

# Programme Specification

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BSc (Hons) Construction Management

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## Section A Summary Programme Details

Title of Programme Award	<b>BSc (Hons) Construction Management</b>	Credit Points	<b>360</b>
		Level of Award Refer <u>QAA FHEQ</u>	<b>Level 6</b>
<b>Interim Awards</b>			
1. Title	<b>Diploma of Higher Education</b>	Credit Points	<b>240</b>
		Level of Award Refer <u>QAA FHEQ</u>	<b>Level 5</b>
2. Title	<b>Certificate of Higher Education</b>	Credit Points	<b>120</b>
		Level of Award Refer <u>QAA FHEQ</u>	<b>Level 4</b>
<b>Validation of Programme</b>			
Validation of Programme	<b>Periodic review and revalidation activity</b>	Date of last Programme validation	<b>March 2013</b>
		Date of next Periodic Review	<b>March 2018</b>
<b>Professional Accreditation</b>			
Accrediting Body	<b>Chartered Institute of Building</b>	Date of last Programme validation	<b>Accreditation pending</b>
		Date of next Periodic Review	
<b>QAA Benchmark Statement (inc date)</b>			
QAA Benchmark Statement (inc date)	<b>Construction, property and surveying (2008)</b>	Refer	<b><u>QAA BSc Hons</u></b>
Mode of Study	<b>Supported Distance Learning</b>		
<b>Programme Commencement Dates</b>			
Programme Commencement Dates	<b>October 2014</b>	October Semester	<b>30 September 2014</b>
		April Semester	<b>31 March 2015</b>
<b>Date of Programme Specification</b>			
Date of Programme Specification	<b>23 July 2014</b>	Version	<b>V2.00</b>

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## Section B Rationale for the Programme; Entry Requirements; Progression and Summary Programme Information

<b>Rationale for the Programme</b>	<p>The rationale for the programme is to present an internationally recognised programme in a flexible learning format, to facilitate students who wish to study at their own pace with a high quality learning experience. The programme widens access for students to study from worldwide destinations that fulfils the needs of those who may wish to remain in employment while studying or who perhaps are not in a position, or do not wish to, attend a full-time or part-time degree programme. The programme provides for students to study at their own pace, allowing variable module/credit loads to be completed in each semester.</p> <p>The programme is for people who wish to gain an accredited academic qualification within the role of construction management which meets the requirements to becoming a Chartered Professional with the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) or other related professional body and which provides a platform for studying a masters level qualification.</p>
<b>Entry Requirements (Include International equivalence where the entry point has been confirmed)</b>	<p>Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Two A Levels or their equivalent</li> <li>▪ English language proficiency</li> <li>▪ Mathematics Grade C or above at GCSE or equivalent</li> </ul> <p><b><u>OR:</u></b> Relevant work experience for mature entry</p> <p>Recognised qualifications having an equivalent level of attainment as those recognised by UCAS include: HND/HNCs, professional qualifications from recognised institutions, certain armed forces qualifications and partially completed degrees. There are also a wide range of international qualifications that are deemed to have UCAS point equivalent values.</p> <p>Applications are assessed in accordance with the CEM Admissions Policy.</p>

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<b>Accredited Prior Learning (APL) or Accredited Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) routes into the Programme</b>	<p><u>The College accredits qualifications and work/professional experience within the CEM policy for accredited prior learning based on a matching of learning outcomes from prior study/work experience.</u></p> <p>The normal maximum level of accreditation is 180 credits.</p> <p><u>Examples of accredited programmes include:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) CEM Diploma in Surveying Practice</li> <li>2) CEM Diploma in Construction Practice</li> </ol>
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<b>Programme Progression</b>	<p>For details of progression arrangements, please view the <u>Undergraduate Programme Assessment, Progression and Award Regulations</u> and the <u>Academic and General Regulations for Students</u>.</p>
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<b>Awards</b>	<p>For details of the award, please view the <u>Undergraduate Programme Assessment, Progression and Award Regulations</u> and the <u>Academic and General Regulations for Students</u>.</p>
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<b>Career Prospects</b>	<p>The following provide a range of the types of careers that students pursue after completing this programme:</p> <p><b>Construction management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of the development conservation and improvement of the built environment</li> <li>• Managing construction projects, site engineering, measuring and evaluating</li> <li>• Estimating the overall cost of carrying out building projects and buying materials according to programme</li> <li>• Planning pre-contract so work is carried out in the most efficient and economical way</li> </ul>
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<b>Opportunities for Placements</b>	<p>There are no opportunities for placements on this programme.</p>
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Study Support	Student Learning Support
	<p>The programme is delivered with an integral CEM online tuition model, providing students with access to CEM tutors and other students worldwide, through the College VLE.</p> <p>The CEM course administrator will act as the main point of contact to students throughout the duration of their programme. The academic team will guide and support students' learning. The CEM dedicated teams provide support for assignments, exams and technical issues. Each student, whatever their location, will have access to a wealth of library and online materials to support their studies.</p> <p>The Student Services Department has been accredited with the matrix Standard, the unique quality framework for the effective delivery of information, advice and/or guidance on learning and work.</p> <p><b>The Induction Module</b></p> <p>All students are expected to complete the non-credit bearing Induction Module before the programme commences. The Induction Module is designed to equip students with the skills they need to study with CEM. Topics covered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Studying at a Distance</li><li>Understanding your learning style</li><li>How to manage your time</li><li>Writing in your Own Words- A guide to how to reference your work</li><li>Reading actively and critically</li><li>Developing Academic Writing</li></ul> <p>The information on Writing in your Own Words is also provided in Cantonese, to reflect the large number of students that CEM has on its programmes from Hong Kong, and to ensure that all students understand the importance of correctly referencing in assessments.</p> <p>The resources within the Induction Module are available to students throughout the duration of their study with CEM.</p>

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## Section C: Programme Aim and Learning Outcomes

Intended programme aim and learning outcomes are listed below.

### C1 Programme Aim

The CEM BSc (Hons) in Construction Management provides students with a rigorous understanding of the principles, practices and ethics in a world-wide context involved in construction management up to first degree level standard. The programme reflects the academic underpinning necessary to prepare students for a career as a Chartered Builder, or other related international professional bodies and provides students with a progressive development of knowledge and skills over three stages of study.

The programme is designed to ensure that graduates have a stimulating and challenging education, which prepares them well for their professional career and to produce capable individuals with the potential to progress to professional status and prepare for advancement to Masters level qualification. Students will develop a broad range of skills which are transferable across other industries.

Emphasis is placed on the management of health and safety throughout the construction cycle, and also upon sustainability; economic, social and environmental.

### C2 Programme Learning Outcomes

#### A. Knowledge and understanding

Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
By the end of the programme students should be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:  A1. Scientific principles in the context of the built environment and their relevance to building design and performance.	<b>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</b> Acquisition of knowledge in the modules of the programme is promoted through distance education resources including customised text material, core textbooks, web based material and communication channels. These

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### A. Knowledge and understanding

A2. The legal system in application to the construction process in terms of contract performance, obligations, tort and statutory requirements.

A3. The economic principles of the construction industry, their application and significance to the sector and the principles of management, business operation and commercial risk.

A4. The properties of building materials and their performance characteristics with regard to the natural environment and their impact upon it.

A5. Evaluate the characteristics of various construction techniques and their effect on building.

A6) The application of project management skills to construction projects.

A7. Project and site management skills through team work and continuous improvement

A8. The promotion of safe working and ethical practices and the setting of standards.

A9. Research methods and their relative strengths and weaknesses.

are complemented and supplemented by face-to-face sessions.

In the project, and integrated management project modules, self directed learning and problem solving combined with supervisor consultation further enhances knowledge and understanding.

Throughout the student is encouraged to undertake independent study and enquiry to broaden their knowledge and understanding of the subject.

#### **Assessment**

Students are required to complete pieces of coursework in the modules which are assessed within strict time frames. Modules are also examined using the unseen closed book method. The project and integrated management project are assessed according to strict guidelines and marking scheme.



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B. Cognitive skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>By the end of the Programme students should be able to demonstrate how to:</p> <p>B1. Develop and use communication skills.</p> <p>B2. Research and use textual source information.</p> <p>B3. Integrate theory and practice.</p> <p>B4. Select and apply appropriate quantitative techniques of analysis and appraisal.</p> <p>B5. Write clearly and concisely.</p> <p>B6. Define, solve and advise on problems.</p> <p>B7. Research, collect and synthesise information from a variety of sources.</p> <p>B8. Think logically and critically.</p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b>            These skills are developed through prescribed reading, seminars, coursework and detailed feedback. The reading includes core texts, papers and relevant web-based material. coursework varies across the modules but collectively covers skills 1-8. Feedback includes direct coursework comments, e-mailed advice and web-based answer guides. Web-based discussion forums between tutors and students are also facilitated. The project and integrated management project process further embraces the cognitive skills.</p> <p><b>Assessment</b>            Cognitive skills are assessed through coursework assignments, the project and the integrated management project, plus unseen examinations.</p>

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C. Practical and professional skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>By the end of the programme students should be able to demonstrate how to:</p> <p>C1. Process, use and present analytical information. Including the use of the necessary range of numerical methods for calculating, checking, presenting and communicating solutions to problems.</p> <p>C2. Research skills including the definition, investigation and analysis of problems</p> <p>C3. Use quantitative techniques</p> <p>C4. Assess and analyse techniques of team building.</p> <p>C5) Write report standard English.</p> <p>C6. Successfully apply critical skills and technical expertise when managing in uncertain situations.</p> <p>C7. Investigate and communicate appropriately, using the Harvard referencing system.</p> <p>C8. Assess the validity and rigour of a range of published research and assess its relevance to further research</p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</b>            Skills 1-2 are mainly developed through the Project Module. Detailed guidelines are provided and explained on the VLE and in seminar sessions.</p> <p>Skills 3-6 are variously developed within the taught modules and 4-5 are extended through the project and integrated management project.</p> <p><b>Assessment</b>            Relevant assessment of these skills is undertaken mainly through module coursework.            Skills 3-6 are also assessed through unseen examination.            Skills 7 &amp; 8 are assessed mainly through the project and integrated management project</p>

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D. Key/transferable skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>By the end of the programme students should be able to demonstrate how to:</p> <p>D1. Develop the capacity to analyse and articulate the construction management issues in the industry</p> <p>D2. Source material and knowledge from a variety of fields and effectively judge what can be integrated and applied</p> <p>D3. Be confident in applying learning experience to practical construction management situations</p> <p>D4. Assess what knowledge is transferable from other contexts into the construction management approaches within this working context</p> <p>D5. Attain and apply research skills</p> <p>D6. Explain and critically evaluate research aims, objectives and methodologies.</p> <p>D7. Demonstrate the ability to identify, use, interrogate and critically evaluate available sources of information.</p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</b>                      The evaluation of ideas and issues through VLE discussion, and problem solving exercises; conducted individually and in groups, plus coursework, provide the mix to internalise these aspects both separately and together through different learning methods.</p> <p><b>Assessment</b>                      Coursework provides the main means of assessing how the introduction and development of these skills is progressing. The coursework will assess the skills aspects to a general level of transfer appropriate at Bachelors level.</p> <p>The project and integrated management project provides the main means to ascertain maturing in some of these areas, at depth, within a focussed topic.</p>

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### Section D Programme Structure

Programme Structure - Stage 1			
Exit award: Certificate of Higher Education. 120 credit points			
Compulsory modules (Fast track)	Credit points	Elective modules	Credit points
<p><b>Students undertake the INDUCTION module by the end of their first semester</b></p> <p><b>Induction</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">0</p>			
<p><b><u>October Semester</u></b></p> <p>Legal Studies</p> <p>People and Organisational Management</p> <p>Financial and Resource Management</p>	<p>20</p> <p>20</p> <p>20</p>	<p><b>[None]</b></p>	
<p><b><u>April Semester</u></b></p> <p>Economics</p> <p>Building, Environment Technology and Simple Structures</p> <p>Building, Environment Technology and Framed Structures</p>	<p>20</p> <p>20</p> <p>20</p>	<p><b>[None]</b></p>	

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Programme Structure - Stage 2			
Exit award: Diploma of Higher Education: 240 credit points			
Compulsory modules	Credit points	Elective modules	Credit points
<p><b><u>October Semester</u></b>                      Construction Site Management                      Measurement &amp; Quantification of Construction Works                      Contract Procedures</p> <p><b><u>April Semester</u></b>                      Economics of Property and Construction                      Building, Environment Technology and Complex Projects                      Building Structures</p>	<p>20 20 20</p> <p>20 20 20</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>[None]</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(None)</b></p>	

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Programme Structure -Stage 3			
Exit award: BSc Construction Management (with or without Honours) 360 credit points.			
Compulsory modules	Credit points	Elective modules	Credit points
<u><b>October Semester</b></u> Integrated Management Project	20	<u><b>October Semester: one module from:</b></u> Commercial Management in Construction Estimating & Tendering of Construction Projects Construction Law Commercial Property Management	20 20 20 20
<u><b>April Semester</b></u> Construction Project Management	20	<u><b>April Semester: one module from:</b></u> Maintenance Management International Construction Strategic Facilities Management	20 20 20
<u><b>April and October Semester</b></u> Project (20 credit points per semester = 40 credit points total)	40		

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### Distinctive features of the programme:

- The interactive induction module
- The flexibility to choose the start date – two intakes per academic year (April or October Semester)
- The flexibility for students to choose the pace of their study (for students who are working full time it is recommended that they limit their studies to 80 credits in a calendar year initially)
- The ability to switch degree programme pathway at the end of Stage 1 (common Level 4 modules for all CEM BSc (Hons) programmes)
- Wide ranging elective modules offered in Stage 3
- The ability to interact with students from different programmes and in varied geographical locations locally and internationally via the VLE
- International professional networking opportunities
- Recognition and accreditation from various international professional bodies
- Availability of exit routes, via the Certificate of Higher Education or Diploma of Higher Education for those who leave the programme part-way through

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### Section E Curriculum map

This table indicates which study units assume responsibility for delivering (X) and assessing (A) particular programme learning outcomes.

Stage	Study module/unit	Programme outcomes																															
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	
1	Economics			X A									X A	X A																			
	Building, Environment Technology and Simple Structures	X A			X A	X A																											
	People and Organisational Management						X A				X A		X A		X A																		
	Legal Studies		X A									X A			X A									X A									
2	Economics of Property and Construction			X A								X A		X A	X A								X A										
	Building, Environment Technology and Framed Structures	X A			X A	X A					X A																			X A			
	Financial and Resource Management			X A			X A									X A																	
	Measurement and Quantification of Construction Works			X A								X A	X A	X A		X A					X A												
3	Building Structures	X A	X A		X A	X A		X A		X A		X A	X A	X A	X A	X A				X A				X A	X A			X A					
	Construction Site Management	X A			X A	X A	X A					X A				X A				X A		X A	X A	X A			X A		X A		X A		



