If you want to receive the highest level of teaching at one of the most reputable universities for construction courses, then Reading is the place to be.

Ashley Thompson
BSc Quantity Surveying Part 2
Welcome to the School of Construction Management and Engineering

The School is internationally recognised as a centre of excellence for teaching and research in the built environment. Our taught programmes reflect the very best of current practice, including the latest developments in Building Information Modelling (BIM) and sustainability. But even more importantly, the School provides academic leadership for the sector and points the way towards new avenues of working. To have a degree from the University of Reading in construction will provide an excellent start to your career.

Why Reading?
The School of Construction Management and Engineering has an international reputation that has been achieved through the provision of excellence in teaching and research. We are proud of being the destination of choice for so many students from the UK and overseas.

Teaching excellence
Our taught programmes are continually developed to reflect leading-edge practice within the surveying sector and the wider professions. Of particular importance are the integrating themes of Building Information Modelling (BIM), sustainability and internationalisation. A range of project-based teaching and tutorials allows individual and group work to develop. Our teaching is supported by a virtual learning environment.

Research excellence
An essential part of the Reading experience is students’ interaction with internationally-leading academics. All our staff are involved in teaching and research, with expertise in a broad range of specialist areas including: international construction markets, procurement, construction economics, digital technologies and renewable energy. We pride ourselves on a research-intensive environment where all our students can learn to fulfil their potential in a supportive environment. We also strongly believe that the quality of the educational experience is significantly enhanced when the majority of the lecturers are themselves actively involved in research and consultancy.

Industrial Links
Our links with leading surveying consultancies and construction companies continue to provide opportunities for workplacements for students. Some of these placements allow students to take a year out in industry. We run an optional Part 3 module in conjunction with our industry contacts for an industrial placement of between four and six weeks in the summer vacation period. Our strong links with industry allow us to engage leading practitioners to lecture on current issues across all our programmes, blending theory with practice.

Flexibility
Our unique programme structure offers students the opportunity to make their choice of degree specialism at the end of the second year. This is to allow them to have a greater understanding of the industry before making a final decision about their intended professional specialism.

Professional Recognition
All our undergraduate programmes are accredited by The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB). The undergraduate Quantity Surveying programme is accredited by the Institute of Surveyors Malaysia (ISM), which is a mark of the School’s international standing.

Career Prospects
Our close relationship with industry and the professions is of central importance in ensuring that our graduates are much sought after by industry and have the appropriate skills to secure successful career progression. Reading graduates are especially well represented at the very top of the surveying profession, both in the UK and internationally.

“I chose the University of Reading as it had an outstanding reputation as being the leading institution for my chosen subject. It is documented to be a place of academic excellence which offers students first class support, great links with industry, as well as stimulating, challenging and relevant courses.”

Adam Rossington
BSc Building Surveying Part 1

“I was always interested in the built environment and I wanted a construction course that was RICS accredited. I was also recommended the course at Reading by work experience employers and my teachers at home.”

Heidi Thomas
BSc Quantity Surveying Part 1
Our Degree Courses

All of our degree courses share the same first two years, during which students will study aspects of science and technology, management, law and economics. In the final year, students will follow the vocational paths they have chosen, in preparation for the development of professional expertise while in employment. Throughout the four degree programmes, particular emphasis is given to significant issues currently facing construction. These include sustainability, the use of digital technology and internationalisation.

BSc Building Surveying
K230, 3 years full-time
The focus of the degree is the professional practice of Building Surveying, that is, the management of the physical care, maintenance, repair and refurbishment of buildings. The degree prepares students for a career with a professional firm of building surveyors or property managers and provides a foundation for professional qualification with the RICS or CIOB.

BSc Construction Management
K220, 3 years full-time
The focus of the degree is the professional practice of Construction Management, that is, the management, planning and programming of construction operations required for the development of buildings. The degree provides knowledge relating to a career with a construction contractor or a project manager and can lead to professional qualification with the RICS or CIOB.

BSc Construction Management and Surveying
K290, 3 years full-time
The degree is intended for those who wish to keep their options open in terms of their specialist career path.

BSc Quantity Surveying
K240, 3 years full-time
The focus of the degree is the professional practice of Quantity Surveying, that is, the financial management and accountancy of building development and construction. The degree prepares students for a career in quantity surveying and can provide the starting point for a professional qualification with the RICS or CIOB.

Entry Requirements

GCSE: Minimum Grade C in English and Mathematics.
A Level: ABB for applicants who offer three A levels.
We do not ask for any specific subjects but Key Skills and General Studies are excluded from any offer.
BTEC: National Diploma (Extended Diploma) in Building or Construction DDM.
National Certificate (Diploma) + National Award (Subsidiary Diploma) in Building or Construction DDM.
HNC/HND in Building or Construction minimum overall merit grade with four distinctions.

International Baccalaureate: 32 points overall.

Year 2 Entry: HND and HNC mature candidates may be considered for direct entry into the second year.

Applications are welcome from international applicants, mature students and from those coming from other educational routes.
Part 1 Modules

Built Facility & Construction Industry Studies
This introductory module aims to introduce students to the activities, practices and procedures of the industry. It will give them a descriptive and analytical understanding of the sector in terms of management, economic and financial theory and practice. The aim is to introduce students to techniques for study and research which will be required during the programme.

Construction Science
The aim of the construction science module is to introduce concepts from physics and engineering, to enable students to understand the nature of construction materials and the operation of buildings. The content of the module incorporates an exploration of the mechanics and composition of construction materials and building services and indoor environments (heating, ventilation, sound, light and electricity). In addition to lecture classes, students undertake tutorial sessions, which emphasise practical calculation.

Construction Site Engineering
With buildings becoming increasingly complex, constructed in more hostile environments and reaching almost inconceivable heights Site Engineering has never been more important. The module starts with the basic principles before moving onwards to more advanced methods to solve real problems. This is achieved using a mixture of classroom lectures and fieldwork exercises with students working in small groups. The final elements of the module draw upon the challenges of real life projects, and requires students to develop their team building and problem solving skills to address these.

Construction Technology
This module equips students with an essential knowledge of the technologies and systems available for the construction of low-rise buildings. It seeks to inspire students to develop a full understanding of the principles of construction and challenges them to recognise the impact of the choice of construction methods and materials on important issues such as the environment. This is supplemented by a study of various plant and equipment used in the realisation of the facility. Previous graduates often say that a year or two into their construction careers they still refer back to their module notes.

Economics for Construction & Engineering
This provides an introduction to micro and macroeconomics. Students will gain an understanding of how the price mechanism allocates resources in markets and the differences in outcome, depending on whether an industry is competitive or dominated by a single firm. They will also gain an appreciation of macroeconomic concepts such as inflation, unemployment, and the management of the economy. Studying economics gives students an improved understanding of the world in ways relevant to the management of a firm, and develops their analytical skills.

Empirical Studies
This module offers the opportunity to have a hands-on investigative experience and to further develop an understanding of technology concepts and material sciences. It is largely laboratory-based and consists of a variety of experiments from measuring light efficacy in a room to determining how and when materials fail. There is also an opportunity to undertake practical land surveying on campus. Essential skills gained include: technical report writing skills; simple computational skills and teamwork.

General Introduction to Law
Students will study introductory material on the English Legal System, Contract Law and the Law of Tort, as well as understanding key legal concepts and ideas. Upon completion of the module, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of the principles of contract and tort law. They should be able to apply this knowledge to solving basic legal problems. They will find it enormously helpful, for example, to be able to identify when there is a legal valid contract in place, what the terms are of that contract, and how they might bring the contract to an end.

Information & Communication
This module helps students to develop an understanding of the importance of information, communication and digital modelling in the construction of building projects. It will provide the skills that are core to studies at the university and for working in the construction industry. The module aims to develop public speaking, presentation, drawing, critical evaluation, personal development and team working skills. It is taught through lectures, in-class exercises and practical tutorials.

Principles of Management
The evolution of management theory is traced from the Enlightenment to the current practices employed by leading UK organisations. Students are encouraged to align themselves with authors and theories which make sense to them. This helps them understand the reasoning for practical management decisions and to develop robust arguments to support management decisions in practice.
Building Construction & Environmental Systems
This module focuses on the construction technology of commercial, industrial buildings, and others building on the knowledge gained in Part 1. Current trends and techniques and alternative methods of construction are considered. The integration of environmental control systems is examined as well as the concept of intelligent buildings and innovation. The understanding of technology is essential to students of all construction disciplines.

Building Pathology
In this module, students study the way buildings deteriorate. They will learn how to assess a building’s condition, what tools are used in this process and what procedures should be carried out to meet a client’s needs. Students will also acquire knowledge of the causes and ways of controlling decay and what repair methods are available. On completion of the module, students should be capable of undertaking a basic condition assessment of a simple building structure.

Construction Economics
The focus of this module is on the economics and financial management techniques during development, such as, financial feasibility appraisal and cost and price analysis of construction work.

Construction Procurement
Construction procurement is complex for four reasons. The purchase of construction occupies a considerable effort in pre-planning:

It takes place over a protracted period; single projects typically constitute a large proportion of suppliers’ and buyers’ annual turnover; construction involves fragmented, specialized supply chains involving a large number of separate companies. Procurement of construction is a multi-disciplinary study encompasses organization, economics of market and firms, law and business economics. Issues of particular importance are high numbers of specialist trade contractors, the separation of design from construction, complex interactions between off-site and on-site fabrication and the role of professionals in the process. This is the context within which we need to understand the commercial processes of structuring, negotiating, recording and enforcing business deals in construction.

Entrepreneurship in Construction & Property
This module introduces students to the context, content and processes of entrepreneurship with a particular focus on construction and property. They will learn how to recognise potentially profitable opportunities as well as how to develop them into a coherent business plan. Students will be given an insight into the basics of business accounting, intellectual property, business structuring and branding. They will be able to utilise progressive learning in this module to recognise the essential requirements for achieving competitive advantage. This will enhance their employability and leadership skills.

Part 2 Modules

Introduction to Quantification & Computerised Taking Off
This module introduces students to the fundamental techniques which underpin the practices of quantification of construction work: the mensuration and quantification of items of construction work for the purposes of early stage estimates of cost and preparation of contract documentation. Through practical examples students will learn about the IT applications used for these techniques and to gain experience in the use of the CATO computer programme.

Management in the Built Environment
Management is a vital role in an increasingly complex built environment. Students will gain an understanding of development activity, the importance of projects and their management in both a national and international context. Risk management is a significant issue for the modern construction enterprise. The module includes an introduction to key management tools in relation to the control of time, cost and quality, and health and safety.

Planning Law & Practice
This module provides an overview of the planning system in England. Recent changes to the planning system are covered in the course and students gain an understanding of current development control and planning policy. Topics covered include: function and history of the planning system; planning applications and appeals’ enforcement; conditions, charges and obligations; and procedures and legislation related to Environmental Impact Assessment, listed buildings, conservation areas, trees and protected species.

My research, communication and team work skills have greatly improved through working with my course mates in group work assignments.
Kaushal Patel
BSc Quantity Surveying Part 1
Projects
As students gain knowledge of the various technological aspects of construction, they have an opportunity to put this knowledge into practice. This module simulates the nature of a ‘Project Team’ in delivering ‘Clients’ Briefs’. Students have a chance to assume various construction roles: structural engineer; cladding specialist; building services engineer and quantity surveyor. In teams of five or six, students are asked to design various parts of a building according to a brief set by the Client. The essential skills from this module are: teamwork; time management; oral presentation skills and technical writing and drawing skills.

Research Skills
This module will give students a grounding in research methods, statistical analysis, as well as the evaluation of academic literature and the process of writing a dissertation. It is delivered by research-active staff through a mix of lectures, group work and hands-on activities. During the module, students will gain the key research skills required. They will have the opportunity to develop their ideas and prepare a dissertation proposal, and find out about the range of research activities within the school.

The beauty is that the core content is the same for all disciplines for the first two years allowing you to get a general understanding and then make an informed choice about the path you wish to take.

Adam Rossington
BSc Building Surveying Part 1

Part 2 Modules

Part 3 Modules

Building Surveying
- Building Surveying Project
- Dissertation
- Maintenance, Refurbishment & Rehabilitation of Built Facilities
- Sustainability

Construction Management
- Construction Management Project
- Dissertation
- Management of Construction Projects
- Sustainability

Construction Management & Surveying
- Built Environment Project
- Dissertation
- Sustainability

Quantity Surveying
- Quantity Surveying Project
- Dissertation
- Quantification & Costing
- Sustainability

- PLUS -

Optional Modules
- Business Organisation & Management
- Career Development
- Construction Contract Law
- Digital Technology Use in Construction
- Environmental Management & Energy Economics
- Facilities Management
- Green Innovation in Construction
- Historic Built Environment
- Human Resource Management
- Inclusive Environments
- Intelligent Buildings
- International Construction
- Introduction to Business Law
- Introduction to Property Law
- Language Option
- Maintenance, Refurbishment & Rehabilitation of Built Facilities
- Management of Construction Projects
- Quantification & Costing
Part 3 Modules

COMPULSORY MODULES

Dissertation
The dissertation is a piece of research work that enables students to explore in depth a topic relevant to their degree programme. This is a good chance to draw on all the knowledge they have gained from three years of studying construction management and/or surveying. By the end of the dissertation, students will be able to undertake the processes involved in producing a significant piece of written work, and to improve their self-organised study, creative and analytical thinking, and their communication skills.

Sustainability
This module challenges students to consider the interaction of the built environment with humans and the natural environment. They need to consider how the environmental impacts of buildings and construction can be reduced whilst meeting the needs of sustainable cities. The module teaches critical awareness of sustainable architecture, energy, carbon management and sustainability compliance in buildings. It prepares students for the day-to-day challenges of implementing innovative and sustainable building solutions, technologies and mitigation. An industrial visit, case studies and problem-based learning form an integral part of the module.

Building Surveying Project
In this module students are exposed to real buildings which need repair, conversion, alteration or general refurbishment. Students will undertake a number of practical surveying tasks in order to derive sufficient information for their project work. They will learn how to apply the technical knowledge and to draw on skills acquired earlier in the course in order to produce a viable solution to meet client requirements for the surveyed building.

Quantity Surveying/Construction Management/Built Environment Project
The aim of the project module is to vocationally reinforce the theoretical and academic subjects of the degree by requiring students to undertake an extended project based on a realistic, development project. Students will undertake the outline design of the project followed by a project task related to the vocational specialism of their degree. For example, based on their designed project, quantity surveying students will prepare a design cost plan; construction management students will undertake the planning and programming of the required construction operations; and construction management and surveying students will prepare an environmental impact assessment.

OPTIONAL MODULES
(unless taken as a compulsory module)

Business Organisation & Management
This module focuses on the management of the modern construction enterprise, in particular, looking at typical company objectives and the importance of long-term direction and strategies. Emphasis is given to the role of marketing and its means of satisfying customer requirements as businesses increasingly look for profitable long-term relationships. Students gain an in-depth understanding of company issues. They are able to practice using role play based on an interactive case study featuring a prominent construction enterprise.

Career Development
This module encourages students to look beyond their studies towards continuing their career journey. The module covers CV writing, applications, interview technique and professional body membership. Students are encouraged to become reflective practitioners, able to assess their strengths and weaknesses and plan their own professional development. The module delivery includes guest lectureship from industry and a key feature is a 4 to 12 week placement in the summer before the final year.

Construction Contract Law
The procurement of construction work is typically carried out by contracting with a variety of different firms, connected through a complex network of contracts. The content of this module encompasses the institutional infrastructure of the industry in terms of its impact on the production of standard-form contracts; procurement methods associated with construction work as well as their influence on the contract networks; common roles and responsibilities of stakeholders; a consideration of contract choice and risk allocation; the most important contract provisions commonly found in standard-form contracts; implied...
Part 3 Modules

terms; liabilities in tort as well as contract; key statutes affecting the interpretation of contracts; remedies for breach of contract; methods of dispute resolution.

Digital Technology Use in Construction

This module aims to help students understand how digital technologies are changing practices in advanced construction projects across the life of a facility. This will be achieved by: discussions on advanced digital practices on construction projects with practitioners; a site visit to the virtual reality system on campus; and a practical assessment project involving hands on work with digital technologies such as Building Information Modelling (BIM). The taught element covers the key features of digital technologies and how they influence the delivery of construction projects. It looks at the associated socio-technical and organisational issues and the benefits and barriers for their implementation.

Environmental Management & Energy Economics

Environmental management has wide implications on the economics of any company. Energy demand and supply have specific cost and benefit impacts on most organisations. This module combines the theoretical grounds and practical applications for environmental management and energy economics. The module is divided into two parts. The first part focuses on corporate environmental management, including drivers, tools, contrasting types and strategies. The second part is centred in energy assessment economics, including economic assessment tools, carbon pricing, demand management and other current practices in energy economics in the built environment.

Facilities Management

Facilities Management (FM) is coming to prominence as a profession, with an estimated market by 2015 of about £135 billion. With the sustainability agenda and tighter building regulations for carbon emissions reduction, this module provides students with an opportunity to understand the best ways to deliver interconnected and how construction companies are strategically managing the profound innovation challenges these complex interactions create. Throughout the module, detailed cases studies are used to bring to life key issues, and cases are drawn from research projects being undertaken by the School in collaboration with leading construction companies.

Historic Built Environment

This module introduces students to various important concepts related to the historic built environment. The module provides an introduction to the built heritage of England; to building conservation principles; to legislation, procedures, policy and guidance relating to heritage assets; and to the management of change affecting the historic built environment. Through project work and visits to buildings and areas of interest students will develop their knowledge of procedures, policy and guidance relating to heritage assets. They will also study materials and construction techniques relevant to heritage assets (with a focus on timber-framed buildings and on buildings built of brick and lime). Students will study the management of change affecting historic buildings (with an emphasis on the alteration of domestic buildings and of places of worship; on issues relating to sustainability; on development in conservation areas; and on the construction of tall buildings in English cities).

Green Innovation in Construction

This module inspires and equips students with leading-edge knowledge of the innovation strategies being deployed by construction companies in response to the low-carbon agenda. It demonstrates how environmental policies, company strategies and new sustainable technologies are closely effective, productive and sustainable facilities (building or infrastructure). This will be delivered through interactive lectures and a programme of seminars, discussions and presentations.

Human Resource Management

Effective human resource management (HRM) contributes significantly to overall organizational performance. People are a key source of a firm’s competitive advantage and so, the processes, practices, and implications of HRM must be considered seriously. Being a labour-
Part 3 Modules

Intensive industry, it is imperative for construction firms to ensure their HR strategies align closely with their overall organizational goals. This module will cover the essential elements of HRM and their implementation in the UK construction industry. It draws substantially on HRM concepts, theories and practices from different industries to facilitate an understanding of the issues and concerns that are applicable to both construction and non-construction firms. It will explain and clarify how an informed, well-structured and participative approach to HRM can deliver substantial benefits to all stakeholders: employers and employees as well as their shareholders and clients.

Inclusive Environments
This module provides a review of the issues which relate to inclusion in, and accessibility to, the built environment. The examination of legislation and design guidelines relevant to inclusivity will lead to a more detailed assessment of the physical and environmental provision required to achieve an inclusive environment. A range of different facilities will be addressed including housing, historic buildings and transport systems, together with the impact of environmental factors including colour and acoustics. Students will be required to audit a building to assess its accessibility and prioritise and cost any adaptations.

Intelligent Buildings
This module is about the integrated process of sustainable design, operation and management. It includes the integration of sensors and automation controls which can link users to the building and its systems. Students will cover a range of intelligent architecture, smart building networks, lessons from nature and vernacular architecture, and the evolution of intelligent green eco-cities. There is a great need for interdisciplinary skills in the building industry and this module stresses the need for stakeholders from all disciplines to work together.

International Construction
This module exposes students to new approaches to designing and delivering projects in the international construction market. This will be important for those that want to work in the international market. Students will learn about the drivers shaping the global construction market and the differences between designing and delivering projects in both the developed and developing world. They will cover the different types of national and international codes and standards that influence material producers and everyone in the supply chain. Students will understand the different procurement approaches, technologies, and methods of contracting used internationally, as well as the labour and employment laws that impact workers on projects. Companies will be considered during the module, analysing why some companies have grown in the international market and their ingredients for success.

Introduction to Property Law
Those who practise as construction managers will find it useful to know something about the law which relates to land/property. This module begins by covering basic ideas such as how land law extends to buildings and fixtures, and what constitutes nuisance or trespass. It then goes on to cover fundamental land law concepts such as leases, mortgages, easements and covenants, and how they fit together. All of these can affect how land is developed. The module focuses particularly on the practical impact of Land Law on the built environment, rather than taking a more theoretical approach appropriate to those studying for a law degree.

Language Option
Modules in Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish are available to study as a Part 3 optional module. They provide the practical language skills needed to enhance highly qualified graduates. This will give students the foundations needed to be able to use languages in a job, or on an ERASMUS exchange. Many employers are looking for graduates who have language skills in addition to other specialised knowledge. Learning another language gives access to another culture and a new dimension to the student’s life.

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Part 3 Modules

Maintenance, Refurbishment & Rehabilitation of Built Facilities

In this module students will study the issues of refurbishing and maintaining buildings. Students will learn how to analyse a building for potential re-use and understand what technical solutions are available for the repair, modernization and maintaining of buildings. Students will also gain an overall understanding of the various regulations which apply to the refurbishment and maintenance of buildings. On completing the module, students should be capable of proposing viable technical solutions for the refurbishment and maintenance of simple building structures.

Management of Construction Projects

This module seeks to move beyond traditional views of project management historically dominated by programming, planning and scheduling and embedded in the positivist paradigm. Instead students are introduced to different schools of thought on how to approach project management and what this means in terms of techniques. The module seeks to balance established thinking, research developments and industrial lessons. The syllabus draws from the latest management ideas. It encourages students to adopt a critical view.

Quantification & Costing

Students will cover the principles and context of the vocational function of cost management of development, design and construction. This includes the technical practices used in the quantification and costing of construction work and the management of cost and price at the design stage of projects - design cost planning.

KEY READING

- **CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES** by Milan Radosavljevic & John Bennett (2012, Wiley-Blackwell)
Life at SCME

As an undergraduate student with us you will become an important part of our school and will be helped to settle in during Welcome Week. We offer a successful programme and attract around 100 students each year which is an excellent opportunity to make many new friends. You will be encouraged to participate in social evenings as you get to know your colleagues and be integrated into the healthy social student community which builds during your time with us. There are many events throughout the year, including field trips and site visits. These are opportunities to engage you with your colleagues and also with the future environment in which you will work. At the end of your course there is a graduation celebration party. Friendly teaching staff are available to help and guide you throughout your time at University.

Facilities

In addition to the excellent University of Reading facilities, we provide a dedicated Resource Room which contains course books and other documentation, including a wide range of documents specifically related to all aspects of the construction industry. Students have access to a computer suite with the latest software such as AUTOCAD. For those with their own laptops we also offer free WiFi connection. The Resource Room is an area where our students can study, discuss lecture notes, borrow past dissertations, bind and hand in coursework and much more. The School also has a newly refurbished Junior Common Room which has power points for laptops, study booths and a communal area for socialising. A range of engineering laboratories and portable equipment make it possible for students to test and measure materials and environmental conditions. All of these resources, and those of the wider University, are utilised within the programmes. The School offers great online facilities through the Blackboard website which gives access to virtual classrooms, lecture notes and important announcements throughout the year. Students can also submit their coursework electronically and take advantage of many other aspects to enhance their learning.

The Student Voice

The School is keen to cultivate a strong relationship with our students by holding termly Staff-Student Committee meetings where concerns can be raised and resolved. We are also committed to ensuring that you receive the best student experience possible through regular module feedback giving you the opportunity to help shape the way we deliver teaching. Students are allocated a personal tutor who will help to guide them throughout their time at the School, offering advice and assistance whenever necessary.

Site Visits

To enhance the student learning experience, the School arranges a number of field trips and site visits throughout the degree. Students will have the opportunity to see construction procedures in practice and gain a greater understanding of how the industry operates. It will be a chance to see new and cutting edge practices implemented in a real life setting, and gain an insight into the future of innovative and sustainable construction.

Reading University Construction Society

Reading University Construction Society (RUCS) is the number one choice for those students pursuing a career in Construction. In its first year the society was awarded the ‘New Society of the Year Award’ at the Reading University Students’ Union (RUSU) Societies Ball and was the largest academic society on campus with over 200 members.

RUCS provides an informal networking platform for undergraduate & postgraduate groups encouraging interaction and collaboration through social events, sporting activities and community projects. During these troubling economic times the society aims to increase the employability and knowledge of members through organised student-only events with top professional institutions, previous years have seen visits from the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB), the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and Hays recruitment offering career advice and guidance to members.

The Society also boasts strong connections with major firms and professional bodies who regularly come in to talk about themselves and opportunities within the industry. This year Turner and Townsend will be holding a beer and pizza evening providing information and networking opportunities for members. However it’s not all work and no play. The Society is renowned for its Socials at some of Reading’s biggest venues, and new for 2013 is the prestigious black tie dinner, definitely a date for the diary. Since its establishment in 2010, the RUCS have been instrumental in enhancing the quality of student life in SCME.

"The SCME now has links with the student-run Reading University Construction Society (RUCS) which helps students from all different years to build contacts, organise career talks, and social events like boat parties. It makes the whole process sociable and fun, and if younger students need help, seniors can do so through the society."

Kaushal Patel
BSc Quantity Surveying, Part 1

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Life after SCME

The ethos of the School of Construction Management and Engineering is something rather special. We are keen to attract the best students to Reading, to engage with them in ways which they find academically challenging and to create graduates which will leave the School confident of their career choice. This approach allows our graduates to develop their chosen career path in ways which enable them to make a difference. Our graduates are in high demand by leading construction and surveying firms. In the latest survey by HEFCE 88% of our graduates were in professional or managerial employment within six months of graduating from Reading.

Careers

Many SCME graduates take up employment in leading firms as Building Surveyors; Quantity Surveyors; Project Managers; Assistant Cost Managers; Estate Managers etc. Feedback from companies often confirms the high quality education and contributions of our graduates to their firms.

Links with Industry

We maintain close links with all major firms in the built environment field including Davis Langdon, Turner and Townsend, Gardiner & Theobald, Mace, Balfour Beatty plc, Skanska, Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd, BAM Construct UK, Kier Group, Carillion plc, Lend Lease. We expect our students to be leaders in their field and the next generation of innovation in the built environment.

We provide students with the opportunity to sharpen their practical knowledge and skills and to keep abreast with current developments in industry. We increasingly encourage and help arrange industrial placements and work experience for students during vacation.

"More than anything, my course has given me a huge insight into the industry I will be entering and has opened my eyes up to the sort of work I will be undertaking. This is invaluable because it is preparing me for what’s to come and I am very excited about it."

Ashley Thompson
BSc Quantity Surveying, Part 2

Relations with Our Alumni

When our students graduate we like to say that they are not leaving Reading, but that they are taking a little piece of Reading with them. The School of Construction Management and Engineering is akin to an extended family with branches all around the world. Given that we’ve been running surveying and construction-related courses for the best part of forty years we have an impressive alumni; but the most important students are always our current ones, because they represent the future.

"The University of Reading has really broadened my knowledge and understanding of the UK and international construction markets. The construction courses run by the School really help you develop as a person. They help prepare you for a career in one of the most diverse and interesting industries of them all.

Chris Hall, Quantity Surveyor, BAM Nuttall"

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