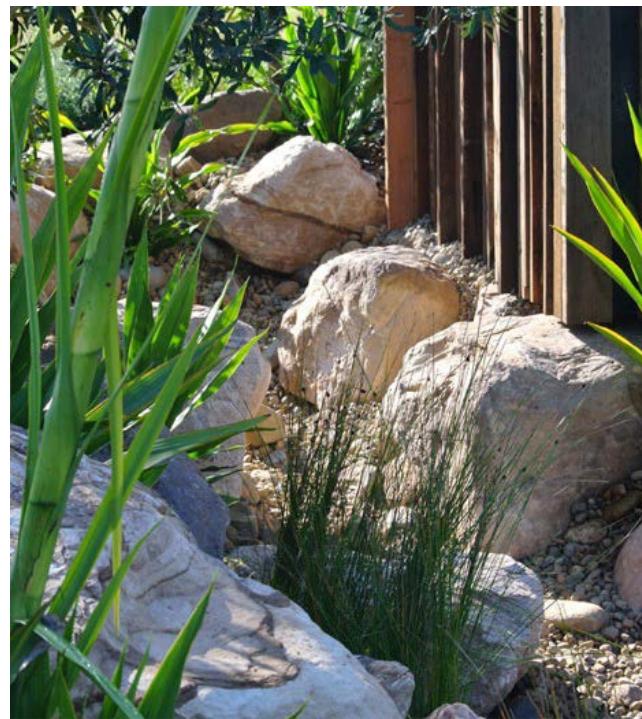
Please see the Kew Gardens website at www.kew.org
for details of garden opening times outside of normal
College hours.

COME AND MEET US

It's important that you make the right decision when deciding
on a course. We believe that you should get all the information
you need and all your questions answered by us before you
enroll. You are welcome to sit in on a class with our current
students and ask them how they are progressing and how
their study works for them. From experience we know that this
will help you decide which course is best for you.

You are very welcome to come and meet Andrew Wilson who
leads the Garden Design Diploma and also meet some of
the professional tutors who will guide you in your new garden
design career. We can also show you the great facilities that
will be available to you. You'll get to hear at first hand how we
deliver a master class every day and get a taste of some of
the current issues involved with garden design.

The Garden Diploma Course starts in September of each
academic year. If you are interested in enrolling and if you'd
like to meet with Andrew Wilson, the lead tutor on the Garden
Design Diploma, for an informal chat about the course then it
is important that you arrange this early in the year as places
can get booked up. If you are applying from overseas you will
need to be eligible to study in the UK.



Design: Fisher Tomlin & Bowyer, Australian Garden Show Sydney 2013

ENROLLING ON THE GARDEN DESIGN DIPLOMA

If you would like to enrol on the One Year Garden Design Diploma we ask you to complete the application form and attend a short informal interview where you will get to meet the course leader, Andrew Wilson and discuss any additional questions you may have.

The application form takes only a few minutes to complete and helps us ensure that you will get the best from the course. Alternatively, if you are coming to the college from overseas we can arrange a telephone or video interview.

FEES

The fee for admission onto the Garden Design Diploma course starting in September 2016 is £11,995.00 including VAT plus a non-refundable administration fee of £150.00 payable at the time of application. A deposit of £1,500.00 is payable within seven days of an offer of a place being made. The balance of the fee is payable eight weeks prior to the start of the course.

We also offer an on-going series of professional level short courses and tutorials for which you can enrol online at our website. Remember that the 'info burst' seminars are free to all Garden Design Diploma students.

Please contact us on 01483 762955 for more details.



CONTACT US

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