



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
OF ESTATE MANAGEMENT

Professional Cost Management

Module Descriptor

Module Code: QSP7PCM

Version: 10.00

Status: Final

Date: 18/03/2021

Summary Module Details

Module details

Module Title: Professional Cost Management

Module Leader: Michelle Eze

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 brings together various cost management subjects and allows the exploration of a range of issues and challenges which contribute to the development of the cost management aspects of the quantity surveying profession. Therefore, it develops the knowledge, understanding and skills in construction quantification/measurement and cost management required to operate in a dynamic and contemporary construction environment.

Taken on which Programmes

MSc Quantity Surveying (C)

Core (C) or Elective (C)

Module Aims

This module aims to examine the following in an international context:

- Complex problems and provide added value in the area of professional management of costs.
- Underlying concepts and theoretical principles in the measurement and quantification of construction projects and professional cost management.
- The future requirements of a professional cost manager working in the international construction industry.

Module Learning Outcomes

- LO1. Critically evaluate the development of the global quantity surveying profession, including professional communication and collaboration, conduct rules and ethical practice.
- LO2. Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the principles and limitations of measurement together with their application and presentation, data analysis and/ or application of spatial data, and information and evaluation of the presentation.
- LO3. Critically synthesise reasoned solutions to problems associated with the procurement, tendering and management of project costs in the pre- and post-contract stages of a project, from the clients' and contractors' perspectives.
- LO4. Critically appraise the tools and techniques in pre- and post-contract risk, value and financial management, and communicate advice to different types of construction clients.
- LO5. Critically evaluate ethical, sustainable and environmental construction issues encountered in the role and work of a professional cost manager.

Indicative Module Content

Module topics

- **The Development of the Quantity Surveying Profession Globally**
Global development of the contemporary quantity surveying profession including communication, conduct rules, ethical practice in an international context.
- **The Client's Brief, Pre-Contract Procedures and Tendering Strategies**
The importance of developing the client's brief, the briefing process and procurement strategies, leading to pretender processes, contractor selection and tendering strategies.
- **Quantification of Construction Works Using a Variety of UK and International Measurement Rules**
Introduction to measurement and quantification of construction works using a variety of measurement rules. Understanding how Bills of Quantities Software supports the Quantity Surveyor.

Professional Cost Management

- **Estimating and Cost Control**

Principles and application of estimating and pricing for construction works, pre- and post-contract cost control procedures for professional quantity surveyors and post-contract cost control procedures for contractors' quantity surveyors.

- **Value and Risk Management**

The principles and application of value and risk management, including distinguishing between value engineering, value analysis, value planning and value management.

- **Soft Landings, and it's Impact on Sustainability**

Principles and application of 'soft landings' and the use of the standard method of measurement NRM1, an introduction to the use of NRM3 standard method and SFG20 schedules for maintenance use.

- **Three-Dimensional Project Modelling, Building Information Modelling (BIM), Protocols and Management under a BIM Project, Professional Ethics and Sustainability in an international context**

Introduction to the principles and application of building information modelling (BIM), including the necessary protocols and stakeholder agreements, together with guidance on how the quantity surveyor can best make use of BIM. The principles application of ethics and sustainability issues in construction.

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
LO2	Assessment 1 Coursework	2,000	40%
LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5	Assessment 2 Coursework	3,000	60%

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.