Construction Economics and Management MSc

The MSc in Construction Economics and Management equips graduates with the skills to become senior managers, policy advisers and decision-makers in any branch of the construction industry. It can also provide teachers and researchers in these subject areas with professional academic development.

Degree summary

This RICS accredited programme aims to develop students’ knowledge and skills under two mutually supporting themes, for which the School of Construction & Project Management has an international reputation: the economics and finance of construction at project, firm and industry levels the management of construction projects and enterprises. Construction is taken in its widest sense to include design, infrastructure and the supply chain.

// Our school is part of The Bartlett, which is the UK's largest multidisciplinary faculty of the built environment. It brings together scientific and professional specialisms required to research, understand, finance, design, procure, construct/refurbish and operate the buildings, infrastructure and urban environments of the future.

// Outside the faculty we have links within UCL with those involved in engineering, computing and other areas of management.

// Located in central London, UCL is at the heart of a large cluster of architectural, engineering, surveying, real estate and management consultancies, major construction/infrastructure clients, contractors and financial institutions. The UK’s centre of government and all the resources of a world city are also to hand.

The programme is delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars and group work on case studies, exercises and problems. Lectures include industry guest speakers. Assessment is through written examination, term papers and the dissertation.

Fieldwork contributes to primary research for the dissertation

Accreditation

RICS Project Management pathway

Degree structure

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Flexible: 2-5 years
Location: London, Bloomsbury
Flexible students will usually attend one day a week.
Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme consists of four core modules (60 credits), four optional/elective modules (60 credits) and a dissertation (60 credits).
A Postgraduate Diploma, four core modules, four optional modules (120 credits, full-time nine months) is offered.

CORE MODULES
- The Economics of Construction: Economics, Sectors and Industries
- The Economic Institutions of the Construction Industry
- The Management of Construction Projects
- The Management of Construction Enterprises

OPTIONAL MODULES
- Optional module choices will include:
  - Construction Booms and Slumps**
  - Construction Clients and the Market for Contracts**
  - Economics of Appraisal of Construction Projects: Leading Issues**
  - Economics of Speculative Construction Development**
  - Construction Industry Development**
  - Managing Professional Practice*
  - Relationships between Firms*
  - Capturing and Delivering Value*
  - The Construction Firm: Contractors and Subcontractors*
  - Marketing and Project Business Development*
  - Managing Change in Organisations*
  - Environmental Sustainability in the Construction Sector
  - Integrating Project Information Systems with Building Information Modelling
  - Managing Construction

* Students choose at least one
** Students choose at least two

The fourth optional module is selected from the remaining choices displayed above.

DISSERTATION/REPORT
- All MSc students submit a 10,000-word dissertation related to the main themes of the programme, under the guidance of an individual supervisor.
Your career

The career options for graduates are varied, and many students go on to work for construction, engineering and design enterprises, professional consultants and commercial research organisations, and client enterprises with significant project portfolios such as retailers or banks. Graduates are keenly recruited by many of the UK’s very best construction-sector firms. The MSc can be used as a foundation for MPhil/PhD research.

Recent career destinations* include:

- Graduate Construction Manager, Balfour Beatty
- Project Planner, Laing O’Rourke
- Business Analyst, Lloyds Banking Group
- Project Engineer, CMT Design & Construction
- Structural Design Engineer, Urban Construction Architectural Design and Research Group

Employability

The programme offers an understanding of financial and other kinds of management within the context of the project, the project-based firm and the construction industry in its widest sense. There are some elements which can be put to use straight away while other elements of a strategic nature will prove useful as graduates move into more senior management roles. It is an attractive graduate qualification either for those trained in a technical discipline without previous economic training or those trained in economics or finance without previous exposure to construction.

* Careers data is taken from the ‘Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education’ survey undertaken by HESA looking at the destinations of UK and EU students in the 2013-2015 graduating cohorts six months after graduation.
Entry requirements

The normal minimum qualifications are a lower second-class Bachelor’s degree from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard. Generally, however, we will be looking for a standard close to an upper second unless the applicant can offer professional qualifications or a reasonable period of relevant practical experience.

English language proficiency level

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The level of English language proficiency for this programme is: Standard.

Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

Your application

A "gathered field" selection system is in operation for this programme. Applications will be considered on four dates during the year (30 November 2017, 31 January 2018, 31 March 2018, 31 May 2018). Please see <a href="https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/construction/sites/bartlett/files/gathered_field_applications_dates_cem.pdf">the Bartlett website</a> for more information. Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places.

When we assess your application we would like to learn:

// why you want to study Construction Economics and Management at graduate level
// why you want to study Construction Economics and Management at UCL
// what particularly attracts you to the chosen programme
// how your academic and professional background meets the demands of this challenging programme
// where you would like to go professionally with your degree.

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to illustrate whether your reasons for applying to this programme match what the programme will deliver.

We welcome applicants who have achieved an upper second class degree (2:1) at undergraduate level or equivalent. Applications from applicants with lower academic achievement records will also be considered, if the applicant has significant post-graduation industry experience.

Application fee: There is an application processing fee for this programme of £75 for online applications and £100 for paper applications. More details about the application fee can be found at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught/application.

FEES AND FUNDING 2018/19 ENTRY

// UK: £14,520 (FT), ENA (PT)
// EU: £14,520 (FT), ENA (PT)
// Overseas: £23,740 (FT), ENA (PT)

The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information on fee status, fee increases and the fee schedule can be viewed on the UCL Current Students website.

Fees for flexible, modular study are charged pro-rata to the appropriate full-time Master’s fee taken in an academic session.

All full time students are required to pay a fee deposit of £2,000 for this programme.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Full-time: 1 May 2018
Flexible/Modular: 31 August 2018

Please see the Bartlett website for more information about admissions to this programme.

Details on how to apply are available on the website at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply

CONTACT

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Email: bartlett.pgclerk@ucl.ac.uk
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EU referendum

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum

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