

Get ready for MSc Real Estate & Finance Investment (Distance Learning)

Thank you so much for planning to join us in the wonderful and dynamic School of Architecture and Environment at UWE Bristol.

We are extremely pleased that you have chosen our university and programme and look forward to welcoming you to our virtual experience and ultimately to Bristol. It is our role to ensure that you settle into the programme and to make sure the programme runs smoothly. It is particularly important to me that you find the programme rewarding and engaging.

We will discuss further the facilities on offer at UWE Bristol at induction. This will introduce you to the virtual learning environment and the benefits which being a student with us offers you. The induction session should help you make the most of what we hope will be a fantastically rewarding period of your life.

***Review from a
MSc Real Estate Finance & Investment student:***

"I can't deny it's been very hard work combining study with work, family, etc, but I really do feel a huge sense of pride and achievement after it all. My life has changed unrecognisably and I am so excited about the future."



Ytzen van der Werf
Programme Leader

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 22 September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

Starting Block will help you settle into university and to help you 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 registration 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 registration, 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.

Registration

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 register. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Registration for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our [Registration](#) 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 your login details. For help, go to our [student card guidance](#).

Engage with your programme

Programme structure (part-time)

MSc Real Estate Finance and Investment		
Year 1	Real Estate Economics and Valuations	Real Estate Investment and Development
Year 2	Strategic Estate Management	Real Estate Law
	<i>*Real Estate Finance and Investment (see NOTE below)</i>	
Year 1 and 2	Dissertation	

***NOTE:** the Real Estate Finance and Investment module is conducted through a **one week's compulsory attendance in person** in Bristol in the second semester of the second year of the programme (2027). The dates will be notified via your programme website in due course (typically last week of March, early April 2027).

Webinar times

The timing of the webinars is at the discretion of the module leader, but they are usually 17.30 to 19.00 UK time on Tuesday or Thursday. It will average out at one per week for part-time students, 2 per week for full time students.

Recorded lectures

As a distance learning student, you will be mainly taught through recorded lectures. These will be made available on a weekly basis throughout the programme.

What to expect when classes start

Your programme is organised into subject areas called modules, and each module is assigned a credit value that contributes towards your final degree. Your Programme Leader will explain all modules to you at the start of the year. On-line attendance at timetabled sessions (webinars) is expected.

In addition to the module contact time and other timetabled activities, you are expected to organise approximately 12-15 hours of independent study time, every week, to complete assignments, read, research and revise (again, for part-time students).

Assessment

Assessment times are at the discretion of the module leader. Part of the difficulty of setting assessments is that hand in dates can be the same time at the end of each semester. On a programme level we do attempt to ease the assessment burden, but this is not always possible. As a result, please bear that in mind for your other commitments, as there will be pressure around hand in dates. There are no attended exams on the programme, but

there are some online viva examinations, which will be undertaken during the assessment period. You will be expected to be available for the viva, although there is generally some flexibility (at the discretion of the module leader) as to when a viva takes place.

Masters dissertation/ project

This is a lengthy and important piece of coursework and will be the last to be completed. Hand in dates are important as completing this module (and the programme) is a prerequisite for the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Assessment of Professional Competence (APC) process. During the induction session we will provide all relevant information.

Read around your subject

Most of your core textbooks are available as online versions through the library's website once you have commenced the programme. As preparatory reading we recommend:

- Myers, D. (2016) *New Economic Thinking and Real Estate* Wiley Blackwell
- Biggam, J. (2018) *Succeeding with your masters dissertation: a step by step handbook* McGraw-Hill Education
- Bill Bryson – (2010) "*At home*" or (2015) "*The Road to Little Dribbling: More Notes from a Small Island*"

You are also encouraged to learn to use Excel as a calculating or modelling tool. If you have never worked with Excel before, we recommend some Youtube learning videos, e.g.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wbJcJCKBcMg> or the first hour of this video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TpOIGij43AA>

Connect with others

You will be joining a scholarly community of academics and students with a passion for learning about your subject. There is a range of opportunities for you get involved in the community. The academic team is approachable and very happy to answer your questions. You are welcome to contact us for a chat or schedule an appointment.

Professional body membership

Once you start this programme you will become eligible for free student membership of the RICS. [Find out about the benefits here](#).

Students on this course can also obtain free student membership of the Investment Property Forum. Please complete the form at the [website of the IPF](#) for free membership.

For those of you in the Bristol area we recommend you take up membership of the [Bristol Property Agents Association](#) and attend their events. Students on our courses have free membership. BPAA events are an excellent way to network with local property professionals. You will be able to join the [UWE Bristol Real Estate Alumni Society](#) after you have graduated.

Students are also invited to join the [Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy](#) (CASLE). There is a £25 fee. The organisation works across the Commonwealth

and would be a good means of establishing links with other professionals.

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.

See the UWE website for detailed information on [choosing your IT equipment](#) including [recommended specifications](#).

For this programme we recommend the **Core Specification** of the hardware.

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 me:

Ytzen van der Werf MA FHEA via email at Ytzen.vanderWerf@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 2025

Last updated: Spring 2025