

International Construction

Module Descriptor

Module Code: INT7CON

Version: 6.00

Status: Final

Date: 15/09/2022

Summary Module Details

Module details

Module Title: International Construction

Module Leader: Jackie Portman

Module Mode: Supported online learning

Semester: Autumn (UK)

Level: 7

Credits: 20

Learning Hours: 200

Contact & Study Hours

Directed Study Time: 60hrs (30%)

Self-directed Study Time: 70hrs (35%)

Assessment Study Time: 70hrs (35%)

Assessment Type

Coursework: 100%

Computer Marked Assessment: 0%

Self-directed Research Project: 0%

Portfolio: 0%

Module Summary

This module focuses on the global construction arena. The module comprises the following topics; health and safety, culture, business, resource management, and constructing in tropical climates. The module will enhance the student's ability to recognise, analyse and develop many aspects of international construction and apply this in the international construction arena.

Taken on which programmes

MSc Construction Management (E)

Core (C) Elective (E)

Module Aims

This module aims to:

- Provide an overview of the global construction market and the different ways in which construction professionals deal with building in particular regions of the world.
- Investigate the international players, companies and clients, covering those areas which international construction managers find themselves involved in on a day to day basis.
- Provide an introduction to the design construction and resource management of the international construction manager.
- Provide an overview of international legal systems and processes, with regard to contracts and dispute resolution.

Module Learning Outcomes

- LO1. Critically analyse key aspects of managing international construction projects in the context of political, economic, social and cultural constraints.
- LO2. Examine and evaluate the legal system as applied to the global construction process.
- LO3. Critically evaluate a range of information to give justified solutions to problems.
- LO4. Critically evaluate methods and techniques to promote safe working, ethical practices, the setting of standards and pursuit of sustainable solutions.

Indicative Module Content

Module topics

- **An introduction to international construction/tools of the trade and global construction**

What is international construction? The global construction market, the differences from domestic business, construction in the Middle East, the top international contractors, policies and strategies driven by the Kyoto Protocol principles, sustainability, tools of the trade, global construction, international construction trends, construction methods.

- **The international cultural challenge and ethics/international management culture**

Culture and ethics, cultural appreciation, work ethics, international management culture, management of global construction projects, working with different cultures, the influence of culture on international business negotiations, business etiquette and culture, communication.

- **The worldwide construction market/logistics and marketing**

The world economic overview, international trade, corporate strategy, logistics and marketing, international construction logistics and risk, recruitment, seeking work and marketing, procurement methods.

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- **Project funding/project managing international construction**

Project funding, public private partnerships (PPP) in international construction, sources of finance, project managing international construction, construction management strategies, joint ventures, partnering.

- **International human resource management/international design and construction**

Human resource planning, industrial relations, health and safety, overseas working practices, international design for tropical regions, Building Information Modelling (BIM), sustainability, tropical climate construction issues.

- **Construction plant and building materials/future developments**

Construction plant and building materials production, offsite production, trends in construction, future developments in the global construction industry, climate change, security and safety, information technology (IT), sustainability, cultural and demographic changes.

- **International construction contracts**

International construction contracts, disputes and how to resolve them, the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (Fédération International Des Ingénieurs-Conseils - FIDIC) Dispute Adjudication Board.

- **Legal systems in application to the global construction process**

Statutory requirements, obligations, legal systems, dispute resolution.

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

Overview of Summative Assessment

Module learning outcomes	Assessment	Word count or equivalent	Weighting
LO1, LO3	Assessment 1 Coursework	1,500	30%
LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4	Assessment 2 Coursework	3,500	70%

Module Pass Mark (as a weighted average of all assessments): 50%

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. 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 website and is updated regularly to ensure materials are relevant and current.