

Course Specification

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Produced By:	Oliver Jones
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Architecture and Built Environment		
Course Code(s):	CN045P01UV	Full-time	18 Months
Course Title:	MSc Construction Law and Dispute Resolution with Professional Practice Placement		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Science Construction Law and Dispute Resolution with Professional Practice Placement Postgraduate Diploma Construction Law and Dispute Resolution Postgraduate Certificate Construction Law and Dispute Resolution University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	10/Sep/2020		
Last Review:			
Course Specification valid from:	2020/1		
Course Specification valid to:	2026/7		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Professor Issaka Ndekugri
Head of Department:	Mr Paul Hampton

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

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For direct entry onto the Masters programme

A minimum of a lower second (2:2) honours degree or equivalent in related subject is required for direct entry onto this Masters programme. This qualification can be considered further if the applicant has relevant industrial (programme management) experience of 3 years or more. This will require agreement from the Course Leader.

Or

A postgraduate certificate in a programme-management related subject or equivalent with a minimum of grade 50% in all modules.

A direct entry onto the Postgraduate Certificate programme requires a pass at degree level in a Programme Management-related subject.

(Completion of the Postgraduate Certificate Programme and Project Management, with a minimum of grade 50% in all modules, will allow a student to progress to the Master's programme. Application for the MSc will be required. Acceptance of the PGCert will incur extra cost if progression is applied for).

Students are selected using application form and references in the first instance and may be invited for interview. Students applying for individual modules will be required to demonstrate the ability to absorb technical concepts and detail, possibly by way of their previous industrial or commercial experience.

International Applicants

Your qualifications need to be deemed equivalent to the above entry requirements.

- English Language requirements are normally IELTS overall 6.0 with a minimum of 5.5 in each area (unless otherwise stated) or equivalent accepted qualification <https://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/international-academy/english-at-the-international-academy/language-entry-requirements/>
- Please use the following link <https://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/international-academy/> to see the range of English Language Pre-Sessional courses and related Pre-Masters courses offered by the University of Wolverhampton International Academy.

For further information relating to overseas qualification please use the following link <https://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/our-locations/your-country/>

Distinctive Features of the Course:

Several features distinguish this course from the others;

The teaching faculty comprises distinguished construction, engineering and law academics, practising

construction lawyers and eminent dispute resolution practitioners offering professional services as arbitrators, mediators, adjudicators, claims consultants and expert witnesses across the globe.

Very active engagement of the faculty in research assessed to be of world class standing has enabled Curriculum innovation to cover non-traditional subjects such as the theory and practice of negotiation, the FIDIC family of contracts, conflict of laws and international arbitration. Curriculum flexibility allows students from diverse backgrounds to construct programme of study to enhance a wide range of future practice aspirations.

The learning resources (textbooks, journals, multimedia systems, and online resources), which are as extensive as anywhere else, are always being added to with financial support from professional institutions such as the Society of Construction Law.

Educational Aims of the Course:

This course will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of the legal framework within which construction organisations and projects are managed, including the resolution of disputes that arise. You will develop your capabilities to analyse the nature of the risks in construction, general strategies for allocating them and systems for managing their occurrence.

You will develop your professional skills to be able to interpret contracts and appreciate the controversies surrounding commonly used standard forms of construction contracts. This will involve you gaining techniques for research and enquiry to create and interpret relevant aspects of construction law and contract administration. In addition, you will acquire the skills to review and critically examine the implications of complex construction case law relating this to real world settings.

Overall, the course will prepare you to participate in dispute resolution processes as an advisor to or representative of the parties to the dispute or as an arbitrator, mediator, adjudicator or other related dispute practitioner.

Intakes:

September
January

Major Source of Funding:

OTHER FUNDING

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time	£7112.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time	£14834.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

January (Full-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7CN010	Dispute Resolution Practice and Procedure	20	IN YR	Core
7ET022	Research Methods and Professional Skills	20	IN YR	Core
7CN001	Advanced Project Planning and Control	20	IN YR	Core
7ET023	Dissertation	60	IN YR	Core
7CN031	Professional Practice Placement	20	IN YR	Core
7AT003	Building Information Modelling (Theory and Application)	20	SEM1	Core
7CN017	Legal Obligations	20	SEM1	Core
7CN010	Dispute Resolution Practice and Procedure	20	SEM1	Core

September (Full-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7AT003	Building Information Modelling (Theory and Application)	20	SEM1	Core
7CN017	Legal Obligations	20	SEM1	Core
7CN011	Dispute Resolution Principles	20	SEM1	Core
7CN010	Dispute Resolution Practice and Procedure	20	SEM2	Core
7ET022	Research Methods and Professional Skills	20	SEM2	Core
7CN001	Advanced Project Planning and Control	20	SEM2	Core
7ET023	Dissertation	60	SEM3	Core
7CN031	Professional Practice Placement	20	SEM3	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

Section 3.4.2 - Exemption to extend the maximum period of registration to three years, with a normal duration of 18 months (or three semesters), in full-time mode of study.

Section 5.1.1 - Exemption to exceed the standard credit requirements for a Master's Degree, increasing to a minimum of 200 credits, in order to include a 20 credit placement module.

Section 5.6.1 - Exemption to exclude placement modules from the criteria for classification of a Master's

Degree.

Effective date: September 2020.

APPROVED (by Chair's Action on 26/6/2020).

Reference Points:

QAA subject benchmark – Masters Level – Masters' Degree in Business and Management, 2007, and Masters' Degree in Computing 2011, and The framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 2008.

The framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (August 2008)
Descriptor for a higher education qualification at level 7: Master's degree.

RICS Policy and Guidelines – APC Competencies

QSi Policy and Guidelines – Educational Framework

Equality Act 2010

Learning Outcomes:

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGCCL01)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: (a) to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline (b) to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGCCL02)

Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGCCL03)

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGCCL04)

Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 5 (PGCCL05)

Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 6 (PGCCL06)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: (a) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility (b) decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations (c) the independent learning ability required for

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGDCLO1)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: (a) to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline (b) to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGDCLO2)

Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGDCLO3)

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGDCLO4)

Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 5 (PGDCLO5)

Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 6 (PGDCLO6)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: (a) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility (b) decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations (c) the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 1 (MACLO1)

Apply the principles of contract and tort to work out solutions to complex legal problems commonly encountered in the construction industry

Masters Course Learning Outcome 2 (MACLO2)

Demonstrate high level expertise on: the sources/causes of disputes in the construction and engineering industries; strategies for their avoidance; construction law; and dispute resolution methods

Masters Course Learning Outcome 3 (MACLO3)

Synthesise the contract documents assembled for any project to derive the legal framework governing its execution.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 4 (MACLO4)

Analyse a wide range of dispute situations and identify and evaluate respective party positions by reference to principles of construction law and dispute resolution to arrive at appropriate advice on resolution options.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 5 (MACLO5)

Demonstrate the behavioural, procedural, communication and ethical competencies required in such roles as contract consultant, adjudicator, mediator or arbitrator.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 6 (MACLO6)

Conduct research into advanced areas of construction law and dispute resolution and write it up publishable standard.

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
7AT003	Building Information Modelling (Theory and Application)	MACLO1, MACLO5, MACLO6, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO5, PGDCLO6
7CN001	Advanced Project Planning and Control	MACLO1, MACLO3, MACLO5, PGCCLO1, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2
7CN010	Dispute Resolution Practice and Procedure	MACLO2, MACLO4, MACLO5, PGCCLO2, PGCCLO4, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO4, PGDCLO5
7CN011	Dispute Resolution Principles	MACLO2, MACLO4, MACLO5, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO4, PGDCLO5
7CN017	Legal Obligations	MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, PGCCLO3, PGCCLO4, PGCCLO5, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4, PGDCLO5
7CN031	Professional Practice Placement	MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6
7ET022	Research Methods and Professional Skills	MACLO3, MACLO5, MACLO6, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO5, PGDCLO6
7ET023	Dissertation	MACLO2, MACLO5, MACLO6

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

You will have the opportunity to engage with a range of learning approaches during the course of your study.

You will take part in lectures and seminars. Some of these will be more traditional whereas others will require you to undertake research before coming together to discuss technical issues with a range of students and academic staff. You will have seminars from industry practitioners and have the opportunity to discuss your projects with them to gain real world insight into the problems you are trying to solve.

You will have the opportunity to work in a range of dedicated facilities to provide access to software packages used in the project and programme management disciplines. Throughout the weekly class sessions and through use of the on-line support material, you will obtain skills required to successfully implement and manage a range of project and programme management, processes and methodologies.

Often working on assessment and project briefs specified by industry practitioners, you will develop solutions to meet real world problems/requirements and be able to present these to your peers, practitioners and third parties in order to obtain balanced and current feedback. The assessment methods used will allow you to develop a portfolio of your professional level practice, which you can help to show prospective employers that you have the abilities required to deliver real-world solutions.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)

Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

Supported by a designated subject librarian who is available to support research and project work.

Course support:

At the start of your course you will be assigned a Personal Tutor who will guide you through the induction process and provide support and academic counselling throughout your course on an appointment basis. They should be able to offer you advice and guidance to help you liaise with other staff and support facilities in the School and University.

The Student Support Advisers (SSA) provides academic counselling and will be accessible throughout the week on a drop-in or appointment basis to discuss timetables, requests for extensions, requests for extenuating circumstances, general concerns about study and student life and general programme planning. The SSA will act as a first point of contact in relation to leave of absence (including returning after leave), withdrawal, transferring to another course (internal and external) and changes to mode of attendance. Your Course Leader will be available thereafter for meetings by appointment to discuss leave of absence, withdrawal, transferring to another course (internal and external), changes to mode of attendance, returning after leave of absence and direct entrants.

Subject support:

Tutorials, workshops, seminars and meetings - provide the primary opportunities for students to interact with staff on topics relating to modules. All modules provide at least one of these forms of face-to-face support.

Formative feedback - tutors provide personalised written feedback on most summative assessments. The mechanism for feedback from purely formative tasks varies between assessments, but will always be provided in some form. Online formative tasks often provide feedback straight away. On occasions tutors may provide generalised verbal feedback to the whole class on points relating to an assessment. Assessment and subject-based surgeries provide additional student support for subjects that students often need extra help with. They are often concentrated around the times when assessments take place. Revision sessions are provided for many modules that have exam-like tests and enable you to interact with tutors to review parts of the course. Mock exams and tests may provide opportunities to experience an examination environment before the final summative test and give you feedback on your understanding.

International Students:

The International Centre will provide pre and post entry visa and immigration support and advice on and arrange for the necessary paperwork to be submitted to UKBA. They will also provide appropriate University Induction support on arrival and be a point of contact for international students throughout their stay here.

A range of social and cultural activities arranged by the International Centre will also promote the integration of international students into the whole of the University's learning community. English language support is also available through the international language centre in the University.

Employability in the Curriculum:

Graduates of this course will gain knowledge to equip them for employment in a range of managerial positions including: Programme Manager/Director, Project Manager/Director, Procurement Manager/Director, Risk Manager and Benefits Realisation Manager, Project Planner and Supply Chain Manager.

For the Professional Practice placement award, students will be provided with an opportunity to secure a work placement, giving students an experience of the workplace environment to put their learning into practice. Students will be required to complete an additional module '7CN031' Professional Practice Placement and produce a reflective learning portfolio to demonstrate tasks undertaken, experience and professional competencies gained during the placement.

NOTE: Placements are offered on a competitive basis, as determined by the employers, but are not guaranteed. Placements may be paid or unpaid and enhance the student's employability.



THE UNIVERSITY OF OPPORTUNITY