Programme Specification

BSc Building Surveying **UCAS Code: K230**

For students entering Part 1 in September 2026 **UFBSURV**

UFBSURVWY

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	3 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	BSc Building Surveying with Year in Industry - 4 years (internal transfer only)
Accreditation	Chartered Institute of Building; Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	Land, Construction, Real Estate and Surveying

Programme information and content

BSc Building Surveying provides a sound knowledge base relating to the design, construction, pathology, maintenance and repair of buildings. Upon completion, students will have the intellectual and practical skills needed to observe and analyse buildings with the potential to develop a career as a senior manager or consultant responsible for the processes of the management, maintenance, rehabilitation and refurbishment of built facilities. The programme offers a broad education in the academic disciplines related to building design and construction, the management of property, built facility procurement and construction operations. In addition, it will provide a knowledge and understanding of the latest techniques and skills related to built facility maintenance, refurbishment and rehabilitation, and will give to students a potential for the acquisition in practice of an ability to manage the processes of maintenance, refurbishment and rehabilitation of built facilities. Taking both a local and international perspective gives students awareness of global trends and new approaches in project delivery.

The programme is structured in a unique manner to provide students with a broad knowledge-base in the first two years, followed by a specialised pathway in the final year. In summary:

Part 1:	Introduces students to the fundamental principles of economics, law and management and the scientific and technical principles of building design and construction that provides a foundation of core knowledge for Parts 2 and 3.
Part 2:	Provides students with the opportunity to build on the key concepts with greater emphasis on the economics, law and management and their application to the construction and property industries. A balance is struck between understanding theoretical principles and the application of knowledge to real issues in the profession and construction industry. The

	aim is to develop competencies that can be used to show the students thinking for Part 3.
Placement/Study abroad year:	The BSc Building Surveying with Industrial Year includes an optional year-long industrial placement. Students don't have to make this choice before enrolment; they can make the decision to take a year out during the second year of the course, which provides flexibility in their decision making.
Part 3:	Gives students the opportunity to undertake study in a chosen area of specialism including selecting elective modules which are related to the particular expertise and research activities of the School. At the end of their studies, students should be able to develop their skills for their career in the profession and the industry.

Programme Learning Outcomes - BSc Building Surveying

During the course of the Programme, you will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills, knowledge and attributes (known as learning outcomes) For this programme, these are:

	Learning outcomes
1	**Analyse** the structure, roles, and interrelationships of the property development and construction industries, including the processes of design, construction, and building services in practice.
2	**Apply and critically assess** environmental, legal, economic and managerial principles in the context of construction and property development.
3	**Evaluate and apply** techniques for the procurement, planning, management, and costing of building development, including cost management, property development accounting, and construction processes.
4	**Evaluate** strategies for the maintenance, refurbishment, and rehabilitation of built facilities to ensure their long-term performance and value.
5	**Reason** systematically, holistically, and imaginatively to address complex problems.
6	**Apply** problem-solving and decision-making skills to plan, organise and manage construction-related tasks, and **evaluate** the effectiveness of chosen approaches.
7	**Integrate and synthesise** knowledge and methods from across subject areas to address construction management challenges.
8	**Interpret, evaluate and communicate** graphical, numerical and written information to support decision- making.
9	**Plan and conduct** research using appropriate methodologies, and **critically evaluate** evidence to produce a structured and coherent report.
10	**Communicate** design and specification information clearly in drawn and written form, using manual and computer-aided techniques, appropriate to technical and professional contexts.
11	**Appraise** the physical condition of built facilities and undertake comprehensive land and building surveys.

12	**Quantify and value** building work from design information, evaluating assumptions, uncertainties and risks.

You will be expected to engage in learning activities to achieve these Programme learning outcomes. Assessment of your modules will reflect these learning outcomes and test how far you have met the requirements for your degree.

To pass the Programme, you will be required to meet the progression or accreditation and award criteria set out below.

In addition to the learning outcomes stated above if you are on a placement or study abroad programme you will have the opportunity to develop the following learning outcome:

Additional Learning outcomes
Placement By the end of the Placement Year programme, students will have contextualised their academic learning in a placement role relevant to their programme of studies and developed their professional experience, skills and knowledge, contributing significantly towards their continuous learning and career prospects as graduates.

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
CE1CCS	Construction Science	20	4
CE1CCT	Construction Technology	20	4
CE1CEL	Introduction to Economics and Law	20	4
CE1CIC2	Information and Communication	20	4
CE1ESE	Empirical Studies and Site Engineering	20	4
CE1IMP	Introduction to Management and Projects	20	4

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
CE2BPS	Building Pathology and Surveying Practice	20	5
CE2CPD	Projects and Digitalisation	20	5
CE2CTQ	Introduction to Quantification and Computerised Taking Off	20	5
CE2EST	Building Environment Systems and Technology	20	5
CE2MCP	Management of Construction Projects 1	20	5
CE2PCL	Construction Procurement and Contract Law	20	5

Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):

Module	Name	Credits	Level
CE3YIN	Construction Year in Industry	120	6

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
CE3CBP	Building Surveying Projects	20	6
CE3RSD	Research Skills and Dissertation	40	6
CE3SBP	Commercial Surveying Practices and Advanced Building Pathology	20	6

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the School of the Built Environment.

Placement opportunities

Placements:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University.

Study Abroad:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a Study Abroad placement during your Programme. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook, including obtaining the relevant permissions from your School, and the availability of a suitable Study Abroad placement. If you undertake a Study Abroad placement, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you.

For students in Malaysia, this programme is offered in a 2+1 mode, with the first two years delivered in Malaysia and the final year undertaken in the UK. Students who are unable to complete their final year in the UK have the option to transfer and complete their studies in Malaysia by switching to either the BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying or BSc (Hons) Construction Management programmes.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. Details of optional modules for each part, including any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as

completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught primarily through a mixture of lectures, tutorials and seminars, depending on the modules you choose. Some modules may include group work. Some elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology-enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

A mixture of the following teaching and learning methods are used to achieve the programme learning outcomes. The proportions vary depending upon the specific modules. For the student, the proportion will also be determined by the pathway and options chosen in the final year.

Lectures and tutorials

Formal lectures are typically one to two hours in length. Academic staff and guest lecturers deliver subject content in creative and innovative ways to achieve active participation by the learner students. Substantive problems are illustrated in lectures and discussed in smaller tutorial groups for selected modules. The students are expected to undertake independent self-directed study to extend and deepen their understanding.

Project work

In all years of the programme, students undertake project-based modules. Students are provided with real-life and simulated scenarios and practical exercises which apply the theory and concepts that they learn from the programme. These projects involve substantial amounts of group work and help build both technical and interpersonal skills. They often use enquiry-based learning techniques which help deepen students' understanding and also help them develop problem-solving skills. Peer assessment is an important element of this group work.

Field trips / industry visits

Throughout the three years of the programme, students have opportunity to go on field trips, site and industry visits. This is part of our industry-orientated approach that underpins our programme. Field trips are organised by the programme director, module convenors or the career development advisor. Career events are organised on-campus where small, medium and large consultancies and construction organisations talk to students, display their

placement offerings and job opportunities for all year groups. These events take place twice a year and typically involve 20+ firms coming to the UoR.

Online learning

We use the University of Reading's Virtual Learning Environment (Blackboard) to give students all their module and programme materials. This online tool is also used for classwork, questions and answer forums and other related work. We also use Teams for online classes and meetings with students. Students' assignments are submitted and graded via Turnitin or Blackboard and feedback is also given online. We use some subject specific e-learning, such as the teaching of Revit for production of drawings and CostX for taking-off and other technology-enhanced learning techniques. Students have access to the Building Cost Information Service through the digital library, with digital access to all current International (ISO) and British Standards.

Accreditation details

The programme is fully accredited with the Chartered Institute of Building and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Assessment

Knowledge and understanding in Parts 1 and 2 is assessed primarily by unseen examinations and coursework which takes various forms. Intellectual skills in Part 1 are assessed by laboratory reports, tutorial presentations, essays and unseen examination papers. In Parts 2 and 3, these skills are assessed by group project working, individual project reports and a dissertation. Assessment of practical skills is via coursework and the submission of project reports. Unseen examinations are also used where students are encouraged to display knowledge of techniques and skills. Part 3 projects are designed to test students' competence in exercising practical skills. Transferable skills are assessed through coursework and presentations. The types of assessment include: (i) Summative assessment – generally carried out towards the end of a module or project, contributes towards results; and (ii) Formative assessment – generally carried out throughout a module or project to aid learning; this does not contribute towards results. Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

Progression

Part 1
To achieve a threshold performance at Part 1, a student will normally be required to:
(i) Obtain an overall weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1;
(ii) Obtain a mark of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits taken in Part 1; and
(iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in modules amounting to 120 credits. (A Fail in a Pass/Fail module will be treated as not meeting the minimum threshold requirement for progression or classification. Pass/fail modules are excluded from weighted average calculations but must be passed to avoid failure of the Part or degree.)

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance;

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Students are able to transfer from a Joint or Major/Minor Honours programme to a Single Honours programme in one of their joint subject areas at the end of Part 1, subject to:

- Meeting the University Threshold Standard at the end of Part 1; and
- Achieving marks of at least 40% in at least 40 credits of modules (e.g., 2 x 20 credit modules) in the subject to which they wish to transfer; and
- Meeting any programme-specific progression rules for the Part 1 Single Honours Programme to which they wish to transfer.

NB Students taking a Major/Minor programme may only transfer to a Single Honours programme in the Major subject and must meet the above requirements.

Students should seek advice about the titles of programmes they may be eligible to transfer to.

Students who transfer from a Joint or Major/Minor Honours programme to a Single Honours programme may not have taken all of the Part 1 modules listed in the Single Honours Programme Specification. The modules which they have taken will be shown on their Diploma Supplement.

Part 2
To achieve a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

(i) Obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2; and
(ii) Obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits taken in Part 2; and
(iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits. (A Fail in a Pass/Fail module will be treated as not meeting the minimum threshold requirement for progression or classification. Pass/fail modules are excluded from weighted average calculations but must be passed to avoid failure of the Part or degree.)

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student must achieve a threshold performance;

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Professional/placement year

Students are required to pass the professional placement year/study abroad year in order to progress on the programme which incorporates the professional placement year/study abroad year. Students who fail the professional placement year/study abroad year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.

Classification

Bachelors' degrees
The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark Interpretation
70% - 100% First class
60% - 69% Upper Second class
50% - 59% Lower Second class
40% - 49% Third class
35% - 39% Below Honours Standard
0% - 34% Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Three year programmes:
Part 2: one-third
Part 3: two-thirds

Four year programmes, including professional/work placement or study abroad:
Part 2: one-third
Placement/Study abroad: not included in the classification
Part 3: two-thirds

Details of the classification method is given in detail in the Assessment Handbook under:

- Section 17: Awards (Bachelor's), or
- Section 18: Awards (Integrated Master's programmes). Students who do not progress to Part 4 of the Integrated Master's will normally be subject to the method detailed under Section 17: Awards (Bachelor's)

Please note that there may be a specific version of the above for your year of entry.

Additional costs of the programme

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

For textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget between £300 to £500 a year. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources, are available through the library. Reading lists and module specific costs are listed on the individual module descriptions.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost starting at £0.05 (A4, black and white) per page. Costs will depend significantly on your working practices. Most assignments are submitted electronically although occasionally hard copy submission may be required. This is typically when hand drawing or writing is required.

You will be required to buy on arrival a drawing kit which will cost in the range of £50 - £100.

There are a range of field trips included in the course which are usually provided at a low cost 0 - £20 per trip. It would be sensible to budget for at least two of these trips per academic year.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. Estimates were calculated in 2025.

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

BSc Building Surveying for students entering Part 1 in session 2026/27
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