

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):	CN049P01UV	Full-time	18 Months
Course Title:	MSc Offsite Housing Construction with Professional Practice Placement		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Science Offsite Housing Construction Postgraduate Diploma Offsite Housing Construction Postgraduate Certificate Offsite Housing Construction 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:	2025/6		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Emmanuel Daniel
Head of Department:	Professor Mohammed Arif

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 Master's programme:

In most cases a second-class honours degree in a construction related discipline, or equivalent, is required for direct entry onto the Master's programme. Students are selected using application form and references in the first instance. However, if you have a compatible non-cognate degree and/or have relevant industrial experience you may be interviewed and if successful offered a place on the Masters course or on the postgraduate certificate version of the course with the potential to extend this to a full Master's degree.

Or

A Postgraduate Certificate in a construction related discipline, or a related subject with a minimum of grade 50% in all modules.

International Applicants

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

- English Language requirements are normally IELTS 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:

As offsite construction becomes more prolific in the UK construction sector, a new breed of graduates will be required who have knowledge of the construction industry but are able to specialise in the field of offsite construction. Through completion of this unique course graduates will meet this need and support the industry in making the required step change.

This course is directly aligned to the offsite construction sector and by studying this you will gain direct knowledge of current industry practices. MOBIE (Ministry of Building Innovation and Education), an education and training charity, which inspires new generations into the building profession to fundamentally transform the way we think about, design and construct homes are contributors to this course. This ensures that you will be taught by practitioners who are leading the field in offsite housing construction.

For the Professional practice 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 students' employability.

In addition to this, this course is supported through the School 'Construction Futures Research Centre' which is a major research initiative focusing on bringing together new methods for offsite construction and aligning this with other emerging approaches for the UK and global construction sectors including BIM and Digital Construction

Educational Aims of the Course:

This course aims to meet the increasing demand both nationally and internationally for the use of offsite construction, in particular the need to implement this paradigm shifting approach for housing. There is a need for professionals with a thorough understanding of the design, manufacturing and construction processes involved in the development of offsite housing.

As a student you will develop a full understanding of the methodologies used during the prefabrication process and gain hands-on experience of how emerging tools and technologies can be implemented to support prefabricated construction. You will engage with real world scenarios and world leading practitioners to develop the ability to critically appraise methods and encourage innovative thinking which can be implemented for practical decision making.

Intakes:

September
January

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

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
7CN005	Strategic Construction Project and Programme Management	20	IN YR	Core
7CN001	Advanced Project Planning and Control	20	IN YR	Core
7ET022	Research Methods and Professional Skills	20	IN YR	Core
7ET023	Dissertation	60	IN YR	Core
7CN028	Developing Future Houses	20	IN YR	Core
7CN031	Professional Practice Placement	20	IN YR	Core
7AT003	Building Information Modelling (Theory and Application)	20	SEM1	Core
7CN029	Managing Innovation for Offsite Construction	20	SEM1	Core

September (Full-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7CN005	Strategic Construction Project and Programme Management	20	SEM2	Core
7CN001	Advanced Project Planning and Control	20	SEM2	Core
7ET022	Research Methods and Professional Skills	20	SEM2	Core
7ET023	Dissertation	60	SEM3	Core
7CN028	Developing Future Houses	20	SEM3	Core
7AT003	Building Information Modelling (Theory and Application)	20	SEM1	Core
7CN029	Managing Innovation for Offsite Construction	20	SEM1	Core
7CN031	Professional Practice Placement	20	SEM2	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.

Reference Points:

[UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)

[Qualifications and Credit Frameworks](#)

[QAA Subject Benchmark for Land, Construction, Real Estate and Surveying \(2016\)](#)

[CIOB Education Framework for Masters Degree Programmes](#)

[University Policies and Regulations](#)

CIOB Policy and Guidelines – Educational Framework

CABE Policy and Guidelines – Educational Framework

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: 1. to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. 2. 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: 1. the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility 2. decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations 3. the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

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: 1. to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline 2. 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: 1. the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility 2. decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations 3. the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 1 (MACLO1)

Appraise, critically analyse and evaluate offsite construction processes including how this can be strategically implemented and effectively managed with respect to operational contexts

Masters Course Learning Outcome 2 (MACLO2)

Analyse a range of methods to identify requirements for the design of offsite housing solutions in a particular socio-cultural context using complex, incomplete or contradictory evidence

Masters Course Learning Outcome 3 (MACLO3)

Select and justify the use of a range of technological processes for the implementation of offsite construction, including use of advanced design software

Masters Course Learning Outcome 4 (MACLO4)

Examine the legal context of implementing offsite construction in particular for the housing sector with due regard for ethical and political constraints

Masters Course Learning Outcome 5 (MACLO5)

Acquire knowledge through academic, industrial and practical research and apply solutions to a range of complex issues, adopting suitable approaches to problem solving and decision making.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 6 (MACLO6)

Take responsibility for and organise your own learning through self-management and independent study and continue to advance your own knowledge and understanding, developing new skills to a high level.

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
7AT003	Building Information Modelling (Theory and Application)	MACLO3, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3
7CN001	Advanced Project Planning and Control	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO6, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO6
7CN005	Strategic Construction Project and Programme Management	MACLO1, MACLO5, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO5, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO5
7CN028	Developing Future Houses	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO4, PGCCLO2, PGCCLO3, PGCCLO5, PGCCLO6, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO5, PGDCLO6
7CN029	Managing Innovation for Offsite Construction	MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, PGCCLO4, PGCCLO5, PGCCLO6, PGDCLO4, PGDCLO5, PGDCLO6
7CN031	Professional Practice Placement	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6
7ET022	Research Methods and Professional Skills	MACLO1, MACLO6, PGDCLO4, PGDCLO5
7ET023	Dissertation	MACLO1, 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.

The focus of the course is face to face and online delivery where you will have the opportunity to take part in collaborative lectures and seminars. This will be supported by lectures and workshops 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. These will be underpinned by staff from MOBIE.

Supporting the delivery will be the use of our Virtual Learning Platform – Canvas. This will provide a workspace for you to engage in a range of learning activities with both tutors and your peer group. This will include both synchronous and asynchronous learning activities including live, interactive lecture broadcasts, online collaborative tasks, face to face and individual learning activities.

Assessment will be based on a range of activities including undertaking research reports, developing case studies on industry relevant projects, generating designs using available software tools and group based projects supported through the conferences functionality in the Canvas VLE.

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:

General University support:

[University Learning Centres](#) are the key source of academic information for students. Learning Centres provide physical library resources (books, journal, DVDs etc.) and offer a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suit them best: Social areas, quiet and silent areas. Learning Centres also provide access to wide range of information sources, including eBooks, e-Journals and subject databases.

Learning Centres also provide students with academic skills support via the [Skills for Learning programme](#). Students who are based off campus and taught by distance learning can engage with the range of online resources via the library web site. Specifically students can gain support through the library site for distance learners <https://www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/info/distance-learners/>

The [University Student Support website](#) offers advice on a variety of matters (careers, counselling, student union advice, etc.) Students can also access these services by booking appointment with the SU, careers, counselling services, etc. Additional support for those off campus can be found here <https://www.wlv.ac.uk/current-students/student-support/study-support-at-a-distance/>

Students can also access language support from the University here <https://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/international-academy/english-language-support/language-support-for-postgraduates/> This includes the ability to subscribe to a Canvas topic focused on Academic English Language Skills.

Course Specific 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 an 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. Contact can be made with the student support team initially via the e-vision helpdesk and online conferences can be established as required and arranged. For more details review the support page <https://www.wlv.ac.uk/about-us/our-schools-and-institutes/faculty-of-science-and-engineering/fse-student-services/>

Your Course Leader will be available thereafter for either face to face meetings or online 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.

Employability in the Curriculum:

Employability is an underlying theme throughout this course.

The course is being developed in response to the anticipated demand for offsite construction in the next 5 years and thus employability features heavily throughout the course. In 2017, Mark Farmer presented the CITB report 'Faster, Smarter, More Efficient: Building Skills for Offsite Construction', which highlighted that 42% of construction industry employers expect to use offsite methods in five years' time. This push, combined with the need for a significant number of new homes in the region, and nationally, will require employees in the

construction industry to develop a new skill set to meet demand.

By focusing on real world projects and case studies, the course will expose students to live issues currently being faced by the offsite construction sector. Understanding these problems and developing solutions will ensure students are at the forefront of the industry.

The construction industry is moving towards greater collaborative working and the increasing use of Building Information Modelling is underpinning this. Students will gain both practical experience of implementing BIM technologies and working on group based collaborative projects which will ensure they are fully prepared for the emerging construction industry.



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