

Landscape ecology: what is it?

Landscape ecology is the study of spatial variation in landscapes at a variety of scales. It includes the biophysical and societal causes and consequences of landscape heterogeneity. Above all, it is broadly interdisciplinary.

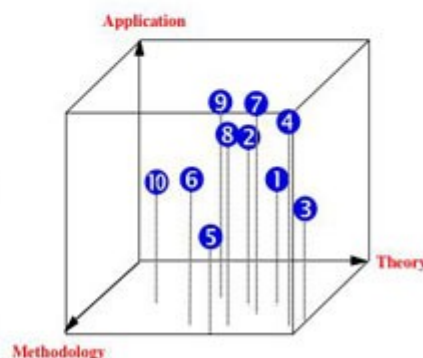
The conceptual and theoretical core of landscape ecology links natural sciences with related human disciplines. Landscape ecology can be portrayed by several of its core themes:

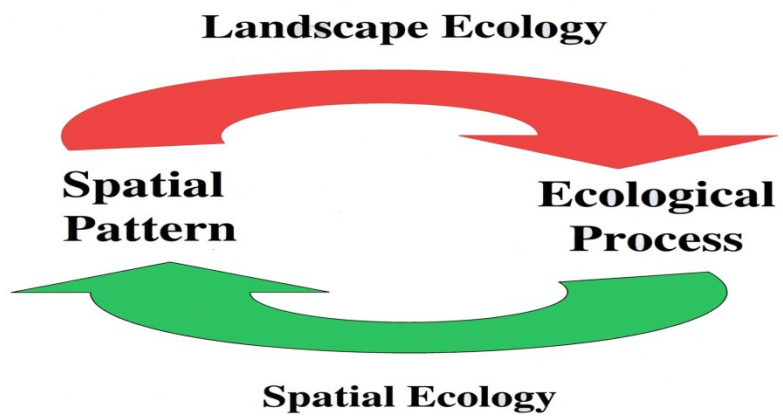
- the spatial pattern or structure of landscapes, ranging from wilderness to cities,
- the relationship between pattern and process in landscapes,
- the relationship of human activity to landscape pattern, process and change,
- the effect of scale and disturbance on the landscape

Top 10 Research Topics in Landscape Ecology

Wu, J. & R. Hobbs. 2002. Key issues and research priorities in landscape ecology. *Landscape Ecology* 17:355-365.

1. Ecological flows in landscape mosaics
2. Causes, processes, and consequences of land use and land cover change
3. Nonlinear dynamics and landscape complexity
4. Scaling
5. Methodological development
6. Relating landscape metrics to ecological processes
7. Integrating humans and their activities into landscape ecology
8. Optimization of landscape pattern
9. Landscape conservation and sustainability
10. Data acquisition and accuracy assessment





Interesting links:

http://www.amazon.com/Foundation-Papers-Landscape-Ecology-Michael/dp/0231126816#reader_0231126816

Look at contents – sociology, geography and ecology is on the beginning of landscape ecology

Or the same book here:

<http://books.google.cz/books?id=8jfmor8wVG4C&lpg=PA7&ots=GKyyOfkeis&dq=Landscape%20Ecology%20Sauer&hl=cs&pg=PP1#v=onepage&q=Landscape%20Ecology%20Sauer&f=false>

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<http://books.google.cz/books?id=8jfmor8wVG4C&lpg=PA7&ots=GKyyOfkeis&dq=Landscape%20Ecology%20Sauer&hl=cs&pg=PP1#v=onepage&q=Landscape%20Ecology%20Sauer&f=false>