

DIPLOMA COURSE STRUCTURE

Our approach is carefully structured with each subject broken down into parts and each lecture building on the one before. Each module comprises both short and long term assignments, together with practical outdoor sessions where appropriate. We work with you to develop your critical awareness and analysis of design and to encourage the high standards of creativity, quality and attention to detail which make our graduates stand out.

GARDEN DESIGN ENCOMPASSES A NUMBER OF DIVERGENT SKILLS, WHICH WE COVER IN A COMPREHENSIVE SYLLABUS INCLUDING:-

DRAWING SKILLS

- The correct use of drawing equipment
- Drawing and drafting skills
- Printing options
- Different methods of colour application and rendering
- Plan presentation
- Elevations and Sections
- Freehand sketching/speed sketching
- Axonometric drawings
- Perspective drawings
- Construction drawings
- Use of photography
- Developing your own personal style

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- The principles and practice of design
- A history of garden design

HARD LANDSCAPING

- Practical surveying skills including levels
- Site assessment and analysis
- Hard landscaping materials
- Construction
- Setting out the site
- Water, irrigation, drainage
- Environmental issues

SOFT LANDSCAPING

- Botany basics
- Soil analysis
- Planting design
- Planting plans and schedules
- Plants and aspect
- Sourcing

THE PROFESSIONAL DESIGN OFFICE

- Administration and systems
- Client/designer/contractor relations
- Contract Management
- Specification writing
- Costing your projects
- Law and the garden designer
- How to get your business started
- Promoting yourself and your business