

Programme Specification Performance

BSc (Hons) Building Surveying

This specification provides a summary of the main features of the programme and learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrates where full advantage is taken of all learning opportunities offered. Further details on the learning, teaching and assessment approach for the programme and modules can be accessed on the University website and Virtual Learning Environment, GCU Learn. All programmes of the University are subject to the University's [Quality Assurance](#) processes.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION			
Programme Title	BSc (Hons) Building Surveying		
Final Award	Bachelor of Science (with Honours)		
Awarding Body	Glasgow Caledonian University		
School	Computing, Engineering and Built Environment		
Department	Construction and Surveying		
Mode of Study	Full-time Part-time		
Location of Delivery	Glasgow Campus		
UCAS Code	K230		
Accreditations (PSRB)	RICS, CIOB and CABE		
Period of Approval	From:	September 2024	To: August 2029

2. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF PROGRAMME
<p>Aim</p> <p>The over-arching aim of this programme is to provide quality and current education (including some practical experience) to enhance the employability of graduates who, therefore, will be highly able to seek employment in a wide range of related careers, both nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Specifically</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide the building surveying profession with well-educated, highly employable, competent surveyors capable of responding to the profession's current and future needs • To prepare students for their careers and personal and professional development. • To instil an international outlook. • To embed the employer-focused and GCU-driven "soft" skills of Integrity, Responsibility, Confidence and Creativity. <p>Aims of the Programme at BSc (Hons) Building Surveying level exit point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide students with a high quality undergraduate degree programme comprising discipline-specific knowledge competencies, • To reflect and learn from the experiences of the recent world pandemic, including utilisation of "online" learning methodologies where appropriate, as part of the programme delivery, • To deliver a demanding programme which equips students with key knowledge, comprehension and skills competency essential for surveyors in the Building Surveying discipline, whether practised at home or internationally, • To incorporate technological advances in teaching and surveying practice. • To provide an education base and degree programme which the RICS, CIOB and CABE accredit, • To provide students with the necessary academic knowledge and professional ability to be applied in a challenging career in the building surveying profession,

- To embed the mindset and skills required in what is a very client-centred and facing profession,
- To enable students to develop intellectual strengths and creative powers which are flexible and adaptable to the rapidly changing demands of the profession and society,
- To enable students to develop and maintain personal transferable skills,
- To enable students to develop good judgement and innovative thinking processes through the development and application of logical analysis, evaluation and synthesis techniques and
- To introduce students to research methods and a learning experience which promotes and encourages a culture of lifelong learning throughout their career.

Objectives

The general objectives of the programme are that the student:

- will be encouraged to develop their full potential;
- will have confidence in their abilities and accept responsibility;
- will develop an independent approach and good study techniques;
- will operate efficiently as a team member;
- will apply logical thought to problem-solving situations;
- will be encouraged to demonstrate original thought;
- will be able to make competent oral and written presentations;
- will be able to demonstrate self-motivation as well as enthusiasm in group work;
- will seek excellence and aim to always be “the best they can be” ;
- will convert weaknesses into strengths, echoing the motto, “Fail- Learn-Win”;

Programme-specific objectives

- To provide students with a high quality undergraduate degree programme comprising a sound theoretical knowledge base pertinent to their field encompassing core skills which are underpinned by technology and enhanced by building performance, management and building pathology;
- To deliver a demanding programme which equips students with sound knowledge, comprehension and skills competency essential for building surveyors;
- To provide education which is accredited by the relevant professional body, The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, and recognised by the CIOB and CABE;
- To provide students with the necessary academic knowledge and professional ability to equip them for a challenging career in the building surveying discipline in the national and international Built Environment professions;
- To enable students to develop intellectual strengths and creative powers which are flexible and adaptable to the rapidly changing demands of the Built Environment, professions and society;
- To enable students to develop and maintain personal transferable skills;
- To enable students to develop good judgement and innovative thinking processes by the use of logical analysis, evaluation and synthesis techniques and
- To introduce students to research methods and a learning experience which promotes and encourages a culture of lifelong learning throughout their careers;

Alignment

It is intended that this programme will fully align with [GCU Strategy 2030](#) and reflect the vision that by 2030, GCU will be “... recognised as world-leading for social innovation: delivering transformative education and impactful research through purposeful partnerships as a globally connected University with an engaged University community committed to the Common Good”.

As part of this alignment, the Programme will continue to embed the following GCU core values.

- Integrity
- Creativity

- Responsibility
- Confidence

Expected levels of attainment through the Programme

Level 1

Foundation for the study of the discipline, the establishment of 'ground rules'. An outline knowledge of the scope and main areas of the discipline; an understanding of the main theories, principles and concepts. Students will be able to

- Use their knowledge of the subject and its techniques to evaluate a range of arguments and solutions to problems and issues of a routine nature.
- Apply their discipline-related and transferable skills in contexts which have well-defined criteria.
- Undertake further learning in a structured and managed environment.
- Engage with the concepts of professionalism.

Level 2

Engagement with the core areas of the discipline in preparation for professional placement. Developing knowledge and understanding of the scope and main areas of the discipline and its interaction with related areas/disciplines; familiarity and understanding of the essential theories, concepts and awareness of major issues within the discipline. Students will be able to use their knowledge, understanding, and skills to

- Critically evaluate evidence-based arguments and identify solutions to clearly defined problems of a routine nature.
- Apply their discipline-related and transferable skills to contexts where the task and criteria for decisions are generally well defined but where responsibility and initiative are required.

Level 3

Focusing on the key specialist areas of the discipline. Developing a broad and comparative knowledge of the general scope of the different areas and applications, and interactions with related areas/disciplines. Critical understanding of the essential theories, principles and concepts of the discipline and the ways in which these are developed. Students will be able to use their knowledge, understanding, and skills to

- Critically evaluate evidence-based arguments and identify solutions to clearly defined problems of a routine nature.
- Apply their discipline-related and transferable skills to contexts where the task and criteria for decisions are generally well defined but where responsibility and initiative are required.

Year 4 (Honours)

Further, extend knowledge of the specialist areas of the discipline. A systematic, extensive and comparative knowledge and understanding of the discipline, and its links to related areas/disciplines. A critical understanding of the established theories, principles and concepts of a number of advanced and emerging issues at the forefront of the discipline.

The student will be able to use their knowledge, understanding and skills:

- In the systematic assessment of a wide range of concepts, ideas and data
- In identifying and analysing complex problems and issues, demonstrating originality and creativity in formulating, evaluating and applying evidence-based solutions and arguments
- To apply their discipline-related and transferable skills in contexts where there is a requirement for
 - The exercise of personal responsibility and initiative
 - Decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts
 - The ability to undertake further developments of a professional nature

NB: The same journey for the PT students but spread over five years, Levels 1 to 5.

4. LEARNING AND TEACHING METHODS

The programme provides a variety of learning and teaching methods. Programme and Module-specific guidance will provide details of the learning and teaching methods specific to each module.

Learning and teaching methods used to enable the above outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated include:

- Lectures, tutorials and seminars,
- Workshops and laboratories,
- Industrial/site visits and field trips,
- Visiting lecturers from industry and practice,
- Web-based materials through a managed learning environment (Blackboard),
- Problem-based learning scenarios,
- Individual projects,
- Computer application activities,
- Self-directed learning facilitated by study packs,
- Use of research-based learning materials and methods,
- Group work and projects, and
- Hands on experience in the use of innovative equipment for the building surveying student.

The above approaches may be delivered either in person or online as appropriate and determined at the module level by the Module Leader.

5. ASSESSMENT METHODS

The programme provides a variety of formative and summative assessment methods. Programme and Module-specific guidance will provide details of the assessment methods specific to each module.

Programme assessments are in accordance with the prevailing GCU Assessment Regulations. For more information, please refer to [GCU Assessment Regulations](#). This Programme is aligned to the [GCU Strategy for Learning 2030](#).

Across the programme, the assessment methods may include the following:

- Written coursework (essays, reports, case studies, dissertation, literature review)
- Oral coursework (presentations, structured conversations)
- Practical Assessment (Placement, VIVA, Laboratory work)
- Group work
- Blogs and Wikis
- Portfolio Presentations
- Formal Examinations and Class Tests

The above assessments may be delivered either in person or online as appropriate and determined at the module level by the Module Leader.

Assessment-specific aims include:

- **To be a world leader in social innovation**
The BS Programme, being inextricably linked to the built environment is ably positioned to contribute. The built environment is an essential component of any society.
- **To deliver transformative education**
Higher education in all its forms can transform lives. With Building Surveying, our Graduates who may have gone through their transformation, are then perfectly positioned to transform the lives of others via attention to the buildings they live and work in.
- **To deliver impactful research**
The Programme is part of the Dept of Construction and Surveying, which in turn is heavily engaged in the following, very practical and impactful areas of research.

- Construction Processes and Practice.
- Civil Engineering and Environmental Technology.
- Building and Energy Technology.
- Sustainable Environments and Communities.

- **Using purposeful partnerships**

The Programme has partners across the spectrum, above and beyond the academic sector.

- Beyond Graduation, the goal will be professional status; hence, the programme is accredited by the RICS, CIOB and CABE.
- The program focuses on promoting sustainable and rewarding employment, leading many employers to collaborate with it in the industry. Students are encouraged to get involved in sector-related work early on, with a designated formal period for this engagement. Additionally, employers contribute to the program through activities like guest lectures.
- The programme is internationally connected (see below).

- **Be globally connected**

- RICS, a globally recognised organisation, accredits the programme and is at the forefront of land, property, and construction accreditation. Our students are fully informed about their capabilities and are encouraged to view themselves as global citizens while actively seeking experience and employment opportunities.
- Assessments frequently encourage the use of examples and expertise from across the globe. For example, I have had Dissertation students who examine flooding issues and alleviation. The Dutch are one of the masters of flood engineering, so suggestions are made in this direction.
- The programme is partnered with international universities where the exchange of students and staff can take place. An example of this is the University of Basilicata in Southern Italy. We have enjoyed excellent relationships with them for some 10 years.

- **Be an engaged university committed to the common good**

The Programme is highly engaged with the core values of integrity, responsibility, confidence and creativity.

- Employers prioritise these core values when evaluating potential candidates, recognising them as critical differentiators during the recruitment process. Demonstrating these values can effectively enhance a candidate's competitive edge. Therefore, students are encouraged to develop and actively integrate these values into their academic and extracurricular experiences, creating a comprehensive professional profile that stands out to potential employers.
- The values are also what can make us decent human beings and willing to work for the benefit of others.
- The values are also closely allied to RICS professional status.

6. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Specific entry requirements for the BSc (Hons) Building Surveying programme can be found on the prospectus and study pages on the GCU website at the following link:

www.gcu.ac.uk/study

The Course webpage specific to this Programme is:

<https://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate-building-surveying-glasgow>

All students entering the programme are required to adhere to the [GCU Code of Student Conduct](#).

7. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND AVAILABLE AND FINAL EXIT AWARDS¹

The following modules are delivered as part of this programme:

Module Code	Module Title	Core or Optional	SCQF Level	Credit Size	Assignment 001 %	Assignment 002 %	Assignment 003 %
M1K221945	Construction Technology 1	Core	7	20	CLASS TSET 50%	CLASS TSET 50%	
M1K224313	Property Economics	Core	7	20	CWRK 100%		
M1K203077	Professional Orientation and Practice	Core	7	20	CWRK 50%	CWRK 50%	
M1K221884	Construction Materials	Core	7	20	CLASS TSET 50%	CLASS TSET 50%	
M1K226924	Construction Contracts 1	Core	7	20	EXAM 100%		
M2K224028	Introduction to Mathematics and Structures	Core	7	20	CWRK 15%	CWRK 15%	CLASS TEST 70%
M2K220795	Construction Technology 2	Core	8	20	CWRK 40%	EXAM 60%	
M2K230685	Digital Construction	Core	8	20	CWRK 50%	CWRK 50%	
M2K225247	Construction Cost Studies	Core	8	20	CWRK 50%	CLASS TEST 50%	
M2K221315	Construction Contracts 2	Core	8	20	CWRK 40%	EXAM 60%	
M2K223202	Principles of Building Performance	Core	8	20	CWRK 35%	EXAM 65%	
M2K226937	Design and Regulation 1	Core	8	20	CWRK 30%	CWRK 70%	
M2K226936	C&S Preparation for Placement	Core	8	10	CWRK 50%	CWRK 50%	
M3K226918	Professional Placement Learning	Core	9	60	CWRK 20%	CWRK 80%	
M3K227048	BIM Applications	DE/EN*	Core	9	20	CWRK 100%	
MHK202886	Conservation	DE/EN*	Core	10	20	CWRK 50%	CWRK 50%
M3K220211	Managed Project Learning	DE/EN*	Core	9	20	CWRK 100%	
M3K220824	Construction Technology 3	Core	9	20	CWRK 40%	EXAM 60%	
M3K226781	Design and Regulation 2	Core	9	20	CWRK 60%	CWRK 40%	
M3K227049	Building Inspection Studies	Core	9	20	CWRK 40%	CWRK 60%	
MHK226974	Dissertation	Core	10	40	CWRK 100%		
MHN226928	Project Management	H**	Option	10	20	CWRK 100%	
MHN222313	Facilities Management	H**	Option	10	20	CWRK 30%	EXAM 70%
MHK202886	Conservation	H**	Option	10	20	CWRK 50%	CWRK 50%
MHK222235	Building Development	Core	10	20	CWRK 40%	EXAM 60%	
MHK226545	Sustainability and the Built Environment	Core	10	20	CWRK 50%	EXAM 50%	
MHK203095	Building Surveying Studies	Core	10	20	CWRK 100%		

¹ Periodically, programmes and modules may be subject to change or cancellation. Further information on this can be found on the GCU website here: www.gcu.ac.uk/currentstudents/essentials/policiesandprocedures/changesandcancellationtoprogrammes

Students undertaking the programme on a full-time basis commencing in September of each year will undertake the modules in the order presented above. It may be subject to variation for students commencing the programme at other times of year (e.g. January) or undertaking the programme on a part-time mode of delivery.

***DE/NP:** Direct entry and those students who have not secured professional placement.

****H:** Shaded areas in level 4 represent module options; students choose one option.

NB: Students entering at levels 2 and above are expected to have prerequisite knowledge of all preceding levels.

The following final and early Exit Awards are available from this programme²:

Certificate of Higher Education in Building Surveying - achieved upon successful completion of **120** credits.

Diploma of Higher Education in Building Surveying - achieved upon successful completion of **250** credits.

Bachelor of Science in Building Surveying - achieved upon successful completion of **370** credits.

Bachelor of Science with Honours in Building Surveying - achieved upon successful completion of **490** credits.

8. ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

Students should expect to complete their programme of study under the GCU Assessment Regulations that were in place at the commencement of their studies on that programme unless proposed changes to University Regulations are advantageous to students.

The regulations and policies link: www.gcu.ac.uk/aboutgcu/supportservices/qualityassuranceandenhancement/regulationsandpolicies

² Please refer to the [GCU Qualifications Framework](#) for the minimum credits required for each level of award and the Programme Handbook for requirements on any specified or prohibited module combinations for each award.