

Public Safety in Buildings

Module Descriptor

Module Code: BCU6PSB
Version: 6.00
Status: Final
Date: 28/02/2024

Summary Module Details

Module details

Module Title: Public Safety in Buildings

Module Leader: Nicola Allen

Module Mode: Supported online learning

Semester: Autumn (UK)

Level: 6

Credits: 20

Learning Hours: 200

Contact & Study Hours:

Directed Study Time: 90 hrs (45%)

Self-Directed Study Time: 50 hrs (25%)

Assessment Study Time: 60 hrs (30%)

Assessment Type:

Coursework: 100%

Computer Based Assessment: 0%

Portfolio: 0%

Presentation: 0%

Project: 0%

Practical: 0%

Self-directed Research: 0%

Module Summary

A core skill for building control surveyors is the ability to assess the use of a building or venue for public events to ensure the safety of those attending. This module looks at safety in buildings and venues such as sports grounds, licenced premises, and concert venues. Students will examine the legislation and guidance around the safety of buildings and venues and explore the application of these in different scenarios. They will use knowledge and skills already gained in earlier modules relating to construction technology, law and building control and fire safety.

Taken on which Programme

BSc (Hons) Building Control (C)

Core (C) or Elective (E)

Module Aims

This module aims to:

- Expand on knowledge and understanding gained from previous modules, in particular those relating to construction technology, law, building control inspection and fire safety.
- Explain human behaviour in crowd scenarios and how this affects the implementation of safety in large capacity buildings and venues.
- Appreciate the general and legislative issues in relation to safety in sports grounds and the variables which form the considerations in determining the safety of such premises.
- Gain knowledge and understanding of the principles of licencing law and the associated inspections and assessment of suitability of premises.
- Appreciate the requirements to assess the safety of temporary events and the procedures involved.
- Examine case studies and lessons learned from incidences resulting from inadequate safety provisions.

Module Learning Outcomes

- LO1. Evaluate human behaviour in crowd scenarios and apply this understanding to the assessment of safety in large capacity buildings and venues.
- LO2. Examine the legislation in relation to safety in large capacity building and venues, including sports grounds, and demonstrate a working knowledge of the application of this legislation in different circumstances.
- LO3. Consider and evaluate the nature of different venues, the types of inspection and assessment required and provide appropriate professional advice and recommendations.

Indicative Module Content

Module topics

- **The human factor**
Examination of human behaviour in crowd scenarios and how this affects the implementation of safety in large capacity buildings and venues.
- **Legislative landscape**
The legislation, regulations and guidelines relating to the safety of large capacity buildings and venues, licenced premises, sports grounds, and temporary venues.
- **Safety in sports grounds**
Principles of assessing safety in sporting venues with reference to the 'Green Guide' (Sports Ground Safety Authority (2018) *Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds* (6th ed.), SGSA).

Public Safety in Buildings

- **Licenced premises**

Evaluation of premises in respect of licencing regulations including assessment of safe capacity, provision for means of escape, facilities for disabled and risk-based inspections and enforcement.

- **Temporary venues and complex venues**

The requirement for safety of large temporary events covering a wide range of activities and the requirements for more complex venues.

- **Case studies**

Examine case studies and lessons learned from incidences resulting from inadequate safety provisions, such as Bradford City Stadium fire, Hillsborough, various events outside the UK, and the current threat of terrorism and the implications for venues.

This content will be reviewed and updated regularly to reflect the legal, ethical, and financial changes in professional standards and practice.

Overview of Summative Assessment

Module learning outcomes	Assessment	Word count or equivalent	Weighting
LO1, LO2	Assessment 1 Coursework	1,500	30%
LO1, LO2, LO3	Assessment 2 Coursework	3,500	70%

Module Pass Mark (as a weighted average of all assessments): 40%

Key Module Learning Resources

Core Sources and Texts

The core reading resources within each module will be provided via the specific Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) module pages and within the e-Library. Additional reference material and supplementary resources to support your studies are available through the UCEM e-Library.

Module tools

Students will have access to study materials, dedicated academic support, student forums, and learning activities via an online learning platform (VLE).

The module page on the VLE is broken down into structured study weeks to help students plan their time, with each week containing a mixture of reading, case studies, videos/recordings, and interactive activities to go through. Online webinars/seminars led by the Module Leader can be attended in real time and provide opportunities to consolidate knowledge, ask questions, discuss topics and work through learning activities together.

Public Safety in Buildings

These sessions are recorded to support students who cannot attend and to enable students to recap the session and work through it at their own pace. Module forums on the VLE provide further opportunities to discuss topics with other students, complete collaborative work and get extra help from the module team.

Professional online resources

The e-Library provides access to trusted, quality online resources, selected by subject specialists, to support students' study. This includes journals, industry publications, magazines, academic books, and a dissertation/work-based library. For a list of the key industry specific and education resources available please visit [the VLE e-Library](#).

Other relevant resources

Access is also provided to further information sources that include the British Library and Open University UK catalogues, as well as providing a monthly current awareness service entitled, **Knowledge Foundations** - a compendium of news, research and resources relating to the educational sector and the Built Environment.

The module resource list is available on the module VLE page and is updated regularly to ensure materials are relevant and current.