



**SCHOOL OF COMPUTING, ENGINEERING AND BUILT ENVIROMENT**

**MSc Quantity Surveying**

**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION  
(Abridged)**

**2019 - 2020**

## Programme Specification Pro-forma

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Programme Title:	MSc Quantity Surveying
2. Final Award:	MSc Quantity Surveying
3. Exit Awards:	PgC (Un-named), PgD Quantity Surveying
4. Awarding Body:	Glasgow Caledonian University
5. Approval Date:	March 2010
6. School:	Engineering and the Built Environment
7. Host Division:	Division of Construction and Surveying
8. UCAS Code:	Not applicable
9. PSB Involvement:	RICS and CIOB
10. Place of Delivery:	Glasgow Caledonian University and GCU London
11. Subject Benchmark Statement:	Not applicable
12. Dates of PS Preparation/Revision:	Nov 2018

#### Academic Rationale

The MSc Quantity Surveying is targeted through its marketing on the development of distance and part-time student numbers. Its primary selling point in this respect is the fact that its mode of delivery via the Internet on the GCU Learn virtual learning environment system. This has been shown in the past to be a valuable selling point for our existing students and this will remain the case for the foreseeable future. Over the course of the last six years, SCEBE has developed substantial proven expertise in the delivery of GCU Learn modules for the programme that in turn has informed and improved teaching in the elsewhere in the school.

The general educational aims of the programme are that students should:

- Be provided with the knowledge and skills to equip them for a career as a Quantity Surveyor within the industry in the UK or internationally
- Develop competence in a range of appropriate specialist areas
- Develop the critical and analytical powers of the student in relation to the analysis of differing views on emerging concepts and to enable them to evaluate these against a background of a constantly changing industry
- Gain the skills to adapt and respond positively to change
- Develop critical, analytical problem-based learning skills and the transferable skills to prepare them for employment as a Quantity Surveyor
- Enhance the development of their communication skills
- Further develop the skills required for his/her employment
- Receive a learning experience that promotes and encourages a culture of lifelong learning students for further study in the context of his/her continuing professional development.

## Patterns of Delivery

### FULL TIME

This mode serves the needs of fresh graduates from a range of relevant undergraduate programmes wishing to further their studies at advanced level, mature students undertaking a career change, and international students who wish to pursue further studies in Scotland. It is envisaged that students are drawn from predominantly construction related (cognate) backgrounds, with scope for accepting non-cognate first degree holders who wish to broaden their career options into the construction arena. Full-time students would normally complete the programme in one year.

### PART TIME

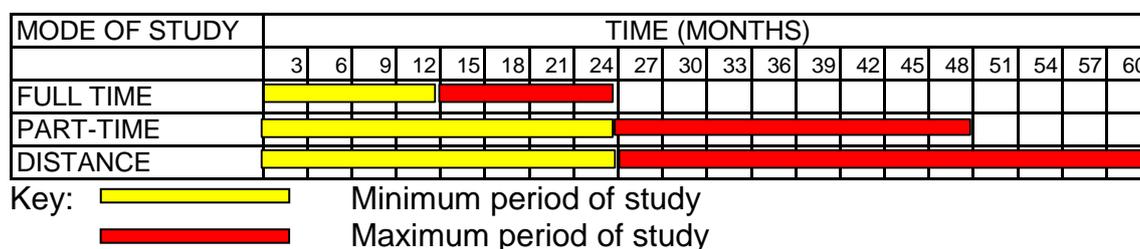
This mode of study can be carried out whilst employed in the industry. All modules attached to the programme are delivered via the 'Blackboard Virtual Learning Environment' to provide a flexible learning means with contact time oriented around face to face 'enhancement sessions' designed to embed deep learning in the students. However, the proven value of the web-based delivery mode via Blackboard in providing a flexible learning means that less formal contact time is required. In accordance with current practice, it is anticipated that a total of no more than 1 day per week would be required for part-time students to be in contact with module delivery staff, but this may vary depending upon the modules selected. Part-time students would normally complete the programme in two years.

### DISTANCE LEARNING

All of the modules forming the programme are web-enabled. This facilitates the ability for distance learners to shape their study time around the thematic elements of the delivered modules. Since web-based is the preferred mode for module delivery, full-time, part-time and distance learners all have a similar experience of the learning process. Although most of the distance learners do not wish to regularly attend the University for a variety of reasons, they are entitled to attend the scheduled enhancement activities on a voluntary basis. Experience of the distance learning mode shows that the peripatetic nature of the construction industry around the world is leveraging an ever-increasing demand for the distance learning mode. It is anticipated that the distance learning mode of study will constitute the highest demand of all of the offered modes of study.

### GCU LONDON

This mode of study is similar to the full time mode. Students will be based on a full time basis at our London campus. Students may also part time in the London campus.



## **2. PROGRAMME STRUCTURES AND REQUIREMENTS, LEVELS, MODULES, CREDITS AND AWARDS**

### **Preamble**

The structure of the MSc Quantity Surveying is consistent with most other equivalent postgraduate degrees offered at GCU. The first part of the degree is comprised of taught modules set at Masters level (M) and allocated 15 credit points each and the latter part of the degree is comprised of a Masters Dissertation worth 60 credit points. There are criteria governing which combinations of taught modules are acceptable. Given that these criteria are followed; awards may be made as follows:

- Postgraduate Certificate (PgC (Un-named)) – minimum of 4 taught modules – 60 credits (any modules excluding the dissertation may be selected)
- Postgraduate Diploma (PgD) in Quantity Surveying – minimum of 8 taught modules – 120 credits (module selection criteria must be followed)
- Masters Degree (MSc) in Quantity Surveying – minimum of 8 taught modules and the Dissertation (60 credits) – 180 credits

### **Selection of Taught Modules (Table on following page)**

As part of the requirement for the award of PgC, students must achieve passes in 4 taught modules from a selection of modules in the on the next page. Furthermore, as part of the requirement for the award of PgD in Quantity Surveying, students must achieve passes in eight (8) taught modules. As part of the requirement for the award of MSc in Quantity Surveying, students must achieve passes in eight (8) taught modules (structure the same as PgD) plus the Masters Dissertation module. A Masters' level module offered by the University may substitute for a listed elective if approved by the Programme Leader.

### **Masters Dissertation**

All students are required to complete the 60 credit Masters Dissertation/Project module, which is based on a significant piece of individual research. The subject of the research will be an area of special interest to the student, and will be based on a proposal written by the student and submitted to the Dissertation/Project Co-ordinator. The area of research chosen should be of the required subject and intellectual depth and should provide a suitable match with previous study. This may require increased technical depth or greater breadth of subject matter relating to previous projects, case studies or dissertation undertaken by the student.

Students are also required to attend the Dissertation Away event, which is held annually. It gives everyone currently enrolled on the dissertation module an opportunity to get away from the University and spend some time without the various distractions of the city and a busy university to consider some of the bigger issues of conducting a dissertation at the Masters level. The event is run over the course of two days with a series of presentations given by staff on research matters along with discussions which will be encouraged throughout informally.

## The Module Table

Module	Module Code	Trimester	Module Leader	External Examiner	MSc QS P02100 FT P02162 DL
Construction Economics and Procurement	MMK221197	A	John Lowe	Anthony Olomolaiye	Core
Design Economics and Cost Planning	MMK224023	A	John Lowe	Nigel Walker	Core
Construction Technology (MSc)	MMK224757	A	Mike Galbraith	Nigel Walker	Core
Construction Contracts and Disputes	MMK223964	A	Gibril Njie	Anthony Olomolaiye	Core
Risk and Value Management	MMN221951	B	David Manase	Nigel Walker	Core
Project Management	MMN221207	B	Nicola Callaghan	Nigel Walker	Option
Construction Financial Management	MMN325196	B	John Lowe	Nigel Walker	Core
International Construction Project Finance	MMN322308	B	John Lowe	Anthony Olomolaiye	Option
Quantification and Costing of Works	MMK225201	B	Siobhan Morrison	Anthony Olomolaiye	Core
Strategic Management in Construction and Property Enterprises	MMK225929	B	Valentia Manase	Nigel Walker	Option
Masters' Dissertation	MMK221254	A & B & C	Kenneth Lawani	Anthony Olomolaiye	Core
<i>Total CORE to complete</i>					<b>8</b>

Notes: Students must take all core modules unless they can demonstrate that they have covered the material in previous qualifications at an appropriate level. In such cases the programme leader may permit the student to substitute additional module(s) from the list of electives.

A student may opt for other elective modules from the University's catalogue of M-level modules subject to the approval of the Programme Leader. This permission will only be granted if the chosen combination appears to form a coherent programme of study.

International Construction Project Finance may be taken as an alternative to the core module Construction Financial Management.

### Exit Awards

PgC (Un-named)	60 credits
PgD Quantity Surveying	120 credits
MSc Quantity Surveying	180 credits

### 3. ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

#### Assessment rules:

The University Assessment Regulations (2018) apply to the Programme of studies in all respects. The MSc Quantity Surveying does not have any programme specific regulations that deviate from the standard University Assessment Regulations. The Programme's structure, progression and credit award framework is wholly consistent with the GCU Qualifications Framework.

An overview of assessment details is provided in the Programme Handbook and the full assessment regulations are available from the Assessment Regulations section of the Glasgow Caledonian University web site.

#### Awards:

For the awards of Postgraduate Certificate (PgC), Postgraduate Diploma (PgD) and Masters Degree:

- Minimum pass mark is 50% for each taught module
- Minimum pass mark is 50% for the Master's Dissertation module
- To qualify for an award of an unnamed Postgraduate Certificate, students must complete all the programme requirements and obtain 60 credits.
- To qualify for an award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Quantity Surveying, students must complete all the programme requirements and obtain 120 credits.
- To qualify for an award of a Master of Science in Quantity Surveying, students must complete all the programme requirements and obtain 180 credits.

#### Regulations for Distinction:

The programme complies with the University Assessment Regulations in respect of the award of distinction. To be awarded a PgD with Distinction, students must obtain an overall average of 70% or more across the PgD stage modules with no individual module mark below 55% at the first attempt.

To be awarded a Masters degree with Distinction, students must obtain a mark of 70% or more in the dissertation at the first attempt. ADDITIONALLY, they must have an overall average mark of 70% or higher in the eight level M modules with no individual module mark below 55% at the first attempt.

#### Role of External Assessor:

Senate appoints external Assessors to the Assessment Board (AB) on the basis of nominations from Schools.

The duties of an External Assessor will include the following:

- To moderate the work of the Internal Assessors in respect of the assessments under his/her jurisdiction
- To attend Assessment Boards at which the results of a final stage assessment will be determined
- To satisfy himself/herself that the work and decisions of the Assessment Board(s) are consistent with the policies and regulations of the University and best practice in higher education
- To ensure that students are assessed within the regulations approved by the University for the programme and to inform the University on any matter which, in his/her view, militates against the maintenance of proper academic standards
- To report annually to the Clerk of Senate on the standards attained by students on the programme and on any other matters which may seem appropriate for report