

Postgraduate Certificate Built Environment Studies

Programme Specification

Reference:

Version: 1.00

Status: Final

Author: S Lee

Date: 07/01/2015

Postgraduate Certificate Built Environment Studies

Summary Programme Details

Final Award	
Award:	Postgraduate Certificate
Title of (final) Programme	Built Environment Studies
Credit points:	60
Level of award (QAA FHEQ):	7
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:	November 2019
Professional accreditation	
Accrediting body:	Recognition to be sought from Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) for Adaptation Route 1
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> <i>Master's Degrees in Business and Management QAA (2007)</i>
Start Date	March 2015
Duration	6 months – 1.5 years
Maximum period of registration	4 years

Programme Overview

Rationale

The Programme is designed for students wishing to undertake a selection of modules from the CEM Master's provision. The Postgraduate Certificate is primarily designed for students undertaking RICS Professional membership Adaptation Route 1 which is aimed at mature experienced employees in industry seeking to gain chartered membership. There are various pathways in the programme suited to the various professional disciplines.

Entry requirements

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

- A Bachelor Degree with honours at lower second standard (2:2), or equivalent; or
- A Bachelor Degree, or equivalent, plus 3 years' experience in a related field; or
- A Level 5 qualification as defined by the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications for England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ) plus 5 years' relevant experience in a senior position; or
- A professional qualification plus 5 years' relevant experience in a senior position

Students may apply to enter the programme in either semester.

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

Students are required to have one of the following:

- Grade B or above in English (Language or Literature) at GCSE or its equivalent
- Grade 6.0 or above, with at least 6.5 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
- 88 or above in the Internet option, 230 or above in the computer-based option or 570 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

CEM policy and procedures for Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) and Recognition of Prior Certificated Learning (RPCL) are set out in CEM Code of Practice: Recognition of Prior Learning. This policy statement takes precedence in any such decision.

RPEL may be used for admission onto a level 7 programme in accordance with the entry requirements stated in the section above. However RPEL and RPCL do not normally enable transfer of credit into a level 7 programme nor enable exemption from any component on these programmes.

Postgraduate Certificate Built Environment Studies

Programme progression

Students completing the Postgraduate Certificate programme may progress onto the full Master's offer in the pathway of their choice. Credit transfers in to a Master's programme will only be given for applicable modules successfully completed from the selected pathway.

Awards

- Postgraduate Certificate in Built Environment Studies is conferred upon successful completion of 60 credits of study.

Awards are conferred in accordance with the CEM General and Academic Regulations for Students and the CEM Postgraduate Programme Assessment, Progression and Award Regulations.

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 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 Postgraduate Certificate Programme is delivered via the College VLE and academic teaching and support is provided online giving students access to CEM tutors and other students worldwide.

The CEM Student Central will act as the main point of contact for students throughout the duration of their programme. The academic team will guide and support students' learning. 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.

Postgraduate Certificate Built Environment 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.

Personal and professional development:

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

Programme Aims

Programme aims

The Programme is designed for holders of a non-cognate or semi-cognate Bachelor's degree to study a postgraduate award that is focussed on the core disciplines associated with a range of Built Environment pathways. It develops a student's ability to integrate interdisciplinary theory and practice and to research and evaluate data in order to solve complex problems. The Programme also prepares students with a foundation for further professional development and extension of their knowledge in preparation for further academic study, including completion of a masters award at CEM or at level 8.

Learning Outcomes

A: Knowledge and Understanding

Learning outcomes

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

- A1** Critical awareness and systematic understanding of issues and the wider business context in the built environment sector as informed by research and practice
- 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 suitable for the online distance learner. 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.

Postgraduate Certificate Built Environment Studies

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.

B: Cognitive skills

Learning outcomes

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

B1 Synthesise of a range of information and solve complex problems involving the creative application of built environment knowledge.

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 research 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.

Postgraduate Certificate Built Environment Studies

D: Key/transferable skills

Learning outcomes

By the end of the Programme students should be able to

- D1** Demonstrate a structured approach to research and decision making.
- D2** Communicate and collaborate effectively with relevant stakeholders within a built environment context.

Teaching and learning

The learning activities require students to undertake research, evaluate their findings and develop solutions. Teaching of module topics requires students' engagement with a range of online activities that develop research and evaluation skills and cultivate a systematic approach to problem solving. Engagement with the CEM learning community 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, evaluation 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.

Postgraduate Certificate Built Environment Studies

Programme Structure

Semester	Module	Core /Elective	Credit points
September	Law for Surveyors	E	20
	Costing and Contracts	E	20
	Building Pathology	E	20
	Management of Construction*	E	20
	Contract Administration and Practice	E	20
	Strategic Management of Change	E	20
	Managing and Leading people	E	20
	Professional Cost Management	E	20
	Valuation and Ethics	E	20
	Property Management*	E	20
	Real Estate Investment	E	20
	Applied Valuation	E	20
	Planning and Development*	E	20
March	Sustainable and Innovative Construction	E	20
	Planning and Development*	E	20
	Maintenance and Adaptation of Buildings	E	20
	Property Management*	E	20
	Management of Construction*	E	20
	Procurement and Tendering	E	20
	Building Economics	E	20
	Property Transactions	E	20
	Management Finance and Science	E	20
	Applied International Marketing	E	20

Notes:

*Available in both semesters.

Students study three modules part time over either six months, one year or 1.5 year period. Students are advised to take only 1 module in their first semester.

All modules are elective in terms of the award, however students must first choose a pathway and then modules from the selected pathway (see following diagrams for clarification).

The choice of 'No pathway' allows a choice to be made from all modules but limits possibilities of progression onto an MSc post award of the PG Cert, with potentially only some of the credit transferred.

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

Postgraduate Certificate Built Environment Studies

	Quantity Surveying Module		Construction Management Module
September	Law for Surveyors		Law for Surveyors
	Management of Construction		Management of Construction
	Contract Administration and Practice		Contract Administration and Practice
	Professional Cost Management		
March	Sustainable and Innovative Construction		Sustainable and Innovative Construction
	Management of Construction		Management of Construction
	Procurement and Tendering		Procurement and Tendering
	Building Economics		Management Finance and Science

Postgraduate Certificate Built Environment Studies

	Building Surveying Module	Real Estate Module
September	Law for Surveyors	Law for Surveyors
	Costing and Contracts	Valuation and Ethics
	Building Pathology	Property Management
		Planning and Development
		<i>Either Real Estate Investment or Applied Valuation (but not both)*</i>
March	Sustainable and Innovative Construction	Property Management
	Planning and Development	Property Transactions
	Maintenance and Adaptation of Buildings	Planning and Development

** choice of **Valuation** follows **APC Valuation route** and **Investment** follows **APC Commercial route**- should this be a determining factor for a student)*

	MBA Module
September	Strategic Management of Change
	Managing and Leading People
	Planning and Development*
March	Planning and Development*
	Management of Finance and Science
	Applied International Marketing

Postgraduate Certificate Built Environment Studies

Distinctive features of the Programme

- The interactive Induction Module
- The flexibility to choose the start date – two intakes per academic year (September or March 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
- Recognition from the RICS