

# **MSc Real Estate**

# Programme Specification 2024-2025

Version: 35.00 Status: Final Date: 18/04/2024

# **Summary Programme Details**

Final Award

Award: MSc

Title of (final) Programme: Real Estate

Credit points: 180

Level of award (QAA FHEQ): 7

Intermediate award(s)\*

Intermediate award 1: Postgraduate Diploma Real Estate

Credit points: 120

Level of award (QAA FHEQ): 7

Intermediate award 2: Postgraduate Certificate Building and Property Studies

Credit points: 60

Level of award (QAA FHEQ): 7

\*Intermediate awards will be granted to students that exit the programme part way through if they have achieved sufficient credits in line with the <u>Academic and Programme Regulations (opens new window)</u>.

Apprenticeship Standard and Assessment Plan (relevant to apprentices only)

Name of apprenticeship standard: Chartered Surveyor (Degree)

Reference number: ST0331

End Point Assessment: non-integrated

End Point Assessment Organisation: Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)

Link to apprenticeship standard: Chartered Surveyor

Link to assessment plan: Chartered Surveyor Assessment Plan

Validation

Validating institution: University College of Estate Management (UCEM)

Date of last validation: February 2020

Date of next periodic review: February 2025

Date of commencement of first delivery: September 2014

**Duration**: 2 years or 2 years plus external end point assessment, if taken as part of an apprenticeship programme

Maximum period of registration: In accordance with the <u>Academic and Programme</u> <u>Regulations (opens new window).</u>

UCAS Code/ HECoS Code: N/A/ 100218

Programming Code: PMSC

Other coding as required: EMS

#### Professional accreditation / recognition

Accrediting/recognising body: Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)

Details of the accreditation/recognition: MSc accredited. RICS is also the End Point Assessment Organisation for the apprenticeship programme.

Date of last programme accreditation/recognition: January 2023

Date of next periodic review: 2027

#### Accrediting/recognising body: Property Services Regulatory Authority of Ireland (PSRA)

Details of the accreditation/recognition: MSc recognised

Date of last programme recognition: August 2017

Date of next periodic review: N/A

Accrediting/recognising body: Hong Kong Institute of Certified Property Managers

Details of the accreditation/recognition: Meets the academic requirement for admission to full membership including Ordinary Member and Fellow Member.

Date of last programme accreditation/recognition: March 2023

Date of next periodic review: 2028

#### **QAA** Guidance

UK Quality Code for Higher Education (opens new window)

The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (opens new window)

Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Subject Benchmark Statement: Land, Construction, Real Estate and Surveying April 2024 (opens new window)

# **Programme Overview**

### Rationale

UCEM's MSc Real Estate programme is a postgraduate conversion programme delivered by supported online learning and is fully recognised by RICS as meeting its educational requirements for membership.

This programme offers a range of modules that address the competencies required for the RICS Valuation and Commercial Real Estate pathways. Through this programme, students will develop the knowledge, understanding and critical thinking required to practice as a valuer or commercial property surveyor.

The programme is ideal for anyone who already has a non-cognate first degree and wants to start a career in real estate. Persons interested in property valuation, property management, development, investment and agency/brokerage should study this programme, as it gives a route to Chartered status.

Employment opportunities include working in private practice or large international real estate firms or working client-side with high net-worth investors or institutions with large property portfolios and government departments.

### **Entry Requirements**

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

- a Bachelor's Degree with honours at lower second standard (2:2), or equivalent;
  Or
- a Bachelor's Degree, or equivalent, plus experience in a relevant field;

Or

 a Level 5 qualification as defined by Framework for Higher Education Qualifications for England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ) plus 5 years' relevant experience;

Or

• a professional qualification plus 5 years' relevant experience;

Or

successfully completed the UCEM Postgraduate Access programme at the first attempt.

If an applicant does not meet the standard entry requirements UCEM will consider the application on an individual basis. In these cases, the application will be assessed by the Programme Leader or for students in Hong Kong by the Dean of School (International), who will give careful consideration to any professional and life experiences as well as any academic or vocational qualifications the applicant may hold. The applicant may be asked to provide a detailed personal statement and/or a reference or letter of support from an employer or mentor to support the application. Applications are assessed in accordance with the UCEM <u>Code of Practice: Admissions and Recognition of Prior Learning (opens new window).</u>

### English language requirements

All UCEM programmes are taught and assessed in English. The applicant will therefore be required to demonstrate adequate proficiency in the language before being admitted to a course\*:

- GCSE Grade 4 (or C) or above in English Language or English Literature, or an equivalent qualification. For further information on equivalent qualifications please contact: <a href="mailto:admissions@ucem.ac.uk">admissions@ucem.ac.uk</a>.
- Grade 6.0 or above, with at least 6.0 in the reading and writing modules, in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) academic test administered by the British Council.
- 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 4 (or C) or above in English (Language or Literature) at A/S Level.
- HKDSE (Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education) Grade 3, or HKALE (Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination Advanced Level & Advanced Supplementary Level) Grade E, or HKCEE (Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination) Grade 3-5\* or Grade A-D (Syllabus B only).

Applicants with a bachelor's degree that has been taught and examined in the English medium can be considered for entry in the absence of the qualifications detailed above if applying for a non-apprenticeship programme.

#### Apprenticeship programme

Applicants to the apprenticeship programme must also:

- Have the right to work in England, meet Education and Skills Funding Agency residency status requirements, spend at least 50% of their working hours in England and be directly employed in a job role that will enable the requirements of the apprenticeship to be achieved.
- Have GCSE Grade 4 (or C) or above in Mathematics, or an equivalent qualification. For further information on equivalent qualifications please contact <u>admissions@ucem.ac.uk</u>. Applicants for the apprenticeship programme that do not have accepted current or prior equivalent Level 2 maths and English qualifications on entry will be required to achieve these as part of the apprenticeship.
- Meet all of the funding eligibility requirements contained in the ESFA funding rules.

# Recognition of prior learning (RPL) or recognition of prior experiential learning (RPEL) routes into the programme

UCEM policy and procedures for Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) are set out in the UCEM Code of Practice: Admissions and Recognition of Prior Learning. This policy statement takes precedence in any such decision.

RPEL may be used to support an application for entry onto the programme in accordance with the entry requirements stated in the section above. UCEM also recognises credit awarded by higher education degree awarding bodies in accordance with the relevant higher education qualifications framework and allows that credit to count towards module exemption from the programme. Normally at least one-third of any award must be accumulated as a result of learning assessed by UCEM, subject to any overriding Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body requirements. For programmes leading to MSc or MBA awards:

- at least 100 credits (including the final project module) must be accumulated as a result of learning assessed by UCEM, and
- the final project module must be based on work completed while a student at UCEM and not before.

#### Programme Progression

For details of progression arrangements, please view the <u>Academic and Programme</u> <u>Regulations (opens new window)</u>.

Successful completion of the MSc will enable the student to apply to the relevant professional body for membership, or to apply for a PhD/MPhil, or to conduct further research.

### **Award Regulations**

For details of award arrangements, please view the <u>Academic and Programme Regulations</u> (opens new window).

#### **Career Prospects**

This programme will provide a route for non-cognate and semi-cognate graduates into careers associated with membership of RICS.

This programme equips students with the essential subject knowledge, postgraduate skills and expertise to enable them to enter and work within the real estate areas of practice within the property industry.

The opportunities available are fairly extensive, and include the following areas of professional practice:

- Property management;
- Commercial real estate valuation;
- Property development;
- Real estate investment;
- Commercial property agency;
- Valuation for special purposes, including compulsory purchase, planning compensation and rating.

# **Programme Aims**

#### Programme aims

The programme is designed for holders of a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent to study a Master's award that is focused on the core disciplines associated with commercial real estate.

It develops students' abilities 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 at PHD level.

### Market and internationalisation

This programme is aimed at a UK and broad international audience. However, it has as its basis UK law and regulatory controls.

The programme aims to utilise international case studies to further understanding and, where possible, international case studies are considered along with international codes and conventions. The apprenticeship route is available to UK students only.

# **Programme Structure**

Code	Module		Credits	Core/ Elective
VAL7VAE	Valuation and Ethics	7	20	Core
PTY7PRT	Property Transactions	7	20	Core
LAW7LFS	Law for Surveyors	7	20	Core
PTY7PRM	Property Management		20	Core
VAL7SVA	Statutory Valuations		20	Elective
INV7REV	Investment Appraisal and Portfolio Management		20	Elective
VAL7AVL	Applied Valuation*		20	Elective
PLN7PLD	Planning and Development		20	Elective
CON7SDC	Sustainable and Innovative Construction		20	Elective
PRJ7PRA/ PRJ7PRS	·		40	Core

#### Module List

#### Notes

Credits are part of the Credit Accumulation and Transfer System (CATS). Two UK credits are equivalent to one European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credit.

\* The module diet is structured to ensure that the delivery of modules supports your learning. However individual student circumstances may mean the sequence of the planned module diet changes. It is therefore strongly advised that you study VAL7VAE Valuation and Ethics before attempting VAL7AVL Applied Valuation.

# **Learning Outcomes**

Having successfully completed the programme, the student will have met the following learning outcomes.

### A – Knowledge and understanding

Learni	Learning Outcome Relevant modules				
A7.1	Demonstrate a systematic understanding of commercial real estate practice and its relevance in the context of international business.	INV7REV			
		PTY7PRT			
A7.2	Demonstrate a critical awareness of the current issues in the commercial real estate sector as informed by leading edge research and practice in the field.	PTY7PRM			
		VAL7VAE			
		PRJ7PRA/			
		PRJ7PRS			
A7.3	Evaluation and selection of appropriate techniques that allow detailed investigations of complex commercial real estate scenarios, taking into account the internal and external business environment.	CON7SDC			
		VAL7AVL			
A7.4	Synthesise knowledge of valuation, agency, law, property management, construction, planning and development to protect and add value to development land and commercial property as an investment asset class.	INV7REV			
		LAW7LFS			
		PLN7PLD			
		PTY7PRT			

### B – Intellectual skills

Learni	ng Outcome	Relevant modules
research and scholarship to identify new or	Critically evaluate the rigour and validity of existing research and scholarship to identify new or revised approaches to commercial real estate practice.	CON7SDC PLN7PLD
		PRJ7PRA/ PRJ7PRS
B7.2 Acquire, synthesise and analyse a range of data and information to evaluate their relevance and validity range of scenarios within commercial real estate.	Acquire, synthesise and analyse a range of data and	LAW7LFS
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	VAL7AVL
		VAL7SVA

## C – Subject practical skills

Learn	ng Outcome	Relevant modules
C7.1	Synthesise theory and practice and apply subject specific knowledge to solve complex commercial real estate problems.	LAW7LFS PTY7PRM
C7.2	Demonstrate an international perspective regarding the impact of real estate on businesses, societies and the environment.	CON7SDC INV7REV
C7.3	Critically evaluate the role of professional, codes standards and ethics in real estate practice.	PTY7PRM VAL7VAE

### D – Key / Transferable skills

Learni	ng Outcome	Relevant modules
D7.1	Demonstrate professional communication appropriate for relevant stakeholders.	All modules
D7.2	Evaluate and apply subject-specific knowledge and integrate theory and practice to make informed decisions to deal with complex problems.	All modules
D7.3	Demonstrate proactivity and originality in problem-solving, and the ability to act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional level.	All modules
D7.4	Demonstrate independent, self-directed learning, as required for continuing professional development.	All modules
D7.5	Critically evaluate data and develop solutions that reflect a holistic approach to sustainability and the opportunities and constraints this presents.	CON7SDC
		INV7REV
		LAW7LFS
		PLN7PLD
		PTY7PRM
		PTY7PRT
		VAL7AVL
		VAL7VAE

# **Delivery Structure**

### Autumn (UK) Entry

Level	Year 1 Semester 1	
7	VAL7VAE	Valuation and Ethics
7	LAW7LFS	Law for Surveyors

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Year 1 Semester 2				
7	PTY7PRT	Property Transactions		
	PLN7PLD	Planning and Development <i>or</i>		
7	CON7SDC	Sustainable and Innovative Construction		
		Year 2 Semester 1		
7	PTY7PRM	Property Management		
	VAL7SVA	Statutory Valuations or		
	INV7REV	Investment Appraisal and Portfolio Management or		
7	VAL7AVL	Applied Valuation <i>or</i>		
	PLN7PLD	Planning and Development		
7	PRJ7PRA/PRJ7PRS	Postgraduate Project		
		Year 2 Semester 2		
	VAL7AVL	Applied Valuation or		
7	PLN7PLD	Planning and Development <i>or</i>		
1	CON7SDC	Sustainable and Innovative Construction		
7	PRJ7PRA/PRJ7PRS	Postgraduate Project		

# Spring (UK) Entry

Level	Year 1 Semester 1		
	PLN7PLD	Planning and Development or	
7	CON7SDC	Sustainable and Innovative Construction	
7	PTY7PRT	Property Transactions	
	Year 1 Semester 2		
7	VAL7VAE	Valuation and Ethics	
7	LAW7LFS	Law for Surveyors	
	Year 2 Semester 1		
	CON7SDC	Sustainable and Innovative Construction or	
7	VAL7AVL	Applied Valuation <i>or</i>	

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	PLN7PLD	Planning and Development	
7	PTY7PRM	Property Management	
7	PRJ7PRA/PRJ7PRS Postgraduate Project		
	Year 2 Semester 2		
	VAL7SVA	Statutory Valuations or	
	INV7REV	Investment Appraisal and Portfolio Management or	
7	VAL7AVL	Applied Valuation <i>or</i>	
	PLN7PLD	Planning and Development	
7	PRJ7PRA/PRJ7PRS	Postgraduate Project	

### Module Summaries

#### **Core Modules**

#### VAL7VAE Valuation and Ethics

The module explores the traditional and modern methods of valuation. A central theme to this module is the RICS' 5 Global Professional and Ethical standards of (1) always acting with integrity, (2) providing a high standard of service, (3) acting in a way that promotes trust in the profession, (4) treating others with respect and (5) taking responsibility. The module encourages students to consider the practical application of these standards in their area of practice, so that they can demonstrate their commitment to the RICS Rules of Conduct, ethics and RICS professional and ethical standards.

#### **PTY7PRT Property Transactions**

This module introduces students to the practice of estate agency, focusing on the commercial property market in the UK. It deals with the relationship between a client and agent during the contract for property agency and looks at the logic of location theory for commercial uses for leasing and sale. Students are introduced to the analysis of company accounts (profit and loss statements, cash flow statements and balance sheets) in order to establish the covenant strength of a prospective tenant in the letting process. The module also seeks to explain, firstly, how the sale (price and/or rent) is determined, and, secondly, to introduce students to the dynamics of various property markets as key functions of business planning. In selected module topics international students draw comparison between arrangements in the UK and their own jurisdictions.

#### LAW7LFS Law for Surveyors

This module introduces an overview of English law, the legal system and the law-making process. Students are introduced to the law of contracts, from their formation, acceptance and validity, through to termination and remedies for breach and the enforceability of exclusion clauses. Students are then introduced to the law of tort which deals with 'civil wrong' (tort being the French for 'wrong') that causes harm or loss to one or more parties. In tort we will explore the concept of duty and standard of care, vicarious liability, and remedies

and specific classes of tort. An introduction to conflict avoidance, dispute resolution and, particularly, Alternative Dispute Resolution is provided, which includes considering when and how ADR is commonly used in a built environment context.

#### PTY7PRM Property Management

The module develops the principles of law and practice appropriate to the effective and efficient management of commercial property both in the UK and globally. The focus is principally on the landlord and tenant relationship within legal and regulatory frameworks, but also encompasses property held for owner occupation. In business planning terms, this module also examines key issues, such as the strategic use of property, property performance evaluation, positive tenant management and life cycle planning, and evaluates how these issues inform the development of strategic advice. Accounting principles are addressed in the context of service charge management.

#### PRJ7PRA/PRJ7PRS Postgraduate Project

This module requires students to develop their research skills within the context of the built environment and is a key part of their wider professional development. It provides them with an opportunity to conduct a self-directed research project that reflects the culmination of their studies in the relevant programme. The topics selected are expected to reflect the current and critical issues that concern the built environment. For many students the development of case study research, often emanating within their own workplace or arising from their professional activity, will be an appropriate approach to demonstrate research and expertise in a specific area.

#### **Elective Modules**

#### VAL7AVL Applied Valuation

This module aims to advance the knowledge, understanding, research and analytical skills so that students are able to undertake complex and specialist valuations in both a UK and international context.

#### VAL7SVA Statutory Valuations

The aim of this module is to equip the student with the knowledge and skills to carry out valuations for statutory purposes, specifically for compulsory purchase, planning compensation and rating. The module demonstrates how valuation principles and practice are applied to an artificial statutory context. It underlines the importance of using relevant case law and established practice within assessments, and the principles that underpin these disciplines.

#### **INV7REV Investment Appraisal and Portfolio Management**

This module focuses on key principles underpinning commercial property investment in international markets. Detailed 'Discounted Cashflow' appraisal models using Microsoft Excel are applied to 'real world' scenarios to determine the viability (NPV/IRR) of both multi-tenanted commercial property investments and mixed portfolios. In the context of business planning, the module also focuses on key considerations of commercial property portfolio management, including the styles of portfolio management (i.e., core, core plus, value-added, opportunistic) and portfolio restructuring techniques used to protect and improve the risk/return profile of the property portfolio. Sustainability is key theme at property and portfolio levels in this module.

#### PLN7PLD Planning and Development

This module provides an introduction to planning law and the planning process relevant to property development. The property development process, site selection and financial appraisal of development sites and their funding are considered. The module blends the basic knowledge of planning law with the real estate implementation of a development project.

#### **CON7SDC Sustainable and Innovative Construction**

This module develops the principles of construction technology, including modern, innovative and traditional construction. Within the framework of a sustainable built environment, assessment methods and relevant codes and regulations are explored in providing for a sustainable agenda.

# Learning, Teaching and Assessment

### Learning & Teaching

#### Knowledge and understanding

The teaching, learning and assessment strategy for the programme is guided by the UCEMwide Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy (LTAS 2020-2025). This ensures all programmes promote a logical learning journey for students. The approach adopted is student-centred learning design that supports the educational needs of our diverse student community. Learning has been designed with flexibility in mind to support students to adopt their own learning experience best suited to their needs.

Students are taught through online learning resources available to them, including customised text material, study papers, learning activities and interactive media. These are complemented by a variety of Lecturer-facilitated sessions and interactions, using a range of media for enhancement of the learning experience.

Module delivery follows a standard format, incorporating a range of subject appropriate resources suitable for the online learner. This may include, but is not limited to, audio-visual presentations, interactive case studies and online journals.

Students are encouraged to research beyond the material provided and undertake selfdirected learning throughout their programme.

In the Postgraduate Project module, self-directed learning and problem solving further enhances knowledge and understanding, focusing on students' own chosen research topic.

#### Intellectual skills

Learning and teaching methods are applied to enable the development of cognitive skills. These skills are aligned to those used by Real Estate professionals, but also meet the needs of working in other industries. These skills are developed through interaction with multimedia learning resources, self-directed learning and via participation in student-centred learning activities. The approach to assessment is lecturer-guided and, formative feedback on these skills is given appropriate emphasis.

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 industry issues.

### Subject practical skills

The MSc Real Estate programme has been designed to introduce students to key concepts and modern theories at level 7 that promote professional good practice in the commercial real estate industry.

The MSc Real Estate programme has been designed to both introduce students to key concepts and modern theories at level 7 and to provide the practical skills required to practise in valuation, property asset management, investment management or commercial/residential agency and property development. The practical skills include property measurement, budget setting, negotiation, researching market data, appraising and measuring the risk/return characteristics of a property, client report writing.

#### Key/Transferable skills

The BE Ready Orientation sets out the importance of transferable skills. These skills are developed through the programme, utilising study and assessment. This can be via virtual learning environment (VLE) discussion, tuition discussion, problem-solving exercises – which are conducted individually or in groups – and coursework, which provides the ideal combination to internalise these aspects though different learning methods. The Study Skills area of the VLE is a further resource for support in developing these skills.

The learning activities in this programme require students to undertake research, evaluate their findings and develop solutions. The 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 UCEM learning community develops communication and collaboration skills. Additional support for transferrable skills is delivered via the joint programme webinars delivered to the student throughout the year. Students also have the opportunity to develop transferrable skills through formative and summative opportunities within the modules.

#### Assessment

The assessment strategy for the programme is guided by the UCEM-wide Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy (LTAS 2020-2025). The aim of UCEM's assessments is to allow students an opportunity to demonstrate what they have learned using a range of formats and which encourage critical self-reflection linked to personal development. To support this, assessments are clearly related to module learning outcomes and the activities within the module support students in achieving these.

UCEM's practice is to require assessments to be vocationally and professionally relevant. Assessments are built that have direct application to industry standards, and that enable students to learn through real world scenarios and working practice. This involves the generation of tasks based on problems, scenarios or case studies from recent real-world situations that reflect and/or replicate the vocational requirements of the industry and the international nature of the subject matter. All elements of assessments are discipline-specific for each programme as well as supporting the acquisition and promotion of transferable skills, including research skills development.

Formative assessment and feedback opportunities are provided throughout the programme in a variety of formats to motivate, guide and develop students through their learning. Students are required to complete various pieces of coursework in the modules which are assessed within set time frames. Detailed feedback is provided on lecturer-assessed work, which explains how the mark was derived, what was done well and what could be improved for future assessments. Objective testing is also utilised in formative (including selfassessment) and summative assessment. Individual projects in the final stage are assessed in accordance with their own guidelines and marking schemes.

All assessment contributing to award is subject to moderation policies. Moderation at UCEM is designed to reflect the quality of the student submission and the benchmark standards for the various levels of undergraduate study. Moderation of marking accords with QAA recommended best practice to ensure that marking criteria have been fairly, accurately, and consistently applied during first marking.

#### **Assessment Diet**

The types of assessments used on this programme will include coursework (such as essays, reports, portfolios, reflections, problem or short questions or video presentations), computerbased assessments, and computer marked assessments (CMAs). The exact combinations of assessment will vary from module to module.

In general, there will be 2 assessments per module. The first assessment is usually either coursework or a CMA. The second assessment is usually coursework. Some modules may have up to a maximum of 4 assessments (except for PRJ7PRA/S Postgraduate Project which has 2 assessments: a research proposal and the final project submission).

# **Study Support**

### **BE Ready Orientation**

The purpose of BE Ready is to prepare students for online learning with UCEM but also to support students throughout their learning journey. Students are expected to visit BE Ready every semester for updates, welcome back week activities as well as advice specific to their level of study.

There are a variety of resources which will help students to get started. These include how to use the VLE, how to navigate a module, the UCEM e-library and how to join a webinar. BE Ready also provides practical advice such as how to manage independent study, where to find our Study Skills resources and how to access academic or pastoral support. All this information is key to having a successful start to supported online learning with UCEM.

Resources are available to support students with referencing and how to develop good academic practice to avoid academic misconduct. A range of study skills support materials are available to apprentices.

#### Student learning support

The programme is taught via UCEM's VLE and academic facilitation and support is provided online giving students access to UCEM Lecturers and other students worldwide.

The Education team will guide and support students' learning. Furthermore, all students who do not engage with initial assessment or the VLE will receive additional support from the Programme Team. Other UCEM administrative teams provide support for assessments and technical issues including ICT. UCEM's 'Student Central' portal provides the main point of contact for students for these teams throughout the duration of their programme.

Each student, wherever their location, will have access to a wealth of library and online materials to support their studies. International students are able to use their local context when writing their assessments.

The Academic Support & Enhancement (ASET) team works with departments to promote student retention, achievement and success. This work is achieved through a multi-faceted approach, which consists of:

- delivering support tutorials to students identified as academically at risk to develop the academic skills needed for success;
- developing 'self-serve' support resources to enable students to develop their academic skills;
- delivering teaching webinars and drop-in sessions on academic skills;
- working with the Education team and other support teams to identify ways in which student success can be further facilitated.

Relevant research is also carried out to inform proactive interventions, and to develop policy and practice.

Disability, neurodiversity, and wellbeing related support is provided via a dedicated Disability and Welfare team at UCEM.

# Workplace apprenticeship support and apprenticeship support from UCEM

Students that are studying the programme as part of an apprenticeship programme will be assigned an Apprenticeship Outcomes Officer who is the primary point of contact for the apprentice and their employer during the apprenticeship. Apprentices and their employers will attend progress reviews scheduled at 12-week intervals which will review the apprentices progress, set targets and will check the completion of the off the job diaries and that the apprentice is making demonstrable progress on their apprenticeship.

Apprentice employers should work collaboratively with the apprentice and UCEM, including active participation at 12-week progress reviews, co-ordinating off the job training time and providing the apprentice with the opportunity to practice and embed new skills in the work environment.

### 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 are undertaking vocational programmes that are intrinsically linked to the accrediting professional bodies. Students are encouraged and supported to understand the need for the recognition of these bodies and guided as to how to meet the professional membership requirements.

More generally, UCEM has a dedicated careers advisor to ensure students have appropriate access to careers education, information, advice and guidance.

#### Programme specific support

Each programme has a Programme Leader, as well as Module Leaders, Module Lecturers and Academic Support Tutors to support the students throughout their time with the programme.

The UCEM staff are accessible during normal UK working hours, during which they also monitor the 24/7 forums asynchronously and provide encouragement, assistance and necessary lecturer and student feedback services.

Access to the UCEM e-Library is on a 24/7 basis and UCEM has a full-time e-Librarian during normal UK working hours.