



# **Birmingham City University**

## **Faculty of Technology, Engineering and the Environment**

**Postgraduate Programme**

**Programme Specification**

**Grad Cert / PG Cert / PG Dip / MSc  
Real Estate Management**

<b>Date of Course Approval/Review</b>	<b>Version Number</b>	<b>Version Date</b>
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# **Programme Specification**

## **PG Diploma and MSc Real Estate Management**

**Date of Publication to Students: [TBA]**

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<b>Awarding Institution / Body:</b>	<b>Birmingham City University</b>
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	<b>Technology Engineering &amp; Environment Birmingham City University</b>
<b>Interim Awards and Final Award:</b>	<b>Graduate Certificate Pg Cert. &amp; Dip, MSc</b>
<b>Programme Title:</b>	<b>Real Estate Management</b>
<b>Main fields of Study:</b>	<b>Real Estate Management</b>
<b>Modes of Study:</b>	<b>Full &amp; Part time</b>
<b>Language of Study:</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>UCAS Code:</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>JACS Code:</b>	<b>n/a</b>

### **Aims, philosophy and rationale**

The MSc Real Estate Management is one of a number of post graduate courses that are offered by the School of Property Construction and Planning which is part of the Faculty of Technology Engineering and Environment. The School has been running courses that have been accredited or in partnership with the relevant professional bodies since its days as Birmingham Polytechnic. The staff have, as a result, built up a wealth of experience and contacts with the profession – as indicated by site visits, and guest speakers who enhance the learning experience of the students. The programme aims to deliver a relevant, current, high quality course to satisfy the needs of the profession and the students.

Increasingly chartered surveyors have shown a preference to employ students with non cognate first degrees who have then chosen to do a post graduate qualification from a partnership university. The Real Estate Management course is therefore designed for non cognate graduates who wish to do a post graduate qualification that will give them access to becoming a general practice chartered surveyor. The philosophy of the course is to provide students with the basic framework of knowledge that they require but also to encourage them to become independent

learners. The course encompasses, wherever possible, 'real life' action research that staff undertake as a result of their professional contacts. For example the year 20010/2011 students studied potential uses a retail site in Harbourn, Birmingham that is to be vacated soon.

In order to achieve the post graduate diploma students must successfully complete all modules as detailed in the student handbook. For the postgraduate diploma the core subjects are law, management, valuation and development. Complementary subjects such as construction, sustainability are also taught. In addition the students are given the opportunity to apply their knowledge in practical applications. It is a feature of the course that modules – in particular Professional Practice -allow the students to tackle real life problems. During the course the students will acquire many transferable skills in particular management skills and team working.

The MSc is a separate dissertation, completed by self directed research under the supervision of a tutor, following supporting lectures in research methodology.

The vast majority of students who have been on the existing course have completed the course having gained the necessary skills in order to become a professional within the property industry. Many have successfully gained their APC and become Chartered Surveyors. Students will be encouraged to go on to complete the dissertation through research for the award of MSc.

### **Intended Learning Outcomes**

Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external reference points are used to inform programme outcomes:

QAA Benchmarking has been taken from construction property and surveying benchmarking at undergraduate level produced in 2008. Despite the fact the benchmarking is designed for first degrees it informs post-graduate courses. It is particularly appropriate where the course is designed to provide students with the necessary skills to access the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors at professional level.

Subject knowledge and understanding - the student will be able to

- recognise and anticipate the need for change in the relevant discipline and perceive future trends leading to the formation of informed questions
- describe and examine a range of key concepts and theoretical approaches and evaluate their effective application
- analyse the relative importance of relevant issues and their future application
- evaluate and make judgements about all relevant aspects of management and other specialisms within the context of regulatory requirements, the needs of society and ethical correctness
- select and evaluate ICT applications appropriate to the discipline and evaluate original strategies to carry out a particular

task

- analyse working relationships and interactions and evaluate their own strengths and weaknesses in a professional context

### **Subject specific skills - the student will be able to**

- identify, survey and test relevant characteristics of the natural and built environment
- analyse strategies and assess environmental sustainability
- contribute to the development of organisational strategies and processes in a relevant industry
- identify and agree project requirements and coordinate the project development process
- investigate and assess factors affecting potential developments
- assess the financial and cost factors affecting development projects
- plan construction and installation operations
- determine the resolution of disputes
- value and assess built assets on the basis of a variety of relevant factors
- manage the process of property transactions and agreements
- plan, control and manage the use and maintenance of property, systems and services
- investigate questions and problems of a non-routine and unfamiliar nature and devise solutions
- manage teams and develop good working relationships and professional practice.

### **From generic skills the student will be able to**

- evaluate the appropriateness of various methods of knowledge acquisition and select appropriate research methods
- evaluate a range of sources, including current research, draw on evidence to reflect and evaluate competing explanations to draw appropriate conclusions
- select and evaluate strategies to encourage and improve leadership, interpersonal relations, group dynamics and self-development
- demonstrate an understanding of the short and long-term needs of businesses and other types of organisation

- select and use effectively a range of appropriate means of communication including information technology
- make judgements of a non-routine nature in unfamiliar situations.

**More information about subject benchmarking re construction, property and surveying is available at**

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/statements/construction08.asp>

## **Programme philosophy and aims**

The course aims to provide a focus on the interaction between business and legal processes on property ownership and management. The course integrates technological, financial, legal and management issues as they relate to property matters.

Through a rigorous and coherent programme of study, the course seeks to

- Develop a systematic understanding of core knowledge and key skills, and a critical awareness of the problems issues and opportunities for real estate management
- Develop students' awareness of issues affecting the profession so that they can solve problems and comment on current developments
- Enable the students to access membership of a professional institution
- Produce capable, creative, reflective and critical professionals for the real estate industry who can deal with complex issues systematically in order to make sound judgements and reach conclusions that are clearly and concisely communicated
- Develop students in the course as independent and critical learners with personal and social awareness

## **Learning Outcomes**

### **1. Knowledge and Understanding**

The course will provide students with essential knowledge of

- Construction technology, materials, structures, services and pathology
- The legal framework that the property industry exists in
- The role and position of property as part of an organisation
- The methods and techniques by which property assets are valued
- The importance of sustainability in the property industry
- Theories of management
- Key skills necessary to successfully develop and manage property

And will go on to develop

- Abilities to apply, analyse and synthesise and evaluate information in relation to the built environment
- Skills as an independent, life long learner

## **2. Intellectual Skills**

- Argue rationally and draw independent conclusions based on a rigorous, analytical and critical approach.
- Synthesise theory and practice to implement a range of solutions.
- Assess and resolve issues relating to competing demands on resources.
- Write fully researched and referenced reports, which evaluate both technical and management issues.
- Demonstrate, in an analysis of a specified problem, a high level of competence and understanding of problems within the real estate industry.

The method of assessment and the means by which students are given feedback is clearly articulated in each of the module documents but as an example in Applied Valuation the students

‘The assessment will be by means of question and answer which is an integral part of the lecture style and which allows the students and the tutor to gauge how well ideas and concepts are being assimilated. This will also be supported by in class calculation where students will be encouraged to try a valuation before the correct approach is revealed on PowerPoint allowing them to self-assess their own progress and understanding. Every lecture begins with Q&A revision of the previous week and contains QFQs (quick fire questions) stated at the outset and used as a review at the close.

Random Mini Tests also provide up to 6 opportunities for the students to assess their progress and ability to absorb the module content during the course of the programme’

See Appendix D of the Critical Review for the matrix mapping the benchmarking

## Programme structure and requirements, levels, modules, credits and awards

The structure of the course, the modules, levels and credit values, and the awards which can be gained are shown in the diagram below.

MSc Real Estate Management

### MSc Real Estate Management 2011 - 2012

<b>Grad cert</b> Level 6	<b>Construction Technology &amp; Building Maintenance</b> <b>BNV 6088</b>  <i>PT1 &amp; FT</i> Sem 1 15 credits	<b>Valuation</b> <b>BNV 6085</b>  <i>PT1 &amp; FT</i> Sem 1 15 credits	<b>Law</b> <b>BNV 6087</b>  <i>PT1 &amp; FT</i> Sem 1 15 credits	<b>Management Toolkit 1</b> <b>BNV 6086</b>  <i>PT1 &amp; FT</i> Sem 1 15 credits
<b>PG Cert</b> Level 7	<b>Sustainability</b> <b>BNV 7057</b>  <i>PT2 &amp; FT</i> Sem 1 15 credits	<b>LL&amp;T Practice</b> <b>BNV 7058</b>  <i>PT1 &amp; FT</i> Sem 2 15 credits	<b>Planning &amp; Property Development</b> <b>BNV 7060</b>  <i>PT1 &amp; FT</i> Sem 2 15 credits	<b>Management Toolkit 2</b> <b>BNV 7059</b>  <i>PT2 &amp; FT</i> Sem 2 15 credits
<b>PG Diploma</b> Level 7	<b>Real Estate Law</b> <b>BNV 7061</b>  <i>PT2 &amp; FT</i> Sem 1 15 credits	<b>Applied Valuation</b> <b>BNV 7062</b>  <i>PT2 &amp; FT</i> Sem 2 15 credits	<b>Professional Practice</b> <b>BNV 7063</b>  <i>PT2 &amp; FT</i> Sem 2 15 credits	<b>Strategy into Practice</b> <b>BNV????</b>  <i>PT2 &amp; FT</i> Sem 2 15 credits
<b>MSc</b> Level 7	<b>Dissertation</b> <b>BNV 7074</b>  Sem 1 and 2 60 credits			

**Criteria for admission**

Candidates must satisfy the general admission requirements of the programme. The current admission requirements can be found under the „Entry Requirements“ tab of the web page for this course.

**Methods for evaluation and enhancement of quality and standards including listening and responding to views of students****Committees:**

Course team  
Board of Studies  
Examination Board  
Faculty Board  
Academic Quality and Support

**Mechanisms for review and evaluation:**

Student representatives  
Review and validation events  
Annual Monitoring  
Student feedback questionnaires  
External Examiners' Reports  
Course team meetings and Away Days