

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	FdSc Construction Management
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 5
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	CIOB
Credit Structure ²	240 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	2 years full-time
Intended Award	FdSc Construction Management
Named Exit Awards	CertHE Construction Management
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 80 UCAS tariff points (or equivalent) Three GCSEs grade C (or equivalent) including an appropriate science or technology subject
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk at West Suffolk College
UCAS Code	K221

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the FdSc Construction Management course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2018-19 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

This course is designed to prepare students for a range of technical, professional and management career disciplines in construction and the built environment. The course will provide students with the opportunity to explore, develop and expand their knowledge through projects, simulations and presentations. The emphasis is on participation. Students will be encouraged to carry out research and work with others as part of a team. Students will be encouraged to demonstrate ability to work independently without supervision, solve problems and interact effectively with individuals and groups in the work situation. Successful completion of the course should enhance employment and promotion prospects in the construction industry. Students working in the industry will be able to progress in a wide range of roles including building contracting, construction management, design, local authorities and building maintenance. As work-related learning is an important characteristic of this course, work placements or relevant professional activity is an essential requirement of study. It is expected that most part-time students will be in appropriate professional

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#)

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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situations. Students who successfully complete the FdSc Construction Management can progress onto the BSc (Hons) Construction Management (Progression Route).

Course Aims

- To develop the student's key skills and knowledge of the construction industry and the roles and responsibilities of construction management including professionalism and problem-solving techniques
- To develop personal attributes which are central to the role of the chartered builder and provide a platform for professional recognition as incorporated membership of the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)
- To achieve level 5 knowledge, skills and understanding of core elements of construction management as identified by selected undergraduate QAA qualification benchmarks the QAA Qualification Benchmark for foundation degrees
- To provide knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the current cultural, ethical and social values in producing and managing the built environment
- To develop problem-solving techniques for the construction sector
- To provide a pathway that enables seamless and integrated progression to BSc (Hons) level 6 and/or professional membership

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the FdSc Construction Management course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 5 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

Knowledge and understanding

1. Understand and compare the key principles in management of the construction procurement process
2. Demonstrate critical knowledge of the fundamentals of building science and building technology
3. Know, understand and competently apply the procedures for the setting out of land surveys and building surveys
4. Demonstrate critical knowledge and understanding of the core principles of social, economic and environmental sustainability, together with ethical considerations for the construction sector
5. Apply the principles of analytical mathematical and IT problem-solving to aspects of the construction sector
6. Know and critically understand comparative design and practical project applications in the construction sector

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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7. Demonstrate comparative knowledge and understanding of sources of waste in construction processes and a range of organisations in the sector
8. Critically understand the rationale for key environmental legislation and how it impacts on the construction sector, safe working environments, together with the CIOB Code of Conduct and know how to apply the Code to the student's own practice

Mental or cognitive skills

9. Demonstrate critical assessment skills
10. Synthesise more advanced sector-related data, e.g. environmental performance indicators as they relate to national and international standards
11. Evaluate research strategies and methods
12. Compare interpretations of sector-related evidential knowledge
13. Recognise the impact of wider political, social and cultural aspects of the sustainability agenda as they impact on the construction sector

Subject-specific and practical skills

14. Make use of software packages and information technology related to the construction sector to industry standard
15. Demonstrate professional field surveying skills
16. Write industry standard reports using appropriate vocabulary and terminology
17. Present information clearly and professionally to a range of audiences including senior management and client groups
18. Carry out a range of environmental impact assessments

Key Skills

19. Communication skills, both verbal and written
20. Research and problem-solving skills
21. Analytical skills to level 5
22. Knowledge application skills to comparative situations
23. Time management
24. Professional networking skills

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmark and Chartered Institute of Building Competency Framework:

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- Construction, Property and Surveying (2008)
- Chartered Institute of Building The Education Framework for Undergraduate Programmes (2012)

Course Structure

The FdSc Construction Management comprises modules at levels 4 and 5.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Construction Technology A	20	R
	Surveying Practices	20	R
	Resource Management	20	R
	Information Technology and Study Skills	20	R
	Law of Professional Practice in Construction	20	R
	Environmental and Sustainable Practices	20	R
Level 5			
	Construction Technology B	20	R
	Planning and Building Control	20	R
	Contractual and Procurement Procedures	20	R
	Measurement	20	R
	Construction Management Principles	20	R
	Professional Practice and Research Skills	20	M

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded an FdSc Construction Management. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a CertHE Construction Management on successful completion of 120 credits.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at West Suffolk College. Students studying full-time on FdSc Construction Management are likely to have approximately 36 contact hours per module. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars and practicals and students will also be required to participate in 100 hours of work placement. Students will be expected to find their own placement, with assistance if needed. Students will normally be expected to undertake approximately 164 hours of independent study per module, but should be prepared for weekly loadings to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

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Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be mostly coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work) and three examinations.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking FdSc Construction Management will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£8,220 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,370 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£13,000 per year
Part-time International	£2,165 per 20 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Other than the usual stationery items, there are no additional costs.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).