

RICS Associate 900 study hours

Programme Specification

Reference:

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Status: Final

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RICS Associate 900 study hours

Summary Programme Details

Final Award	
award:	Certificate of Professional Development (CertPD)
Title of (final) Programme	RICS Associate 900 study hours
Credit points:	100 CAT points
Level of award (QAA FHEQ):	5 and 6
Interim award(s)	
Interim award 1:	N/A
Credit points:	
Level of award (QAA FHEQ):	
Interim award 2:	
Credit points:	
Level of award (QAA FHEQ):	
Validation	
Validating institution:	The College of Estate Management (CEM)
Date of last validation:	n/a
Date of next periodic review:	February 2019
Professional accreditation	
Accrediting body:	Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
Date of last programme accreditation:	n/a
Date of next periodic review:	n/a
Accrediting body:	
Date of last accreditation:	
Date of next periodic review:	
Miscellaneous	
QAA benchmark statement	<i>Construction Property and Surveying QAA (2008)</i>
Start Date	April 2015
Duration	1.5 years
Maximum period of registration	4 years

Programme Overview

Rationale

The CertPD programme is designed for students seeking progression from AssocRICS to gain chartered membership. The CertPD Programme is designed to enable students to undertake a selection of modules from the accredited CEM BSc (Hons) provision. There are various pathways in the programme suited to the various professional disciplines. These have been chosen to reflect the pathways typically chosen by students undertaking similar programmes in the past.

Entry requirements

Entrants to this CertPD programme are normally required to have attained one of the following:

- AssocRICS; or
- be seeking AssocRICS. plus 2 years' experience in relevant employment.

For overseas students where English is not their first language the following applies;

Students are required to have one of the following:

- Grade C or above in English (Language or Literature) at GCSE or its equivalent
- Grade 6.0 or above, with at least 5.5 in the reading and writing modules, in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) test administered by the British Council in the Social Sciences academic module
- 79 or above in the Internet option, 213 or above in the computer-based option or 550 or above in the paper-based option, of the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) test
- Grade C or above in Use of English at A/S Level

Note: In all cases, if post-compulsory school leaving age (further education) qualifications have been taught and examined in the English language students can be considered for entry in the absence of the qualifications detailed above.

Recognition of prior learning (RPL) or recognition of prior experiential learning (RPEL) routes into the Programme

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.

Programme progression

Students who are successful in completing this CertPD programme would be eligible to undertake one of our postgraduate programmes.

RICS Associate 900 study hours

Awards

- Students who successfully complete the required 100 credits, with a minimum of 60 credits at level 6, will be awarded the CertPD RICS Associate 900 study hours.

Career prospects

This Programme supports students in furthering their professionalism within industry and will enhance their career path opportunities.

Study support

Induction module:

All students are expected to complete the non-credit bearing Induction Module before the CertPD Programme commences. The Induction Module is designed to equip students with the skills they need to study at CEM. The topics covered include:

- Studying at a distance
- Understanding your learning style
- How to manage your time
- Reading actively and critically
- Introduction to the e-library
- Developing academic writing
- Writing in your own words - a guide to how to reference your work

The induction topic about referencing prepares students for the online test in referencing and citation that must be completed and passed prior to commencement of their studies.

The resources within the Induction Module are available to students throughout the duration of their study with CEM.

Student learning support:

The RICS Associate 900 study hours CertPD programme is delivered via the College virtual learning environment (VLE) and academic teaching and support is provided online giving students access to CEM tutors and other students worldwide.

The module leader is the student's key point of contact for academic matters. All other support is provided by the Student Services team through CEM Student Central. Other CEM teams provide support for assignments, exams and technical issues including ICT. Each student, wherever their location, will have access to a wealth of library and online materials to support their studies.

English language support:

For those students whose first language is not English, or those students who wish to develop their English language skills, additional support is provided through online resources on the VLE in the resource 'Developing Academic Writing'. The resource includes topics such as sentence structure, writing essays and guidance for writing at master's level aimed at developing students study skills.

RICS Associate 900 study hours

Personal and professional development:

Students will be offered support to prepare them for the RICS APC assessment.

Programme Aims

Programme aims

The CertPD Programme is designed for holders of the AssocRICS qualification or those in the final stages of seeking AssocRICS wishing to progress to full chartered membership. It meets the RICS requirement stipulated for this route to full membership of a minimum number of 900 study hours which need to be taken from an accredited academic programme. Academically it develops a student's ability to integrate theory and practice and to collate and evaluate data in order to solve complex problems.

Learning Outcomes

A: Knowledge and Understanding

Learning outcomes

By the end of the Programme students should be able to demonstrate:

- A1** Awareness and systematic understanding of issues and the wider business environment including the political, economic, legal, social, technological, cultural, health and safety, sustainability and global influences within which property, construction and client organisations operate.
- A2** Evaluation of the theories and techniques utilised in the built environment sector.

Teaching and Learning

Module delivery follows a standard format incorporating a range of subject appropriate resources. This may include, but is not limited to, audio visual presentations, interactive case studies and online journals. Modules will be supported by a core text, normally an e-book.

Assessment methods

Formative assessment opportunities and feedback are provided throughout the Programme. These vary in format and may include self-assessment quizzes and tutor guided discussion. All are designed to motivate and support the student.

Summative assessment methods and formats vary across the modules and are appropriate to the module and its stated learning outcomes.

RICS Associate 900 study hours

B: Cognitive skills

Learning outcomes

By the end of the Programme students should be able to demonstrate how to:

- B1 Assess a range of resources including contemporary sources, draw on evidence to reflect and evaluate competing explanations to provide appropriate conclusions.
- B2. Analyse and solve complex problems using appropriate models and methods;
- B3. Transfer appropriate knowledge and methods from one topic to another within or between modules;
- B4. Select and apply appropriate techniques of analysis and appraisal;

Teaching and Learning

Students are encouraged to develop and apply their knowledge and understanding through a range of online activities and exercises. These require students to apply evaluation and analysis to construction or real estate issues.

Assessment methods

Intellectual skills are assessed through a range of coursework artefacts and examinations.

C: Practical and professional skills

Learning outcomes

By the end of the Programme students should be able to demonstrate how to:

- C1 Acquire, analyse and evaluate data and judge its relevance and validity to a range of built environment situations.

Teaching and learning

Students are encouraged to share knowledge and ideas in relation to the built environment sector. A range of online activities require students to analyse given information and make reasoned decisions.

Assessment methods

A range of formative assessment activities are utilised to help develop the ability to analyse problems and provide reasoned advice. Summative assessment tests that the students have formulated appropriate strategies for built environment issues.

RICS Associate 900 study hours

D: Key/transferable skills

Learning outcomes

By the end of the Programme students should be able to:

- D1** Communicate clearly and concisely at an appropriate academic level on programme related issues;
- D2** Demonstrate the academic ability to research from a range of sources to formulate arguments.

Teaching and learning

The nature of distance learning requires students to be very self-motivated and to manage their own time efficiently, particularly when working full time. The teaching of the modules encourages engagement with the CEM learning community and develops communication and collaboration skills.

Assessment methods

Formative assessment through the VLE provides feedback and support for independent learning as students work through the Programme.

Communication, collaboration, analysis and problem solving skills are tested through the range of formative and summative assessments.

No curriculum mapping for summative assessment is provided as all learning outcomes will be assessed in all modules.

RICS Associate 900 study hours

Programme Structure

Semester	Module	Core /Elective	Credit points
October	Contract Procedures	E	20
	Commercial Management in Construction	E	20
	Commercial Property Management	E	20
	Planning and Environmental Law	E	20
	Planning and Conservation	E	20
	Building Pathology	E	20
	Construction Law	E	20
	Professional Surveying Practice	E	20
April	Building Economics	E	20
	Contemporary QS Practice	E	20
	Construction Project Management	E	20
	Valuation: Context and Principles	E	20
	Valuation: Core Methods	E	20
	Building Surveying Practice	E	20
	Design and Structures	E	20
	Investment	E	20
	Applied Valuation	E	20

Notes:

Students may study up to two modules part time in any semester. The complete programme is recommended to be studied over a 1.5 year period. Students are advised to take only 1 module in their first semester.

All modules are elective, however students are advised to first choose a pathway and then modules from the selected pathway. (see following diagrams for clarification).

RICS Associate 900 study hours

Pathways: To support the various RICS APC pathways it is recommended that students choose their modules from the following pathways

April start:

	Quantity Surveying	Building Surveying	Real Estate
April	<i>Induction</i>	<i>Induction</i>	<i>Induction</i>
	<i>Building Economics</i>	<i>Design and Structures</i>	<i>Valuation - Context and Principles</i>
Oct	<i>Contract Procedures</i>	<i>Planning & Conservation</i>	<i>Commercial Property Management</i>
	<i>Commercial Management in Construction/ Construction Law*</i>	<i>Building Pathology</i>	<i>Professional Surveying Practice</i>
April	<i>Contemporary QS Practice</i>	<i>Construction Project Management</i>	<i>Valuation - Core Methods</i>
	<i>Construction Project Management</i>	<i>Building Surveying Practice</i>	<i>Investment/Applied Valuation**</i>

October Start:

	Quantity Surveying	Building Surveying	Real Estate
Oct	<i>Induction</i>	<i>Induction</i>	<i>Induction</i>
	<i>Contract Procedures</i>	<i>Planning & Conservation</i>	<i>Professional Surveying Practice</i>
April	<i>Building Economics</i>	<i>Design and Structures</i>	<i>Valuation - Core Methods</i>
	<i>Contemporary QS Practice</i>	<i>Building Surveying Practice</i>	<i>Valuation - Context and Principles/Applied Valuation**</i>
Oct	<i>Commercial Property Management/ Construction Law*</i>	<i>Professional Surveying Practice</i>	<i>Commercial Property Management</i>
	<i>Commercial Management in Construction</i>	<i>Building Pathology</i>	<i>Planning and Environmental Law</i>

level 5
level 6

RICS Associate 900 study hours

*Students will be advised that this module requires previous study of law,

** The Applied Valuation elective is only available in the April semester and students may extend the programme to take this module.

Distinctive features of the Programme

- The interactive Induction Module to support the students study;
- A cohesive mix of modules at levels 5 and 6 designed to support students study;
- The flexibility to choose the start date – two intakes per academic year (October or April Semester);
- The flexibility for students to choose the pace of their study;
- The ability to interact with students from different Programmes and in varied geographical locations locally and internationally via the VLE;
- International professional, personal and academic networking opportunities, and
- RICS recognition.