Get ready for MSc Building Surveying

Welcome to the MSc in Building Surveying course. Whatever the subject of your first degree, you will have transferable skills to help you through the next year of full-time study or the two years of the part-time course.

Some of you will be working in industry and others may already have a foundation of learning from previous areas studied, however, it is important you have acquired the basic requisite knowledge. Below, is suggested reading which you should familiarise yourself with, as it will help you prepare for the course.

The course will be challenging, particularly for those who are looking to convert to a new career and become a Chartered Surveyor or Chartered Building Engineer. By accepting this challenge, you have already demonstrated a strength of character and motivation that future employers value, that "can do & will do" outlook. We will be taking you on a journey of learning.' Have confidence, however - as we have a strong pedigree of getting our students to the finish-line and an excellent reputation in the surveying and construction professions, that makes our graduates (you) highly desirable.

We look forward to meeting you all in person at the start of term.

Kind regards,

Paul Mundy

Programme Leader

Before you start

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

The two weeks of Starting Block will help you settle into university and help you to get to know your teaching team and course mates. 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 with 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

There is an expectation, when studying at Master Level, that students will adopt a level of self-reliance and maturity with regard to their approach to learning and personal administration. M-Level students should develop a strong ethos of independent study, reading around the subject area to support a higher-level understanding and to actively engage in peer-to-peer discussions.

Read around your subject

A key skill which is required to achieve a high level of success within your chosen programme is the ability to think critically about key issues and practices. 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.

Here is some suggested basic reading that will (A) help you prepare for the course and (B) become core textbooks to '*have on your shelf at home'* as a future construction industry professional. They need to be the very latest edition, as you may find past publications or second-hand purchase offers are not up-to-date. The University library will hold electronic copies of the latest publications:

- **'The Construction of Houses'** (2021) 6th edition - Marshall D., Worthing D., Dann N., Heath R. Published by Routledge

- '**Understanding Housing Defects'** (2014) 4th Edition Marshall D., Worthing D., Heath R., Dann N . Published by Routledge

- **'Barry's Advanced Construction of Buildings'** (2018) 4th edition- Emmitt S.Published by Wiley Blackwell.

- **'Building Construction Handbook'** (2016) 7th Edition- Chudley R. & Greeno R.Published by Routledge

- '**Environmental Science in Building'** (2012) 7th Edition- McMullan R. Published by Palgrave Macmillan

Connect with others

As a student on a programme accredited by the **Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS),** you are eligible for student membership, which has a broad range of benefits. Please see RICS website for details. Also keep an eye out for RICS Matrics events which are particularly targeted at students, APC candidates and newly qualified professionals. There are a number of local RICS Matrics groups, including Bristol.

Additionally, we encourage you to be a part of Bristol's construction community and join Constructing Excellence Bristol Club https://constructingexcellencesw.org.uk/clubs/bristol/

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 are struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the Student Money Service team for advice and guidance.

These packages will run on Windows devices**.** We recommend that you have access to a device with the following minimum specifications Enhanced Specification.

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

Over the duration of the course, there will be the opportunities to visit a 'live' construction site. Students will be required to wear hard hats, high-visibility-vests, gloves, goggles, and safety shoes with a steel toe and midsole when visiting a construction site. With the exception of **site safety shoes**, which students must provide for themselves, the University will provide the other personal protective equipment at no cost to students.

Also, for risk assessment purposes, students will be required to complete a medical questionnaire prior to each site visit.

International students

The Global Student Support Team offers information and advice to ensure that 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 me Paul Mundy via email paul3.mundy@uwe.ac.uk

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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