Get ready for MSc Building Information Modelling (BIM) in Design Construction and Operations

Welcome to our MSc BIM Programme.

We hope that you are looking forward to starting at UWE Bristol. As your Programme Leaders, we warmly welcome you onto our MSc Building Information Modelling (BIM) in Design Construction and Operations course. The instructions for how to enrol for your course and the details of your induction have been sent to your Welcome website. In the meantime, we have provided some information below to help you prepare to start with us in September.

Ahmed Hagras and Chaitali Basu

Programme Leaders

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 14 September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

The Starting Block will help you settle into university and get to know your teaching team and coursemates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practise the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the Starting Block website for more details.

Your timetable will be available to you via MYUWE (login required) once you have started the enrolment process. Please visit the 'Understanding your teaching timetable' website to find out when your timetable will be published.

Preparing and arrival

You can find everything you need to know about enrolment, Starting Block and the start of teaching, on our Preparing and Arrival webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the library, study skills, academic support, health and wellbeing support and much more.

You can also explore our support for careers and enterprise**.** UWE Careers & Enterprise provide a range of workshops, appointments and a huge range of online resources to support students in realising their future ambitions. The Careers Toolkit is our online portal to finding vacancies, booking onto events and accessing a range of resources.

Enrolment

Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the MYUWE platform where you can enrol. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Enrolment for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our Enrolment website.

ID card - upload your photo now

We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to MYUWE. To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our student card guidance.

Engage with your programme

Start your learning

In preparation for the MSc BIM in Design, Construction, and Operations, have a go at these activities:

BIM Practical skills

To engage in the course, you are advised to sign up for the Autodesk educational community and download a free version of Revit software, which is one of the most used software in the course. You will need your new UWE email address to enrol for a free educational license.

If you have not used Revit before, you can have a head start by watching tutorials developed by our technical team, which are available on our website: Technical Support and Learning Resources. However, you are not expected to become proficient in the use of Revit. The aim of this course is to understand the implementation of BIM as a process of how different software tools can be used for this purpose.

You will receive tutorials throughout the course to help you with the required software skills and will have access to resources such as LinkedIn Learning, which you can sign up to with your UWE email, if you want to take your skills to the next level in Revit or any other software tool you use in the course.

Other tools you might use in the course, which will also be introduced in the teaching sessions, include Autodesk Construction Cloud, Navisworks, Twinmotion, Dynamo, Plannerly, etc.

We would also recommend that you do the following before you arrive at UWE:

Visit the UWE Library pages to learn about all the services the Library offers. Then have a go at using the Library search tool (for example, by searching for critical work on one of the primary texts in your reading lists). Good research is crucial to your academic success, and it benefits from practice.

A key skill required for those aiming for a high level of success within their chosen profession is the ability to think critically about key issues and debates. To develop this ability, a good place to begin is by reading at least one BIM publication webpage regularly. Ideally, you might try reading parts of two articles about a specific issue in BIM to see how different issues are presented.

Read around your subject

To help you to enhance these skills and be ready to engage with your studies, you should start to read and research around your subject before you arrive. You might find it useful to read Chapter 1 of:

Race, S. (2019) BIM Demystified. 2nd New edition. London: RIBA Publishing.

Connect with others

As a student on an accredited programme by the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) and Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, you are eligible for student membership, which has a broad range of benefits.

Please see CIOB website for details

Please see RICS website for details

Be prepared

Access support

Check the information on our Disability web pages so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

Get equipped

The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the Student Money Service team for advice and guidance.

If you are thinking of purchasing your own laptop or PC, we suggest visiting Autodesk for PC specifications. Use the link below (link to 2026 version specs, updated in March 2026): https://www.autodesk.com/support/technical/article/caas/sfdcarticles/sfdcarticles/System-requirements-for-Revit-2026-products.html. If you are not sure, look for gaming laptops!

See the UWE website for detailed information on choosing your IT equipment, including recommended specifications.

International students

The Global Student Support Team offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you to settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol and organise social events to help you to adapt to your new environment.

Who to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the programme, please contact:

Ahmed Hagras via email at Ahmed.Hagras@uwe.ac.uk

Chaitali Basu via email at Chaitali.Basu@uwe.ac.uk

Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: September 2026 Last updated: Spring 2026