

Construction and Project Management MSc Programme Specification

Academic Year:	2026/2027
Degree Awarding Body:	The University of Bradford
Main Location:	City Campus
Subject Benchmarks:	Land, Construction, Real Estate, Surveying, Engineering (QAA 2019); Masters in Business and Management (QAA 2015)
Qualifications Framework:	HE Qualifications of UK Degree Awarding Bodies (FHEQ: QAA 2014)
Target Degree Award:	Master of Science in Construction and Project Management [FHEQ Level 7]
Intermediate/Exit Diploma:	Postgraduate Diploma [FHEQ Level 7]
Intermediate/Exit Certificate:	Postgraduate Certificate [FHEQ Level 7]
Programme Admissions:	UK and international
Programme Start Date:	September or January
Programme duration:	12 months full time

Please note: The University has a set of terms and conditions for all students accepting an offer to study on a course here at Bradford. This is called the Student Contract. This document sets out the Terms and Conditions which apply when you accept an offer of a place on a programme of study at the University of Bradford. [View our Student Contract for further details](#). Information about this programme and its modules has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them.

Minor Modification Schedule

1. June 2024: Annual changes for the 2024 academic year.
2. July 2025: Annual Changes for the 2025 academic year, including changes to academic regulation.
3. September 2025: Removed CSE7018-B option.
4. April 2026: Annual changes for the 2026 academic year, including revised curriculum structure.

Introduction

Construction project management is a prudent mix between management methodologies on one hand, and construction engineering experience on the other. This is a crucial profession, involving the design, construction, maintenance, operation and decommissioning of infrastructure facilities upon which modern life depends, such as buildings, power plants, bridges, highways, industrial facilities and water and wastewater treatment stations.

The construction and management of these facilities is increasingly important in the modern world, as populations increase rapidly, placing a strain on our infrastructure, and amid mounting concerns about the environment. Since most undergraduate engineering degrees focus on developing the students' technical, analytical, and subject-specific knowledge, there is limited 'room' within these curricula to cover broader management skills, and many graduates end up learning these 'on the job' once they commence their employment. In recent years, the nature of engineering projects has become increasingly complex, with many stakeholders, different specialities, subcontractors and disciplines interacting to produce a common deliverable.

Optimum use of resources is critical to produce cost-effective sustainable solutions to meet strict deadlines and client demands in a very competitive global context. Site engineers are increasingly required to manage procurement of construction materials and deal with suppliers, manufacturers and clients to resolve disputes. Engineers working in the Built Environment have to design, build, and operate sustainable and resilient infrastructures with greater consideration of the whole life cycle, ever-changing societal needs and depleting natural resources. Hence, there is a clear market demand for graduate engineers with holistic thinking and managerial skills in this field. Those entering the built environment fields are increasingly required to continue their education long after graduating from their bachelor's degrees and must increase their knowledge base to remain competitive.

Programme Aims

The aims of the MSc Construction and Project Management programme are to:

- Provide students with the advanced theoretical knowledge, concepts and skills necessary for original thought, holistic thinking, and problem analysis related to construction and project management.
- Equip students with deepened academic and technical skills necessary to apply their knowledge and understanding and to prudently tailor management tools to construction projects in different contexts.
- Enable students to carry out independently, but under supervision, a specific research project in construction and project management.
- Instil in students a strong business acumen and a solid understanding of the legal issues surrounding construction management.
- Develop graduates who may move directly into responsible roles in employment with a minimum of additional training.

Programme Summary

The MSc in Construction and Project Management places emphasis on the integration of key principles of sustainability, resilience, risk, construction project management, holistic thinking, safety, communication and circular economy, together with the latest trends in management of construction contracts. Utilising the combined expertise of our reputable Law, Computing and Engineering industrial experts, this programme thus enables engineers to practice holistic thinking and develop managerial skills that will allow them to take a leading role in decision making and management of construction projects. This programme is ideal for those with a first degree in Civil Engineering/the Built Environment, management and cognate disciplines e.g.

architecture, electrical, chemical and mechanical engineering who are interested in pursuing a career in construction and project management.

This MSc programme includes a research project with an emphasis on application, experiential learning and real-world engagement. This will make a major contribution to the student's skill set, in the skills and attributes for enhanced employability.

The programme is delivered in the University of Bradford with a strong input from industry, adopting the integrated approach of the Project Management Institute (PMI). An emphasis is placed on providing a supportive working environment that will equip students with the knowledge and learning skills to tackle the challenges in industry. This MSc will be the first stepping-stone in a fruitful career in construction management.

This is a 180-credit MSc programme. For students who studied at Bradford in the BEng Civil and Structural Engineering or BSc Architectural Technology programmes, they might take 2 or 3 20-credits modules during semester and/or 3 or 4 20-credits modules during semester 2, and completing MSc project in Semester 3. In all students will have to complete 120 credits of taught modules and 60 credits of MSc Project.

The University

Lecturers at Bradford are active researchers in their fields of expertise, developing new knowledge, contributing to peer-reviewed journals and books. This research permeates their teaching practice giving students access to world leading professionals, equipment, and ideas within the University's recent academic research themes of Innovative Engineering, Advanced Healthcare and Sustainable Societies. Our programme of study will include research with an emphasis on application, experiential learning and real-world engagement. This will make a major contribution to student's skill set, enhancing your employability prospects.

We recognise that society benefits from the talents of all, and that the development of creative, collaborative professionals, skilled in communication and teamwork is vital. Diverse engineering teams are known to be more innovative. We help students to contribute to and learn from the varied perspectives of their tutors and peers. We want to equip our graduates with the knowledge and skills to respond to the many different and ever-changing needs of our societies and businesses. We create opportunities, spaces and resources to promote proactive dialogue among staff and students to integrate all cultures and enhance the curriculum.

[The Faculty of Management, Sciences and Engineering](#) welcomes and celebrates the diverse cultural and national backgrounds of our students. We are committed to an educational experience that is inclusive of the diversity of the students and staff, and that addresses attainment gaps within our student body, particularly those between BME and white students. The University of Bradford holds Bronze [Athena Swan Charter](#) and [Race Equality Charter](#) accreditations from [AdvanceHE](#), recognising our commitment to advancing the careers of everyone in STEM.

We also recognise that the future for engineers is one where they will be working in interdisciplinary teams to solve new, complex and evolving problems that will require innovative solutions. Students' ability to work across engineering disciplines and collaboratively with experts in other specialist fields will be crucial to creating the solutions of tomorrow. We have designed our programmes to encourage and experience interdisciplinary working, to develop breadth as

well as depth of skills and knowledge, and in this way, we believe students will be ideally equipped to be successful and employable.

The University recognises the importance of providing pastoral support, taking into consideration all aspects of our students' journeys and development. All students are allocated a personal academic tutor, with whom they meet regularly to discuss and receive guidance on their learning and development. The University also operates a wide range of support services covering areas such as disability, counselling, faith advisors and careers accessible from the one-stop Student Life Service.

Programme Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the programme, holders of a Master of Science degree award will be able to demonstrate all of the following outcomes:

1. Evidence comprehensive understanding of the knowledge areas of construction and project management.
2. Evidence deep awareness of the Uniqueness and Temporary organisation of the Project, summarising the processes, documentation and deliverables that are associated with each phase in complex engineering projects.
3. Appreciate and describe in detail the fundamental types of time- and cost-estimating approaches and how these are best related to the timeline of a construction project.
4. Apply advanced skills in problem solving, communication and information retrieval, working effectively with general IT facilities to develop, monitor and update a plan for the solution of both technical and personnel contributions to meeting organisational need.
5. Demonstrate an advanced knowledge of the core quality processes and explain the role of each process in planning and managing projects.
6. Articulate how to competently monitor and control variances as they pertain to project cost, schedule, scope, and quality, and how to formally communicate such variances to the stakeholder.
7. Understand sources of conflict, and given a specific challenge, apply an advanced problem-solving process that focuses on confronting and resolving the problem, conceptualising new solutions through critical and lateral thinking.
8. Demonstrate advanced knowledge and skills in procurement, supply-chain management, finance, cost management, legal solutions and other business aspects of projects, synthesising theory and practice to implement effective solutions.
9. Work effectively and professionally in a team in order to meet shared objectives.
10. Evidence awareness of the need for a high level of professional and ethical conduct in engineering, evidencing business and management practices relevant to engineering and engineers.

11. Plan self-learning to improve performance as a foundation for lifelong learning/CPD, and exercise initiative and personal responsibility in professional practice, which may be as a team member or leader Evidence good negotiation, written and oral communication skills in addition to self-reliance and critical reflection.
12. Demonstrate a personal and critical understanding of sustainability and circular economy and to be able to make business decisions, taking into account the complexity of the sustainability agenda in its broadest sense.
13. Plan, implement, monitor and adjust on an on-going basis, a self-directed individual research programme of work, evidencing collection and critical analysis of research data, use or adaptation of appropriate analysis tools to tackle unfamiliar problems (e.g. those with uncertain or incomplete data or specification), innovation, and application of relevant skills, reflection, and research methodologies in the production of an advanced report.
14. Apply holistic thinking and PMI project processes approach throughout the project lifecycle and phases, Tailor the project management approach, concepts, tools, and processes, including project success, risk allocation and procurement strategy, considering the context, the Enterprise Environmental Factors, and the Organisational Process Assets.

Learning and Teaching Strategy

The MSc Construction and Project Management programme at the University of Bradford is designed to provide education to produce 'fit-for-purpose' graduates and to enable them to meet their career aspirations. The curriculum balances subject knowledge and transferable skills. Optional modules are also included to offer students more choices and meet their interests.

Our strategy begins with the end in mind. We want students to become great construction and project managers who are able to provide holistic and creative solutions, and who are great problem solvers and great team-workers with a strong business acumen and leadership skills. This should mean that by the end of their study with us they can move seamlessly into the world of work, academic research or become an entrepreneur.

The teaching and learning strategy takes into consideration the learning outcomes, the nature of the subject and the student intake, and the need for students to take greater responsibility for their own learning as they progress through the Programme. Methods have been selected to engage students in developing their fundamental knowledge and understanding through formal learning opportunities such as lectures, seminars and tutorials and informal and social learning through team-working in projects and competitions. Multiple means of engagement will be used to keep students purposeful and motivated, with a sustained effort throughout their learning journey. Team-working will be used to foster collaborations and a sense of community between the students. Opportunities will also be provided for self-evaluation and reflection, so that students can learn to self-regulate.

Study with us will include formal lectures (including those from Visiting Professors and guest speakers from industry), but these will always be interactive. We want to develop students' understanding of the vast array of opportunities open to today's professional engineer and therefore we look to incorporate aspects of real-world engineering problems and solutions where possible. To this end we make use of case studies, practical demonstrations, and also provide an

array of resources and background information from which students can deepen their comprehension. Several opportunities will be provided for students to engage with industrial experts, through activities such as visiting guest lectures and organised site visits. The School of Computing and Engineering also liaises closely with professional institutions (such as IStructE for structural engineers or ICE for civil engineers) providing many networking and development opportunities for our students.

Most teaching material is provided online in advance of the teaching sessions, allowing students to customise the display of information and their learning experience as a whole. Throughout the programme, lots of opportunities are provided for students to design their own solutions and to express their own ideas, choosing from a variety of tools and methodologies. Our students will actively participate in the processes of knowledge acquisition and creation through research-enriched teaching and research-engaged learning. An emphasis is also placed on the importance of planning and goal setting, allowing students to forge a learning pathway that is suitable for their needs, while respecting the requirements of programme, and the needs of others, when working within a team.

As part of our focus on building a learning experience which will prepare students for the world of work, our curriculum has been developed using the **CDIO** framework. This means that our learning strategy will be to encourage students to work in teams to **Conceive** potential solutions, **Design** new products processes or services, **Implement** (or model) and test those designs, and **Operate** the product or solution. In line with the CDIO philosophy students will have numerous opportunities to be an active learner, to work as an engineer on real-world projects.

Assessment Strategy

In the same way that our teaching and learning strategy is designed to prepare students for the world of work, academic research or entrepreneurship, our assessment methods incorporate a wide range of different methods designed to meet the needs of industry, the accrediting bodies as well as prepare students for a potential academic research career.

Assessment is a key part of the learning process of our students. It is only through challenging themselves to express what they have learned or put it to practical use, that they can complete the learning journey and assess for themselves if they have understood what they have been taught and are able to apply and use those skills and knowledge. There are two forms of assessment, formative and summative assessments. Formative assessment provides an opportunity for our staff to give students feedback during their learning. This feedback is designed to help and guide their learning. All of the modules will have some formative assessment, and this may be in various forms, including discussions or questioning from their supervisor, tests, practical activities, et cetera. These formative activities are crucial if students are to make best use of their learning experience and they are designed to prepare students for their summative assessment. Summative assessment is how we grade the work on a module and the details of this assessment will be available from the beginning of the module so that students understand how their grade will be determined.

Assessment will mostly be by a combination of formal written examinations, individual/group coursework and presentations, depending on the module. The methods of assessment of transferable skills are built into the structure of the various assessment methods.

Curriculum

Students will complete approximately 60 credits in each semester, taking 20-credit modules during Semesters 1 and 2, and working on the MSc project in Semester 3.

The suitability of options for a Construction and Project Management programme according to professional bodies such as the Project Management Institute is determined by your previous studies or recognised prior learning, to ensure you cover the curriculum expected of a construction management professional without restudying content you have already completed.

All students study 160 core credits rated at FHEQ Level 7.

From Table 1, students with no prior University of Bradford study select one of five options over the year - either 1 of 3 modules in the autumn semester or 1 of 2 modules in the spring semester. Restrictions apply if you have previously studied a Built Environment degree at our University.

Students commencing the programme in January will select and study Spring (Sem2) modules first.

Table 1: MSc Construction and Project Management, FHEQ Level 7 modules

Mod. Code	Module Title	Credit	Period	Selection
CSE7017-B	Management of Project Procurement and Construction Contracts	20	Autumn (Sem1)	Core
CSE7016-B	Sustainability in the Built Environment	20	Autumn (Sem1)	Core
ENB7012-B	Project Planning and Control	20	Autumn (Sem1)	Option 1
LAW7030-B	Sustainable Development Law in Contemporary Business and Society	20	Autumn (Sem1)	Option 2
ENB7008-B	Supply Chain Management and Production	20	Autumn (Sem1)	Option 3
CSE7008-B	Construction Management	20	Spring (Sem2)	Core
ENB7007-B	Risk Assessment and Management	20	Spring (Sem2)	Core
CSE7018-B	Building Information Modelling	20	Spring (Sem2)	Core
LAW7047-B	International Commercial Dispute Resolution	20	Spring (Sem2)	Option 4
ENB7009-B	Project Management and Six Sigma	20	Spring (Sem2)	Option 5
ENG7002-E	MSc Project	60	FLYR/NSYR	Core

The following exceptions apply if you have **previously studied at the University of Bradford**:

- If you have a Civil and Structural Engineering degree (BEng/MEng), you may not study the optional module ENB7008-B (Supply Chain Management and Production) as you have already covered its content.
- If you have an Architectural Technology degree (BSc), you may not study CSE7017-B (Management of Project Procurement and Construction Contracts) as you have already covered its content. You must select and pass ENB7008-B and may select 1 further option.

Assessment, Continuation and Award Regulations

This programme follows the Assessment, Continuation and Award regulations published on the University's website for postgraduate courses ([Regulation 9](#)).

Award of the Masters degree requires 180 FHEQ Level 7 credits and achievement of the award learning outcomes. Students who exit the programme with 120 or 60 credits completed may be eligible for an intermediate award in line with the regulations.

Admission Requirements

We are proud to be [one of the most inclusive universities in the UK](#). All our students have potential, and we believe that as many people as possible should have the chance to benefit from higher education, no matter what their background or circumstances.

We take the time to understand the background of our applicants, understand their journey to education, and make decisions based on an applicant's potential to thrive at university and beyond.

In addition to the standard requirements of the University of Bradford, we specifically require that all applicants have at least a second-class Honours degree (undergraduate) or equivalent in a relevant discipline such as Science, Engineering, or Technology. Examples of other equivalent international qualifications are provided on the [University of Bradford page for a country or region](#).

For international students, the level of English required is listed on the [University of Bradford English language requirements website](#). Exceptionally, holders of a UK degree awarded within 2 years prior to entry to the Bradford programme may be exempt from these English test requirements. International applicants who do not meet the IELTS requirement can take a [University of Bradford pre-sessional English course](#).

Applications are welcome from students with non-traditional qualifications, and/or significant personal/professional experience. Candidates who do not fulfil the normal entry requirements but have extensive industrial experience related to Civil Engineering are considered on an individual basis at interview. However, please be aware that the programme is not suitable for candidates solely with business and management study/experience.

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University of Bradford has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme. Find more information about [recognition of prior learning decisions](#) on the University website. You may not use RPL to import content from a University of Bradford undergraduate degree in Civil/Structural Engineering or Architectural Technology and will study an alternative curriculum if you have either of these.

People thinking of studying with the University of Bradford don't need to wait for the start of the year to contact our Disability Service. The University can arrange for anyone to talk to this team about what support is on offer at Bradford including an invitation to our Get Set Day. To contact the Disability Service please complete the [request support form](#).

Information in this document is for the contemporary recruitment cycle and was accurate at time of publication. The current tariff and accepted qualifications for entry onto the programme is published at the online course page: bradford.ac.uk/courses/pg/construction-and-project-management