

Course Specification

Course Summary Information			
1	Course Title		HNC Construction
2	BCU Course Code	UCAS Code	UH0107 Direct application to university only
3	Awarding Institution		Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)		
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)		Pearson

6	Course Description
	<p>Want a comprehensive introduction to the construction industry? Study HNC Construction and structure your coursework in your own way.</p> <p>You'll gain fundamental knowledge that will set you up to explore a range of construction roles. Plus, it's a great way of progressing onto one of our Built Environment degree courses.</p> <p>The skills you gain are very much in demand and graduates of the School have secured roles with major engineering and construction companies such as Laing O'Rourke, Mott MacDonald, Taylor Wimpey, Birmingham City Council and Birmingham International Airport.</p> <p>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>Offering expert training for technologists in the design, production and management of buildings, the HNC Construction course has a practical focus and professional respect.</p> <p>You'll gain a sound understanding of the technical, legal and scientific principles of construction. Seminars and lectures are backed up by construction site visits which will bring your studies to life. You'll also be supported by expert staff who have professional experience of working on multi-million pound housing and commercial developments, as well as having excellent working knowledge of the construction industry.</p> <p>Close links with industry will provide you with valuable connections. You'll have the chance to take part in student awards with big name sponsors, such as BAM, Bouyges, UK North and Midlands, giving you the chance to gain recognition and make contacts to help further your future career.</p> <p>You'll also benefit from having access to both state-of-the-art digital facilities and traditional resources. Using advanced BIM software, surveying equipment and a computer-generated virtual building site, you get accustomed to the technology used in industry.</p> <p>Birmingham's cutting edge development presents fantastic opportunities to gain experience and contacts for our students based in the city centre location.</p>

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Higher National Certificate Construction	4	120
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Not applicable		

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	Not applicable.

9	Delivery Patterns		
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study
	Part Time	City Centre	2 years
			Code(s)
			UH0107

10	Entry Requirements
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/ .

11	Course Learning Outcomes
	Subject-specific knowledge and understanding
1	The key concepts, theories and principles used in construction, property and surveying relevant to their specialism. These may include measurement; physical and financial appraisal of buildings; legal principles; economic theory and applied economics; design, construction, performance of buildings; resource management; investment analysis; corporate real estate management; and the application of business management theories.
2	The appropriate stakeholders involved in construction, property and surveying, and their relevant power and interest. The context in which building, construction management and real estate processes operate, including the legal; business; social; economic; health and safety; cultural; technological; physical; environmental; and global influences on its specialism. The linkages and interdisciplinary relationships between the functions of the discipline and the relationships between the discipline and related disciplines operating in the built and natural environments.
3	One or more areas of specialist knowledge, possibly related to the specialism of the programme, for example construction engineering; human-building interaction; land surveying; mapping; resource management and allocation; corporate real estate; sustainability; and valuation.

	The professions and industries allied to construction, property and surveying, their operation and the linkages between them. The appropriate generic and bespoke software that supports construction, property and surveying functions.
4	The regulatory systems within which construction, property and surveying operate, for example, the planning and building control systems and their implications for development Contemporary issues facing the profession and driving change within it, for example, the sustainability/environmental agenda and the shift from transactional to consultancy-based businesses. Professional ethics, their impact on the operation of the professions and their influence on the society; conflict avoidance/dispute resolution; communities and the stakeholders with whom they have contact.
	Intellectual Skills
5	Application of the necessary skills needed for academic study and enquiry. Apply learning study skills to new situations and fields of the programme discipline.
6	Utilise problem-solving and decision making skills to a variety of construction situations, both as an individual and as part of a team. Apply strategies for the selection of research data from a wide source of material.
7	Synthesise data from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding of construction theory and practice. Make critical judgements about the merits of differing points of view.
8	Evaluate appropriate design and construction solutions, make and present a reasoned choice between them and offer alternatives.
	Generic skills
9	Demonstrate familiarity with a wide range of subject-specific facts and principles in combination with an awareness of the current limits of theory and applied knowledge and understand the provisional nature of problem definition and associated information and allow for competing and alternative explanations within their subject.
10	Exhibit understanding of the defining elements of the subject as a result of in-depth and/or cross-curricula study or research and tackle problems by collecting, analysing and evaluating appropriate qualitative and quantitative information, and using it creatively and imaginatively to solve problems, introduce and develop innovations, and make decisions and follow them through.
11	Plan and execute research or development work, evaluate the outcomes, draw valid conclusions and make recommendations and display skills in evaluating and interpreting, in a balanced manner, new information provided by others from a range of fields of study.
12	Display generic scholarly and award specific professional skills and demonstrate the ability to acquire new competencies required for career progression and assess the ethical, equality and inclusion consequences of human activities to optimise community and environmental sustainability.
	Interpersonal and teamwork skills
13	Organise teamwork and participate effectively in a team and set realistic targets.
14	Identify individual and collective goals and responsibilities and plan, allocate and evaluate the work of self, individuals and teams.
15	Perform in a manner appropriate to allocated roles and responsibilities and recognise and respect the views and opinions of other team members.
16	Show positive intent and a willingness to resolve conflict and reflect on and evaluate their own performance as an individual or as a team member.
	Self-management and professional development skills
17	Develop the skills necessary for self-managed lifelong learning and engagement including for example working independently, effective time management and organisational skills and appreciate the need for professional codes of conduct where applicable.

18	Recognise the moral, ethical, social and equality and inclusion issues related to the programme and assume responsibility for their own actions and identify and work towards targets for personal, academic and career development.
19	Develop an adaptable and flexible approach to study and work and demonstrate the competence, behaviour and attitude required in academic and professional working life, including initiative, reflection, leadership, resilience and team skills.
20	Behave in an ethical and responsible manner to ensure the rights of others and the wider environment are respected and protected and understand the importance of academic, professional and research integrity.
	Communication skills
21	Listen and observe attentively, record, evaluate and respond and/or communicate using a wide variety of information sources for example electronic, textual, numerical, verbal, visual/graphical, digital and practical field (site and building) survey based.
22	Communicate accurately, clearly, concisely, confidently and appropriately to a variety of audiences using a range of formats and employing appropriate scientific and/or professional discipline specific language.
23	Contribute constructively to group discussions.
24	Consider, appreciate, evaluate and respect the views of others.
	Digital literacy
25	Use the internet in a context which recognises its limitations as a means of communication and a source of information.
26	Demonstrate competence in the use of electronic information handling and data processing and analysis software and applications through the use of digital information systems (for example BIM and GIS).
27	Use a range of IT platforms (for example desktop, server, tablet and mobile) and social media to communicate information to a range of audiences effectively.
28	Demonstrate an awareness of legal, effective and safe use of digital and social media and use and interpret digital data and information to inform decision making.
	Practical skills
29	<p>Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing/sketching/drawing with individuals and groups including professionals within the work place to establish an effective working relationship.</p> <p>Contribute through a variety of methods to group discussions and problem solving decisions. Critically appraise by peer assessment the oral and written/sketch presentation of an individual. Read and understand construction drawings.</p> <p>Correct referencing of researched text using the "Harvard" method.</p>
30	<p>Take charge of one's own learning goals and plan to undertake tasks, including working to deadlines and accepting accountability for one's own learning decisions.</p> <p>Reflect on and appraise ones learning needs and adopt the appropriate learning strategies.</p> <p>Identify accurately and proficiently any issues requiring research.</p>
31	Take account of safety regulations, legal requirements including those relating to equality and inclusion, and the impact of investigations on the environment.
32	Collect relevant data, assimilate knowledge, put forward a coherent and rational argument and relate theory and practice.

	Effectively and safely apply transferable skills to self-management, with continual analysis and evaluation of outcome and appropriate modification or intervention.
	Analytical and data interpretation skills
33	Appreciate issues of sample selection, accuracy, precision and uncertainty during collection, recording and analysis of data in the field, in the laboratory or collated from secondary sources.
34	Appreciate and reconcile or mitigate the difficulties of having incomplete information on which to base decisions and understand the nature of risk.
35	Prepare, process, interpret and present information and data, using appropriate qualitative and quantitative techniques and packages.
36	Solve numerical problems using first principles, computer-based and other techniques.

12	Course Requirements																																		
12a	<p>Level 4:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 100 credits):</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BNV4111</td> <td>Construction Technology</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BNV4112</td> <td>Science and Materials</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BNV4113</td> <td>Individual Project</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BNV4115</td> <td>Management and Practice in Construction</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BNV4114</td> <td>Legal Obligations in the Built Environment</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules:</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BNV4116</td> <td>Planning and Design for the Built Environment</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BNV4118</td> <td>Measuring and Estimating Practice</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BNV4117</td> <td>Building Information for Construction</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BNV4119</td> <td>Valuation</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	BNV4111	Construction Technology	20	BNV4112	Science and Materials	20	BNV4113	Individual Project	20	BNV4115	Management and Practice in Construction	20	BNV4114	Legal Obligations in the Built Environment	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	BNV4116	Planning and Design for the Built Environment	20	BNV4118	Measuring and Estimating Practice	20	BNV4117	Building Information for Construction	20	BNV4119	Valuation	20
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12b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

Level 4

Year 1 SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core BNV4112 Science and Materials (20 credits) BNV4111 Construction Technology (20 credits)	Specialist BNV4114 Legal Obligations in the Built Environment (20 credits)
Year 2 SEMESTER ONE	
Optional BNV4115 Management and Practice in Construction (20 credits) BNV4113 Individual Project (20 credits)	Specialist choose one of the following BNV4116 Planning and Design for the Built Environment (20 credits) BNV4118 Measuring and Estimating Practice (20 credits) BNV4117 Building Information for Construction (20 credits) BNV4119 Valuation (20 credits)

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, written examination and practical examination) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, written examination and practical examination is shown below.

Level 4

Workload

24% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	288
Directed Learning	360
Private Study	552
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	81%
Exam	9%
In-Person	10%