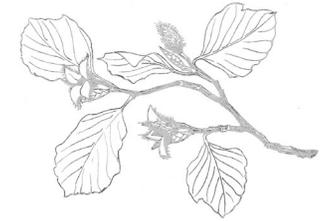


# Landscape Architect Registration Examination Preparatory Courses



**Sarah Gronquist**  
Landscape Architect

825 Delaware Street  
Berkeley, CA 94702

## Project & Construction Management Inventory and Analysis

Sections 1 and 2

**Design**  
Section 3

## Grading, Drainage & Construction Documentation

Section 4

Berkeley, CA

With Ray Freeman's retirement, Sarah Gronquist will be continuing to offer his popular series of LARE Preparatory Courses for candidates taking the Landscape Architect Registration Examination. Ray's classes have attracted students from 46 states, five Canadian provinces, Puerto Rico, and The District of Columbia.

All classes are current with the 2017 exam format, and have been updated every **four** months. Section 4 is offered before every LARE seating. Sections 1-2 and Section 3 alternate.

Sarah Gronquist is an Associate Principal at PlaceWorks. She has taught exam preparation and university level courses at UC Berkeley and Merritt College for 15 years, including grading and drainage, construction detailing, planting design, business practices, and professional practice. She began her educational career with Ray Freeman as a co-teacher for these LARE preparatory courses in 2005 and is continuing to teach and develop them in collaboration with Ray. We are delighted to be able to continue to offer this useful series of courses.

For further information and registration, visit our website:  
<https://www.sarahgronquist.com>



# Section 1: Project & Construction Management

## Section 2: Inventory & Analysis

### Landscape Architects Registration Examination

Through lecture, group discussion, and practice tests, this intensive two-day course focuses on preparing students to take the LARE, concentrating on sections 1 and 2 of the exam as well as providing a detailed overview of the exam structure.

The course includes an in-depth overview of the exam and exam specific test taking tips. We also cover fundamentals of the impact of a wide variety of typical issues and challenges which affect design and construction processes, as well as regulatory and professional practice impacts on Landscape Architecture. Each student will receive a course binder containing approximately 310 pages of information pertinent to the exam, and 285 practice questions, focusing on sections 1 and 2. These materials have been reorganized for the new (2017) exam format.

#### The program includes

- Overview of the LARE; Structure of the exam
- How the exam is scored; Exam preparation strategies and tips
- Project Management
- Scoping, Budgeting and Scheduling
- Programming
- Contracts
- Base Map Development
- Project Coordination
- Bidding and Construction
- Construction Administration
- Change Orders
- Submittals
- Inspections & Construction Documentation
- Site Inventory
- Codes, Regulations & Permitting
- Onsite Investigations
- Information Gathering and Assessment
- Analysis of Existing Conditions
- Social and Cultural Factors Analysis
- Environmental and Physical Analysis
- Interpretation of Stakeholder Input

“I can happily say that I passed each of the sections after taking your prep courses and then last spring I took the CA supplemental exam and passed that as well! I am licensed!! Thanks for making your courses and knowledge available to us!”

Julia Storek Oberhoff, Los Osos, CA Spr 2013 & Fall 2013

Students will be given a grounding in the format, goals and requirements of the LARE. Lectures on a variety of topics tested by the exam and encountered in professional practice will be given over both days. An extensive list of typical questions specific to sections 1 and 2 of the exam will be given out and used as mock timed exams. The questions and answers will be then be reviewed as a group exercise led by the instructor.

#### Exam Overview and Sections 1 & 2

#### Who Should Attend

This course would benefit candidates for the LARE who are taking the exam for the first time or are having difficulty with sections 1 or 2. Additionally, individuals who would like to further their knowledge of technical and administrative aspects of the topics covered by these sections of the exam could benefit.

#### Time and Location

This course takes place over two consecutive days, Saturday-Sunday. 8:30 am-6:00 pm. Refer to [www.sarahgronquist.com](http://www.sarahgronquist.com) for next available dates.

Location: LaQuinta Inn and Suites, 920 University Ave., Berkeley, CA, 94702. A map and directions will be furnished upon enrollment.

#### Each participant will need to bring the following supplies

- Engineers scale
- Pencils or leadholders and erasers
- Highlighter
- Calculator with square root capability
- Notepad

“I would recommend you take Ray Freeman’s two day class in the Bay Area (Sections 1 & 2) ....of all the review courses I took, his was the most thorough...and it was after that class that I finally passed my last section..B/2 last Sept. (2012) There was info there that I hadn't seen elsewhere, and I do believe it was the determining factor for passing section 2.” Agave, JUN 2013

“Now that I've taken all 4 sections, I'd simply like to tell you that your courses are put together very well and a must for test takers. They've led to my success through three exams and great confidence going into the 4th. Your course cleanly compartmentalized the vast information included in Section 4 and I gained a great deal of professional understanding, regardless of tested result. I also greatly appreciate your teaching style and making the courses enjoyable over the intense weekend format. “ Jayson Wood , Sausalito, CA, JUN 2013

## Section 3 Bootcamp: Design

Through lecture, group discussion, and practice tests, this intensive three day course focuses on preparing students to take Section 3: Design of the LARE.

Students will be exposed to fundamentals of planning and design related skills necessary to pass this section, and problem solving techniques applied to example tests. Each student will receive a course syllabus containing approximately 370 pages of information pertinent to Section 3 of the LARE. There will be a minimum of 25 design advanced item type problems and at least 235 test questions in the section 3 syllabus. Material has been reorganized for the 2017 exam format.

### The program includes

Question Formats

Planning standards used in the Design section

Typical types of problems encountered in Section 3

Social Factors in Design

Site Analysis and Programming

Vehicular and Pedestrian Circulation Systems

Site Planning

Accessibility Requirements

Implications of scale in using LARE design standards

Basic Design Principles

Principles of Site Design

Resource Conservation and Management

Floodplains and Wetlands

Graphic Communication

Surveying Standards

Grading Conventions

Cut and Fill Calculations

Principles of Stormwater Management

Circulation System Design

Roadway Design Principles

Noise Attenuation

Lighting Systems

Students will complete short timed tests covering basic skills required in planning and site design. Lectures on topics tested by the exam and encountered in professional practice will be given each day.

“Thanks so much for a great class! I really feel so much more prepared to study and take the exam now. I'm sure I'll be in touch with questions, but just wanted to thank you for an intense and well-structured 3-day stretch.”

Lauren Hackney, Berkeley, CA, MAR 2013

## Time and Location

This course runs over three consecutive days, Friday-Sunday. 8:30 am-6:00 pm. Refer to [www.sarahgronquist.com](http://www.sarahgronquist.com) for next available dates.

Location: LaQuinta Inn and Suites, 920 University Ave., Berkeley, CA, 94702. A map and directions will be furnished upon enrollment.

### Each participant will need to bring the following supplies

- Engineers scale
- Small 45 & 30/60 triangles (optional)
- Circle templates (optional)
- Drafting tape
- Pencils or leadholders and erasers
- Highlighter
- Calculator with square root capability
- 12-inch roll of tracing paper
- Notepad
- Scissors and several 8.5x11 sheets of stiff vellum

### Comments by former students

“I joined you recently for the LARE 3 class in Berkeley. Just wanted to say a big thank you as I actually passed it (after failing it several times). I don't know what magic you weave but it works. Again...thank you. See you in June for Section 4.”  
Sharn Stinson-Ure, Marina Del Ray, CA, MAR 2014

*“I found out this morning that I passed Section 3! Thank you for your class.*

*I wouldn't have known what to focus on, how to think about the exam, or really how to prepare properly without your teaching. Thank you again.”*

*Briana Morrison, Santa Rosa, CA OCT 2016*

*“I just want to thank you for the classes and feedback received when I took all of your courses. This week I got the notice from CLARB that I passed all four sections, three in April and section 4 this past August!”* Carlos Hernandez, Sunnyvale, CA OCT 2015 & FEB 2016

*“Just a friendly and grateful note to let you know that I PASSED section 4: wooHOO! Thanks so much for all of your help. I know that your classes helped me tremendously for all 4 sections.”* Melinda Stockman, San Francisco, CA, FEB 2016 & JUN 2016

“I want to thank you for your great teaching. I don't know how I could have passed without taking your classes. They enabled me to pass each exam on the first try. I couldn't have done it without all the tricks and tips you gave us.”  
Phoebe McCormick, Berkeley, CA, OCT 2010

## Section 4 Bootcamp: Grading, Drainage & Construction Documentation Landscape Architects Registration Examination

Through lecture, group discussion, and practice exercises, this intensive three-day course focuses on preparing students to take Section 4 of the Landscape Architects Registration Examination. This course includes a look at what material is typically covered on the exam and strategy tips on the new advanced item types. The course will include a short refresher on the fundamentals of grading and drainage. We will focus on building and reinforcing skills essential to successfully completing section 4 of the LARE. Each student will receive a syllabus and separate problem packages containing over 515 pages of information pertinent to Section 4, a minimum of 210 test questions and 42 Advanced Item Type problems. Lectures, practice tests, practice exercises, question and answer sessions are part of the class.

Material has been reorganized for the 2017 format.

### The program includes

Overview of the Exam including question formats  
Exam Preparation Techniques  
Practical Techniques for Solving the new Advanced Type Problems  
Grading Principles  
Foundation Systems and Setting Finish Floors  
Interpretation of Soil Maps and Reports  
Watershed Planning  
Accessibility Requirements  
Roadway Grading  
Vision Cone Problem Solving  
Effects of Urbanization on Watersheds  
Storm Drainage and Stormwater Management Principles & Devices  
Elements, Functions and Design of Storm Water Ponds and Dams  
Construction Documents  
Specifications  
Sedimentation and Erosion Control  
Basic Stormwater Computations  
Selection of Construction Materials  
Construction Detailing  
Landscape Maintenance  
Irrigation Systems and Septic Systems

“I’m stoked to find out today I passed sections 3 & 4 of the LARE. Thanks for all your help, I’m thinking about coming for the sections 1 & 2 review your having. Is there still room?” Robert Richards, Santa Barbara, CA, OCT 2012

### Times and Locations

This course takes place over Friday -Saturday-Sunday, 8:30 am-6:30 pm. Refer to [www.sarahgronquist.com](http://www.sarahgronquist.com) for next available dates.

Location: La Quinta Inn and Suites, 920 University Ave., Berkeley, CA, 94702.

A map and directions will be furnished upon enrollment.

### Each Participant will need to bring the following supplies

- Engineers scale
- Small 45 & 30/60 triangles (optional)
- Drafting tape
- Pencils or leadholders and erasers
- Highlighter
- Calculator with square root capability
- 12-inch roll of tracing paper
- Notepad

“I just wanted to let you know that I took and passed the CSE yesterday! (May 2013) Please keep me on your mailing list for LARE sessions, I am active in ASLA and will keep mentioning your courses to candidates interested in becoming licensed.” Dalton LaVoie, Sacramento, CA, FEB 2012

Just got the news I passed 4. I couldn't have done it without your bootcamp! I went 4 for 4. I couldn't have done that without your expert teaching, no-nonsense coaching and comprehensive materials. I really appreciate you taking the time to help us all through the LARE process. Are you sure you don't want to do a class on the California exam?” Steve Rasmussen Cancian, Los Angeles, CA, FEB 2014

*“I just found out I passed Section 4 on my first attempt. Thanks for all your help! I'm done with all the LARE now. Your courses truly are the best out there and I would recommend it (the Section 4 class) to anyone.” Ritti Suvilai, Surrey, BC, JUN 2016*

## For More Information

For specific information or questions, **email: [sarah@sarahgronquist.com](mailto:sarah@sarahgronquist.com)**  
(*this is the preferred method for contact*)

Phone (510) 495-5369.

Please leave an e-mail address for replies.

## Registration Deadlines

Enroll early! Class size is limited to a firm maximum of **30** in each session. Due to the time required to print our lengthy syllabus book and practice problems packet for each student, registration closes three days before the first class meeting.

**It will not be possible to sign up for any class after 6 pm on the deadline dates.**

## Cancellation & Refund Policy

Classes may be cancelled or rescheduled due to circumstances beyond our control. In the event a class is cancelled, a full refund will be made for that class.

If your plans change and you will not be able to attend a class for which you have registered, a refund will be given if the cancellation notice is received by the relevant registration deadlines given above.

Cancellations after the registration deadlines will not be refunded.

## About the Berkeley location

La Quinta Inn and Suites is located on University Avenue, just a few blocks from I-80. It is a five minute walk from Aquatic Park and less than 5 blocks from the 4th street commercial district. Overnight accommodations include an outdoor pool, fitness room, business center (one seat), and complimentary continental breakfast. The rooms have free wi-fi. Off street parking is free to all attendees. Ask for LARE rate which entitles you to a 15% discount. To get this rate you must reserve room more than 2 weeks ahead. The facility is 12 blocks (15-20 min walk) from the North Berkeley BART Station and less than 4 blocks from the Berkeley Amtrak Station. BART connections from SFO and Oakland airports are good. There are 30 restaurants within a 10 minute walk of the facility.

## 1. Fees

Course fees are as follows: (Note: Eventbrite Fees are not included (\$17-20 per class))

**Sections 1&2: \$350 (2 days)**

**Section 3: \$425 (3 days)**

**Section 4: \$450 (3 days)**

Complimentary soft drinks, coffee, tea, and water are provided as part of the course. Light snacks are provided at breaks.

Caltrans has recognized these courses as being eligible for reimbursement as an education/professional development expense. We are happy to issue a letter as proof of registration and completion for any students requesting one.

In order to keep administrative costs down, we are unable to provide advanced documentation to governmental agencies in order for them to cut payment checks directly to us. Please apply for reimbursement after the course. I will be happy to provide certificates of completion upon your request. Acknowledgement of payment and receipts are sent to all registered parties through Eventbrite.

## 2. Registration

You must register through the **Eventbrite** website for these classes.

Payment may be made via credit card through the Eventbrite site.

We will not longer be accepting paper applications and checks for registration and payment. Eventbrite fees are not included in the course prices, and run \$17 to \$20 per class. Eventbrite will automatically tack these fees onto the ticket price at time of registration.

Please visit [www.sarahgronquist.com](http://www.sarahgronquist.com) to register through Eventbrite.