UCEM

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
OF ESTATE MANAGEMENT

Fire Safety

Module Descriptor

Module Code:	BCU6FSA
Version:	5.00
Status:	Final
Date:	28/02/2024

Summary Module Details

Module details

Module Title: Fire Safety

Module Leader: Dylan Harvey

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

Fire safety is a core competency within the industry and one which is essential for students to become members of the accrediting professional bodies. The module draws on students' learning in earlier construction technology and law modules and the Building Control module at level 5. Students study the nature of fire, the relevant regulations and standards, methods of protection of buildings and occupiers and means of escape, in relation to domestic and commercial buildings.

Taken on which Programmes

BSc (Hons) Building Control (C)

BSc (Hons) Building Surveying (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 and law.
- Understand the principles of the behaviours of fire in relation to buildings.
- Appreciate human behaviour in such situations and relate this to the implementation of effective means of escape and a variety of evacuation strategies in the event of fire.
- Expand knowledge and understanding of legislation relevant to fire safety and when this legislation applies in relation to domestic and commercial property, low and high rise.
- Examine case studies and lessons learned from fire incidences and how they influenced changes in legislation.
- Appreciate the need for fire detection and suppression systems.
- Apply fire safety principles to case study examples from around the world to mimic real life situations.

Module Learning Outcomes

LO1. Examine the combustion process, the behaviours of fire and human reactions to fire events, means of protection of the structure of buildings and demonstrate knowledge of the methods needed to ensure safety of human life.

LO2. Examine and comprehend the component parts of legislative, statutory, and professional body requirements relating to fire safety. Apply these where relevant, according to circumstance, context, and location.

LO3. Demonstrate the ability to evaluate plans, drawings, and specifications in relation to fire safety of buildings and advise on any shortcomings and where appropriate, to propose alternative solutions.

Indicative Module Content

Module topics

- **The combustion process, physics and chemistry of fire and the physiological and psychological effects of fire**

  How fires start, how they spread, methods of containment and protection of the structure of buildings.

- **Legislation relevant to fire safety**

  Building Regulations, British Standards and Acts of Parliament and considered how this can be achieved. Examination of fire incidences that have shaped this legislation. Contents and details of the legislation and where it applies.

- **Means of escape**

  Design of buildings to facilitate safe escape of occupants including fire doors, lobbies, protected routes, and staircases and means of escape and strategies.

- **Fire detection and suppression systems**

  The requirement for fire detection and suppression systems, and an appreciation of active and passive fire protection and the role these play in a more holistic fire safety strategy.

- **The role of Surveyors in fire safety**

  Evaluation of plans and other documents to assess fire safety and action to be taken in the event of non-compliance, including recommending alternative solutions where possible.

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. 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.