Course Specification

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Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Architecture and Built Environment		
Course Code(s):	CN001S31UV	Part-time	2 Years
UCAS Code:			
Course Title:	HNC Building Studies		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Higher National Certificate Building Studies awarded by the University of Wolverhampton		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	10/May/2017		
Last Review:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid from:	2009/0		
Course Specification valid to:	2021/2		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Mr Anthony Hatfield
Head of Department:	Mr Paul Hampton

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

Applicants must be able to demonstrate Mathematics and English Language proficiency to at least GCSE grade C level (or equivalent)

AND, either

- Minimum grade E at A-Level ; or
- BTEC National Award grade P

If you've got other qualifications or relevant experience please consult the UCAS tariff tables or contact us before applying, you will be called to interview to assess your suitability for the course.

An Access to HE Diploma full award

Students must have studied a minimum of two years post GCSE level. However, it is expected that some applicants will be mature students with work experience, who wish to further their career development. These applicants will be processed through standard procedures, which may involve an interview as part of the process.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

The HNC Building Studies course is delivered only on a part time basis. As such students have the opportunity to attend this course through day release from their relevant day to day employment.

Motivation, determination and ambition is a common characteristic of most students who successfully graduate from this course; classes are made up of like-minded individuals with the desire to succeed.

The course has both a theoretical and practical content that brings together a range of skills and subjects including design, new technology, and sustainability and construction methods. The course is developed with input from industry professionals to ensure that it is up to date and meets the needs of the industry.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The aim of this course is to develop students with a technical understanding of the construction industry process including the application of management and technology.

The overall aim of this course is to ensure graduates have a comprehensive construction education covering the multi-disciplinary functions associated with the construction sector and with a technical understanding of the construction industry process including the application of management and technology. This ensures that graduates are equipped with the appropriate knowledge and enterprising spirit to practise professionally and ethically. Thus, the course will:

- address industry's demand for graduates who can integrate the principles and applications of construction, and apply them to the construction projects, in a technical context
- enable students to advance their existing careers in construction to a higher level which requires the exercise of judgement, and the ability to make decisions that reflect a responsible and ethical outlook
- furnish students with a technical understanding of the principles of construction procedures, practices and processes enabling the appropriate application of information to be applied to a range of

construction projects

- provide a broadly based education in construction, allowing scope for continued development into a wide range of disciplines within the construction and construction related areas.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Part Time	£3050.00
2020/1	Overseas	Part Time	£6125.00
2021/2	H	Part Time	£3100.00
2022/3	H	Part Time	£3120.00
2023/4	H	Part Time	£4625
2024/5	H	Part Time	£4625.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Part-time)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4CN002	Sustainable Construction Technology (Residential Buildings)	20	YEAR	Core
4CN006	Built Environment Academic and Employment Skills	20	SEM1	Core
4CN001	Introduction to Law and Construction Procurement	20	SEM2	Core

September (Part-time)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4CN016	Built Environment Business and Economics Project	20	YEAR	Core
4CN041	Introduction to Digital Construction	20	SEM1	Core
4CN027	Built Environment Professional Development	20	SEM2	Core

Continuing students will follow the programme indicated below:

September (Part-time)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4CN016	Built Environment Business and Economics Project	20	YEAR	Core
4CN030	BIM and Data Management	20	SEM1	Core
4CN027	Built Environment Professional Development	20	SEM2	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

Reference Points:

- QAA National Qualifications Framework
- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Construction Property and Surveying; and Engineering
- New BTEC Higher Nationals Document (from September 2010)
- CIOB Education Framework
- RICS, Policy and Guidance on UK University Partnerships,
- RICS Assessment of Professional Competence - Competencies
- Equality Act 2010

Overview of Assessment:

As part of the course approval process, the course learning outcomes were mapped to each of the modules forming the diet of the programme of study. This process confirmed that all course learning outcomes can be met through successful completion of the modules. This mapping applies to the final award as well as to all of the intermediate awards.

Learning Outcomes	Modules
HNC01 Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with your area(s) of study, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study.	
HNC02 Demonstrate an ability to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of your subject(s) of study.	
HNC03 Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to your area(s) of study and/or work.	
HNC04 Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments.	
HNC05 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility.	

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

- Attending, taking notes and asking questions in lectures,
- Using audio-visual learning materials
- Carrying out supervised practical work
- Discussing with fellow students and academic staff in seminars and workshops
- Discussing with academic staff in tutorials
- Reading articles, chapters and books
- Accessing appropriate sites on the internet
- Field trips to towns or cities, visiting buildings, construction sites and observing work in progress
- Interact with industry and industry professionals
- Interaction with the professional body
- Preparing appropriate documentation, to industry standards, including plans, specifications, cost information, based on live of realistic construction projects
- Performing group exercises and projects
- Making oral presentations
- Preparation of professional standard reports
- Supervised practical work such as measurements
- Engaging in discussion with academic staff and fellow students in seminars, workshops and tutorials.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

Enhanced learning support is provided in the following areas;

1. Face-to-face tutorial sessions

2. Report writing and oral/presentation communications skills

3. Learning centre – literature searches and information searches

4. Practical/lab/experimental activities and reporting

6. Research for project work

6. Promotion of *independent learning* during tutorials, face-to-face sessions

7. Formative assessment opportunities in all modules

The University complements this by supporting your learning through the provision of generic study skills including communication and how to write academic assignments. In addition, there will be opportunities to develop your information seeking and information management skills. These may be in the form of seminars or workshops delivered by LIS staff and embedded into the curriculum or by following the programme of "InfoBite" workshops available in the Learning Centres.

Employability in the Curriculum:

The HNC Building Studies course prepares for a career within the modern building team such as a contracts manager, estimator, site engineer, building surveyor and quantity surveyor.

It is an ideal first step to introduce or enable career change into the construction industry, or, for those with construction trade backgrounds looking to advance into supervisory or managerial roles in the construction industry.

Specialist subject and academic knowledge enables students to communicate effectively; work in a team and develop good interpersonal skills; solve problems; work on their own initiative, and to adapt to changing situations.

Normal progression from this course is to Level 5 of an associated BSc (Hons) degree. Note however that progression on to BSc (Hons) degrees are subject to professional body requirements, which currently allow Level 5 entry only and may also require marks from this course to be at a particular level of achievement.