

STACKABLE Comprehensive course subjects

Prospectus



Irene School
of Garden Design

Educate with Passion

EMPOWER WITH KNOWLEDGE

You can have the career you always dreamt of and develop your love of design and gardening into the most rewarding experience. To be a landscape designer, being able to design gardens for others, work outside with living materials and orchestrate worlds for others to live in, is truly one of the most satisfying and fulfilling careers or interests there is. If this passion is what drives you, our Comprehensive Courses is will be your most valuable asset. At Irene School of Garden Design we do not want you to miss out on any opportunity to be who you were meant to be. If you have always yearned to design, work with nature and people, love drawing decorating or putting things together, and inspire to a career that allows freedom, creativity, more time and purpose, then you are in safe hands now. Irene School of Garden Design offers full-time courses for those who can study during the day and who are embarking on a career or investing in their hobby. Irene School of Garden Design also offer part-time courses specifically for those who want to pursue garden design as a new career, paying hobby or serious enthusiast, but need to do so after hours. It is the career you will never retire from and our comprehensive courses will help you get there.



The leading landscape designers in South Africa and International Universities and companies recommend us because we adopt a personal relationship with each student and present our courses in an enjoyable, friendly, and dynamic manner that suits everyone, regardless of your language preference, age or level of experience. We offer the only 1 year landscape design course that develops design skill through creative conceptual thinking. Irene School of Garden Design is independent, which allows us to be current, quality driven and personal, and are not bound by typical constraints of tertiary education such as points, credits or disruptions in learning. Irene School of Garden Design was also the first to include and develop spatial and architectural philosophy and theory into courses. Courses are presented to smaller groups of students; this ensures students get the attention they deserve. Course material is presented by the most unsurpassed industry individuals together with Lee Burger, holding BSc Larch (UP), BL Hons (UP) and ML Prof (UP) degrees in Landscape Architecture and active S.A.C.L.A.P. member. We are also one of only a few institutions to continue adopting a bilingual approach to education. We offer students ample opportunity to steer their careers with practical work as well as theoretical knowledge, continually assessing student progress to uphold the highest quality of education available, and ultimately want to offer value for life. Ample tests, exams and design assessments, moderated by professionals, assure that we only put our best in the market place, and also give you an indication of how you are doing and what is expected from a well-rounded prospective landscaper.

THEORY COURSES:

DESIGN COURSE

12 weeks R11379

SITE & DESIGN PROCESSES

4 weeks R3749

DRAWING & DRAFTING

5 weeks R4749

PLANTING & SOILS

5 weeks R4749

CONSTRUCTION PRIMER

5 weeks R4749

COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN

6 weeks R 5679

PRACTICAL COURSES

DESIGN FOR PRACTICE

(4 projects) R749 each

SHOW GARDEN BUILDING

R349 per person



For Pleasure or Purpose

STACKABLE COURSES MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER AND RICHER...

Our Comprehensive courses are sorted into six theoretical courses, and 2 practical courses. Students can address each core competency on its own as a course for leisure or purpose. Each course is offered with a credential of attendance, but students who opt to submit the various assignments relating to each subject can achieve a credential of achievement or excellence. All the courses can be stacked into a global comprehensive credential in garden design. This allows students the freedom to start courses throughout the year, study during the day, in the evenings or on weekends, and over a timeframe that suits their pace. Whether it's for pleasure or to become a designer of outdoor spaces, you now have courses that comfortably fits into your busy schedule, and can stack to become a credential.

HOW DOES STACKABLE COURSES WORK?

ATTEND A COURSE OF YOUR CHOICE. Upon completion you have attended a course at leisure and will receive a credential of attendance.



DESIGN COURSE



PROCESS COURSE



DRAWING AND DRAFTING COURSE



PLANTING AND SOILS COURSE



CONSTRUCTION PRIMER



CAD COURSES

ADD THE ASSIGNMENTS

If you want to stack your courses, do the assignments for each course and have your work reviewed.

BUILD SHOW GARDENS

After completion of any course except CAD you may build a show-gardens

ADD PRACTICAL COURSES

After completion of the Design, Process & Drawing courses you can start with projects

STACKED INTO THE COMPREHENSIVE GARDEN DESIGN CREDENTIAL

- Design course
- Process course
- Drawing and drafting course
- Planting and soils course
- Construction primer course
- CAD 1, 2 & 3

- 4X Design for practice projects
- 1X Show garden build

REGISTER TO THE GUILD OF LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS

Design Course

(12 WEEK COURSE)

This study category address a variety of interesting and essential topics or courses that will aid and develop designers from a variety of backgrounds. Design is a crucial part of life. Almost everything we experience or have contact with has some form of design relating to it. The courses in this category have been carefully compiled to teach students the fundamentals that cannot be self-taught. It includes content exclusive to Irene School of Garden Design. With the new stackable courses, students can enjoy a theme or topic for leisure as a course on its own or opt for stacking each theme into a global credential. The Design Course is offered with a credential of attendance for those who complete the course for leisure. Students may choose to submit the given assignments for assessment to obtain a credential of achievement/excellence or if they prefer, to stack the course into the global credential.

APPLICABLE TO:

Interior Design, Garden Design, Architecture, Spatial Planners, Homeowners & people interested in Design

DURATION:

12 lessons presented on mornings, evenings or 4-5 lessons at a time on selected Saturdays.

APPROXIMATE TIME OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Twice that of the classes

DIFFICULTY:

Intermediate to Advanced

REPETITION:

5 times annually

PRICE:

R 11379

CODE:

(DCC)

SEE REGISTRATION FORM AND CALENDAR FOR STARTING DATES

SPATIAL DESIGN:

Form space order and circulation

Architectural Spatial Design is essential to the design of any kind of space, even virtual spaces. The form space order and circulation principles are the tools that the designer needs in order to lay out or set out good, working spaces. Contrary to spatial decoration or design principles generally taught, it is particularly difficult to obtain this skill through only books and theory. This core component of design is the pivoting point in most designers' creative careers and gives designers an advantage in the understanding of architecture and space. Unique to Irene School of Garden Design, the course looks at the various philosophies and how to implement them.

SPATIAL HISTORY:

An understanding of history will inspire designers to explore styles as inspiration. It broadens the frame of reference designers have at their disposal and is an insightful way of learning about the milieu we live in today. The history courses draw interesting parallels between various categories of design.

HISTORY PART 1 & 2:

From Antiquity to the Renaissance

HISTORY PART 3 & 4:

The Renaissance, Baroque and English/Asian garden movement

HISTORY PART 5 & 6:

20th Century to present day

LIGHTING:

Outdoor lighting & construction

Outdoor Lighting is an exciting theme that explores the layering and design of artificial lighting schemes focussed on gardens, but which is also very much applicable to Interior Design. The course explores different luminaires and light sources as well as material on how to design with natural light. The course will introduce students to the construction requirements of installing lighting outdoors. Various lighting design schemes are critiqued using the principles taught. This course theme will not only optimise a lighting environment's mood, but also assist in conserving energy, improving quality and getting the most out of such an investment.

CONCEPT FORMULATION:

Formulating ideas and inspirations

Concept exploration is probably one of the most crucial parts in any design. Often completely misunderstood and described as the idea, the concept and its formulation is explored in depth with this study theme. This course is philosophical in nature and appeals to a variety of design related careers. Concept formulation is an essential phase of a complete design process, without which the quality of a design outcome is questionable. Insightful and applicable to a diverse myriad of careers this course theme cements the essence of a project, enriches the process, and appropriately adjudicates a design outcome.



Site & Design Process course!

(4 WEEK COURSE)

With any design project the methodology is what guides the designer to a high quality end result. Technique is everything. Doing the project preparation the right way and in the correct order, sets the tone for problem free design and installation processes. With the new stackable courses, students can enjoy a theme or topic for leisure as a course on its own or opt for stacking each theme into a global credential. The Process Course is offered with a credential of attendance for those who complete the course for leisure. Students may choose to submit the given assignments for assessment to obtain a credential of achievement/excellence or if they prefer, to stack the course into the global credential.

APPLICABLE TO:

Interior design, Garden Design, Architecture, Spatial Planners, Homeowners, Quantity surveying, Developers, Home builders and Estate agents

DURATION:

4 lessons presented on mornings, evenings or 4-5 lessons at a time on selected Saturdays.

APPROXIMATE TIME OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Twice that of the classes

DIFFICULTY:

Easy

REPETITION:

5 times annually

PRICE:

R 3749

CODE:

PRC

ANALYSING PROPERTIES AND HOMES:

Essential analytical skills for spatial understanding

Insight into what sets up a guideline for design of properties is crucial if mistakes are to be avoided. This study theme theoretically and practically looks at how to accurately analyse homes and gardens to set up a guideline according to which the rest of the project should test or run. This is a particularly helpful course component for new and prospective homeowners. Implementing the knowledge from this course theme could assist in better time management of projects, result in less waste, potentially save money and avoid unfitting and hasty decision making during the implementation and design phases of a project.

DESIGN PROCESS AND CLIENT INTERVIEW:

Determining the needs and process of a garden design

This course theme sets the tone for working systematically and categorises the various phases of a project into process. An in depth look at client interviews and project cycles aid students in working efficiently and purpose driven. After a solid foundation of the needs assessment and design processes, the installation chronology will assist students in planning the implementation of a design.

SITE MEASURING & DUMPY LEVEL:

Running-, off set-, and triangulated measuring and slope

This course module teaches students the 3 basic methods of site measuring. Measure twice, work once. It is necessary to measure with accuracy and efficiency to create the required base drawings to design on. The site measuring theme assists students in accurately measuring sites and height differences to convert information onto paper. The site measuring theme also introduces scale and documenting measurements from a site onto plan. Practical exercises teach students to determine height differences and slope by means of a dumpy/builders' level. Upon completion, students should be able to measure, convert measurements to plan, and set up a dumpy level easily and accurately.



Drawing & Drafting course!

(5 WEEK COURSE)

Designers communicate visually. Drawing drafting and presentation skills are extremely important in order to achieve success. These are also central to a variety of other professions, and would make a great accompaniment to most occupations. This course is also a creative enhancement for younger adults still in school or early tertiary studies. With the new stackable courses, students can enjoy a theme or topic for leisure as a course on its own or opt for stacking each theme into a global credential. The Drawing and Drafting Course is offered with a credential of attendance for those who complete the course for leisure. Students may choose to submit the given assignments for assessment to obtain a credential of achievement/excellence or if they prefer, to stack the course into the global credential. This category does require some stationary that students can obtain if they opt to stack their courses or continue practicing as a hobby.

APPLICABLE TO:

Interior design, Garden Design, Architecture, Spatial Planners, Artists, Homeowners and people interested in the representation arts

DURATION:

6 lessons presented on mornings, evenings or 4-5 lessons at a time on selected Saturdays.

APPROXIMATE TIME OF ASSIGNMENTS:

3 times that of the classes

DIFFICULTY:

Intermediate

REPETITION:

5 times annually

PRICE:

R 4749 (Excluding stationary)

CODE:

DDC

SEE REGISTRATION FORM AND CALENDAR FOR STARTING DATES

PLANS AND RENDERING:

Understanding and drawing of plans

This course explores the drawing methods, and layout of with reference to landscape or garden plans. A practical in-class example builds confidence and easy to use step by step notes and examples will build the base from which students can develop their skills.

DRAFTING:

Architectural drafting

This course offers an introduction to technical drawing skills and the use of drawing instruments. We introduce students to scale and the various line qualities and denotations. The course shows some of the basic skills in setting up, hints and tips for working fast and efficiently and hosts a small practical in-class examples.

ELEVATIONS AND RENDERING:

Drawing and rendering elevations

This course explores the exciting design and drawing skills associated with elevations. The course starts with easy examples of the principles in elevation drawing, then progresses to more elaborate rendering and shading examples and insightful in-class exercises.

3D DRAWING:

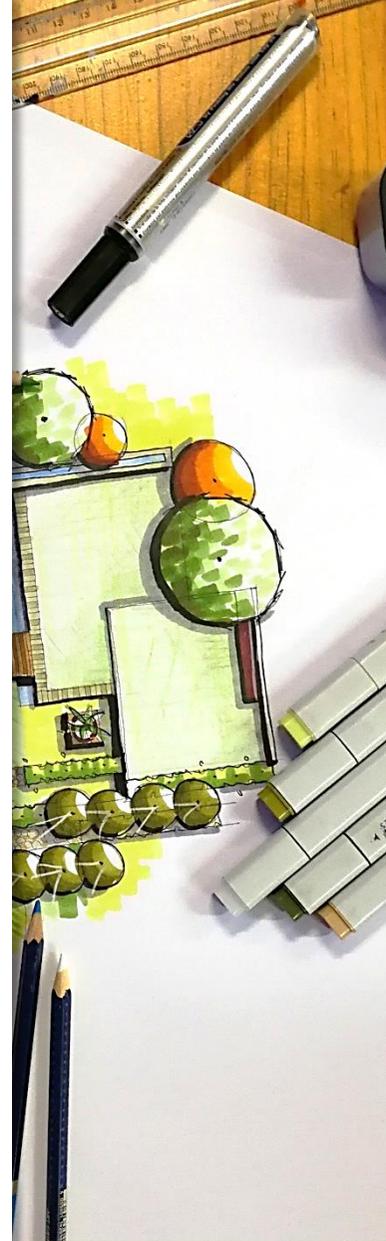
Freehand perspective and axonometric drawing

This course reconnoitres the three dimensional drawing realm. The course explains the principles of axonometric drawing, one point perspective and 2 point perspective sketching in a brief introduction of each followed by an in-class example. The course is an enjoyable take on a difficult model of drawing and will enhance even the artist's skills.

PRESENTATION COURSE:

Professional use of PowerPoint and layout

This course takes an insightful look at graphic design and presentation. This would be a particularly helpful accompaniment to not only designers, but also to start-up businesses, entrepreneurs and young adults. The skills of presentation can be used in almost any career path. This course includes introduction to PowerPoint as a tool for presenting as well as compiling layouts and poster boards. Examples are made in class to show students how easy it is to be inspired by the latest graphic design trends. Students need to be somewhat computer literate for this course and need their own laptop to experiment on for the last quarter of the class.



Irene School
of Garden Design

Planting course

(5 WEEK COURSE)

Planting is an exciting layered category of courses that set out to please the enthusiast, the designer and the horticulturist. Preparing the soil for planting is the first and most important step of garden success. The planting category will take students through the very crucial first steps all the way to designing with plants and determining the correct quantities. With a detailed planting scheme and planting plan gardening is easy, fun and affordable. With the new stackable courses, students can enjoy a theme or topic for leisure as a course on its own or opt for stacking each theme into a global credential. The Planting Course is offered with a credential of attendance for those who complete the course for leisure. Students may choose to submit the given assignments for assessment to obtain a credential of achievement/excellence or if they prefer, to stack the course into the global credential.

APPLICABLE TO:

Garden Design, Architecture, Spatial Planners, Draftsmen, Horticulture, Installers, Plant hobbyists and enthusiasts, Environmentalists and Homeowners

DURATION:

5 lessons presented on mornings, evenings or 4-5 lessons at a time on selected Saturdays.

APPROXIMATE TIME OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Twice that of the classes

DIFFICULTY:

Easy to Intermediate

REPETITION:

5 times annually

PRICE:

R4749 Excluding Essential organics handbook (R600.00)

CODE:

PLC

SEE REGISTRATION FORM AND CALENDAR FOR STARTING DATES

PLANTING PLANS AND QUANTITIES:

Determining plant spacing and drawing a planting plan

Planting plans and quantities are crucial for a successful installation. It helps minimise losses and cost, enhances longevity of plants, and helps avoid unnecessary trips to the nursery. Most people visit their nearest garden centre and buy plants without planning or knowing what they are purchasing. This course will make the whole process of ordering and planning with plants more accurate, efficient and hassle free.

PLANTING DESIGN:

Using design principles to decorate plant beds

The planting design course explores the role that plants play in the landscape along with the décor principles of planting design. This course will contribute to a garden plant search criteria that will make choosing the correct plant for a particular theme, style and climate easy. This course is often enjoyed by the enthusiast due to the greater understanding of a planting scheme that not only looks good, but also contributes to the environment.

SITE PREP, SOILS, AND PLANTING METHODS:

The basis for a healthy garden

This course discusses the soil improvements, the soil preparation, planting methods and the philosophies behind organic soil care. It is a necessary course for both the designer as well as the leisure gardener. The preparation is equally as important to a successful garden as what the design and installation is. Failing to prepare is preparing to fail. Soils and improvements is the garden's most valuable asset yet it's the most neglected aspect.

INTRODUCTION TO BOTANY:

Understanding what books tell us

This section provides a brief introduction to the terminology of botany as well as the different roles plants play in the landscape. It helps the gardener understand not only how plants fit into a landscape but also how plants work and what they can do in the landscape. The terminology is also discussed with the parameters for selecting and identifying plants.



Construction primer course!

(5 WEEK COURSE)

The Construction category consists of various, easy to understand courses that theoretically help students understand the implementation of a garden and the related fields such as irrigation and the environment. The course covers difficult concepts in an easy and simplified manner. The quality of the final result depends heavily on the construction of a garden and the skills presented in this course can be further refined with the addition of practical show garden building. With the new stackable courses, students can enjoy a theme or topic for leisure as a course on its own or opt for stacking each theme into a global credential. The Construction Primer Course is offered with a credential of attendance for those who complete the course for leisure. Students may choose to submit the given assignments for assessment to obtain a credential of achievement/excellence or if they prefer, to stack the course into the global credential.

APPLICABLE TO:

Garden Design, Architecture, Spatial Planners, Draftsmen, Horticulture, Installers, Plant hobbyists and enthusiasts, Environmentalists and Homeowners

DURATION:

5 lessons presented on mornings, evenings or 4-5 lessons at a time on selected Saturdays.

APPROXIMATE TIME OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Twice that of the classes

DIFFICULTY:

Easy to Intermediate

REPETITION:

4 times annually

PRICE:

R 4749

CODE:

CPC

SEE REGISTRATION FORM AND CALENDAR FOR STARTING DATES

INTRODUCTION TO IRRIGATION:

This theme of the Construction primer covers different systems, the planning and the components of an irrigation system. The introduction to irrigation covers measures to improve maintenance and the correct installation of various irrigation systems.

SUSTAINABILITY:

Sustainability is a crucial component of construction and maintenance. This theme deals with the terminology and application of environmentally sound construction methods, as well as how to determine site health.

KEY QUESTIONS TO SUCCESSFUL CONSTRUCTION PROBLEM SOLVING:

We found that to be successful in construction, it is of paramount importance to be inquisitive. This theme covers questions a designer should ask, and discuss some solutions regarding pathways, water features, ponds, decking and brickwork amongst others.

CONSTRUCTION DRAWING:

Drawing sections and details are the keystones to understanding construction. It is essential to communicate not only the detail of construction but also the process of construction by means of drawings. This theme covers the conventions associated with annotation and construction drawing.

INTRODUCTION TO MATERIALS:

This theme is an insightful self-study theme of the processes and different materials used in construction. The theme covers concrete, wood, glass metals and plastics.

COSTING AND SPECIFICATION:

The crux of any project revolves around quantifying a project correctly. This section deals with the documentation and industry norms of costing in an example-based class. The course looks at how the professional landscape architecture realises costs and documents a project for tender. Accuracy in costing is the most crucial skill for installers and designers.

WATER FEATURES:

Water feature design & construction

Water features are most likely the biggest consideration for most gardeners. It is important to be informed about the various aspects relating to water features in order to make sound design and maintenance decisions. This course discusses the important considerations of water features as well as swimming pools. We take a closer look at the reticulation systems and discharges available and introduce students to the construction considerations of water elements. This course theme is particularly supportive to students and homeowners considering an outdoor water feature or swimming pool.



Computer aided design courses!

(2 DAYS FOR EACH COURSE)

The computer aided design course is a crucial part of the draftsman and the designer's repertoire. To attend the computer aided design course students must be computer literate. The course consists of 3 smaller component courses that allows students enough time to practice their skills between courses. CAD is an extraordinary means to draw two dimensional plans and the most efficient multi-platform program used by designers. Though most designers will be proficient after CAD 1 and CAD 2 along with frequent exercise, the addition of drawing a garden plan under the supervision of the lecturer in CAD 3 is highly recommended. With the new stackable courses, students can enjoy a theme or topic for leisure as a course on its own or opt for stacking each theme into a global credential. The Construction Primer Course is offered with a credential of attendance for those who complete the course for leisure. Students may choose to submit the given assignments for assessment to obtain a credential of achievement/excellence or if they prefer, to stack the course into the global credential.

CAD1

INTRODUCTION TO CAD:

APPLICABLE TO:

Garden Design, Architecture, Spatial Planners, Homeowners, Quantity surveying, Installers, Drafts persons, Engineering and Developers

DURATION:

2 Mornings

APPROXIMATE TIME OF ASSIGNMENTS:

4 times that of the classes

REPETITION:

Once annually

PRICE:

R 5679 (Students must have their own computer to attend this course)(student version/trail (program not included)

CODE:

CAD

CAD2

INTERMEDIATE CAD:

APPLICABLE TO:

Those who have completed CAD 1, Garden Design, Architecture, Spatial Planners, Homeowners, Quantity surveying, Installers, Engineering and Developers

DURATION:

2 Mornings

APPROXIMATE TIME OF ASSIGNMENTS:

4 times that of the classes

REPETITION:

Once annually

CAD3

ADVANCED CAD

Example drawing:

APPLICABLE TO:

Those who have completed CAD1, or have CAD experience, Garden Design, Architecture, Spatial Planners, Homeowners, Quantity surveying, Installers, Engineering and Developers

DURATION:

2 Mornings

REPETITION:

Once annually



SEE REGISTRATION FORM AND CALENDAR FOR STARTING

Practical courses!

These courses are designed to assist students in implementing their acquired knowledge. They are essential in developing the skills a well-rounded designer needs. The practical courses consist of two components, practical work in terms of design projects, and practical work concerned with the use of plants and materials. The Design projects vary in difficulty based on the skill learnt. Because this integration of knowledge and practical application is so important to us, we offer one on one consultations for each project. Students furthermore are eligible to build show gardens hosted by Plantland nurseries. Students who wish to stack their courses need to complete all the design for practice projects and build at least two show gardens.

BUILDING A SHOW GARDEN:

All students of the Irene School of Garden Design are eligible to build show gardens hosted by Plantland Nurseries. The show gardens involve approximately 3 days of concentrated work. Student get to see how their ideas look in real life, get to learn about plants and plant combinations, and enjoy how rewarding gardening can be. There are currently three locations where the show gardens are hosted, and all the gardens are featured online. This component is also a great team building exercise. Most of the plant material is supplied, but students need to bring their own garden implements. Student who opt to stack courses for a global credential need to complete at least two show gardens.

APPLICABLE TO:

Garden Design, Architecture, Spatial Planners, Homeowners, Quantity surveying, Installers, Homeowners and Team Building excursions.

DURATION:

2-3 Days

REPETITION:

Monthly

PRICE:

R 379 p.p.

DESIGNING FOR PRACTICE:

There are four projects that students can complete and they cover the scope of work that student are allowed to do ranging from small residential projects, to large gardens and light commercial refurbishments. Each project will address a number of important theoretical components. The minimum requirement is for students to complete the Drawing and Drafting Course and the Design Course. These projects can be done simultaneously with the rest of the courses. Each Project will consist of a briefing about the project, arranged private consultation sessions and the assessment of the final product. The projects range in difficulty and each project address different course content. The lecturer will present you with the project that is right for your level of competency at each phase of your design studies. Students who opt to stack courses for a global credential need to complete all the design for practice projects.

APPLICABLE TO:

Students who have completed the Design and Drawing courses can work on hypothetical designs and present them for feedback.

DURATION:

Briefing at the beginning of the project, two to three appointment critique sessions, and one final presentation of 30 – 45 minutes

APPROXIMATE TIME OF PROJECT:

(combined time) two full weeks

REPETITION:

Throughout the year by appointment

PRICE:

R 579.00 per project

APPOINTMENTS ON:

Selected Wednesday mornings from 9:30 till 12:30 (See PCC on calendar) or by appointment for evenings & Saturday courses



PAYMENT OPTIONS:

How do I pay for my courses?

Comprehensive courses are one of the most cost-effective ways to study or invest in as an enthusiast. Our aim is to provide exceeding personal and career related value at an affordable price. Irene School of Garden Design accommodates smaller groups to ensure the quality we are renowned for, and to give students personal attention. Booking is essential to ensure you have a reservation on our industry leading course.

Our courses can be paid for up front or a 50% deposit and the remainder paid 2 weeks before the course ends.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

What you need to know...

All course notes are provided digitally. Notes can be viewed from your computer or phone and can be downloaded on your portable drive or device. Students must use their own electronic equipment such as laptops or computers. We have made most of our material digital and provide most handbooks digitally to make our courses as cost effective as possible. Stationery and the Autodesk Programs are not included. Plantland and Irene School of Garden Design co-op provide most of the plants and materials needed for the show garden exhibitions. To submit an assignment for review is free if assignments are handed in within 3 months after completion of a subject thereafter a fee may apply. If a student misses a class due to unforeseen circumstances, the class can be caught up in the corresponding evening or morning time slot or via the distance learning version of the course. To be eligible to register with the Guild of Landscape Designers of Southern Africa, 75% class attendance is needed, 60% average for assignments and design projects and all subjects need to be completed to successfully obtain a credential in garden design.

Do one or do them all
OPEN THE DOOR TO A WHOLE NEW YOU...



Irene School
of Garden Design

Designing gardens for life...

STACKABLE
Comprehensive courses

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