



Module Specification

Advanced Building Surveying

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Advanced Building Surveying

Module code: UBLLT1-30-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2026-27

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Architecture and Environment

Partner institutions: None

Field: Architecture and the Built Environment

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module draws together a number of issues relating to the repair, pathology, refurbishment or adaptation of buildings in complex urban situations to respond to changes in demand for complex commercial buildings and mixed usage. The impact of new technology, concepts relating to facilities management, financial accounting and sustainable agendas are integrated and explored critically within the strategic management role adopted by building surveyors in industry.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The following provides an indicative list of headings that will help inform the syllabus although not necessarily in this sequence, or with equal measure:

The critical analysis of the key elements and processes for addressing building obsolescence with their application to refurbishment projects.

The evaluation of the facilities management and maintenance strategies that contribute to financial planning for complex estates and property portfolios.

The critical analysis of emerging technology, its evolution and change within the building surveying and property sector.

The critique and the pathology of the core technical aspects of performance of building elements in commercial property.

In addition to the Learning Outcomes, the educational experience may explore, develop, and practise but not formally- discretely assess the following:

Working as a team member.

Outline syllabus: Topics likely to include but are not limited to:

Fire safety management and associated strategies, legislation, current research , codes of practice, British standards, Implications of the Hackitt Review.

Approaches to Project management , financial accountability for the effective use of built assets (related to Best Value, and procurement).

Security and data management.

Sustainable agendas, drivers, portfolio energy management reporting and performance.

Client care, professional consultancy and strategies.

Building information Modelling (BIM) ,Big Data, emerging technology.

Obsolescence within the management of facilities and estates.

Defects in Commercial Buildings- concrete, steel, glass, claddings, roofs.

The management of deleterious materials-Asbestos, HAC, calcium chlorides.

Pathology and forensics associated with commercial building defects such as galvanic corrosion, cladding curtain wall failure including structural failure such as fatigue/creep etc.

Fabric improvement strategies e.g. accessibility, inclusive environments, Sustainable design in refurbishment including Legal framework and Regulatory requirements.

Financial Management: Financial management project CRV, Cash Flow reporting of cap ex and understanding of restrictive covenants.

Professional Ethics, codes of conduct, due diligence.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Students will be expected to have undertaken independent learning prior to the taught component of the module which will be delivered by means of lectures, workshops, case studies, studios and tutorials over one semester.

Teaching will involve peer to peer discussion groups and open forums to evaluate and critique a range of cases, situations and current research.

Directed reading examining the key principles and relevant criteria relating to a number of topics of importance in the operation and maintenance of buildings, facilities management will also be undertaken on a week by week basis.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Analyse the factors and sustainable drivers leading to obsolescence in buildings and critically appraise strategies employed to monitor and evaluate such buildings eliciting and design refurbishment solutions accordingly.

MO2 Analyse core and advanced technical performance, pathology and regulative factors that impact on buildings of mixed use (commercial, residential).

MO3 Evaluate the impact of emerging technology and advancements in research and practice on building surveying.

MO4 Compare and critique refurbishment project management procurement strategies for different clients.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubllt1-30-m.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubllt1-30-m.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The Strategy:

As a practice based module the assessment strategy has been designed so that students have to research, synthesise and develop solutions within a professional context. Students shall work collaboratively in teams to develop proposals and solutions, appreciating how their decision making is informed by and impacts on others.

The Assessment:

Group Presentation (20 minutes) - For the presentation and in line with the ethos of the programme in terms of professional standards and protocol, each student will participate in a 20 minute group presentation, justifying their decision making and reasoning based on a critical appraisal of current industry specific case studies. Group assessment was chosen to improve the student experience of the module.

Students are required to work collaboratively via peer presentations by and to the group. These are undertaken to enable students to develop the skills and capabilities to analyse problems, enter into dialogue, negotiate, make decisions and present solutions to problems. The formative work and resulting discussions that evolve in the presentations will provide leads for research material which is useful for the preparation of the final professional portfolio.

Portfolio (2500 Words) - The portfolio represents the most significant weighting in terms of the assessed contribution to the module which will culminate with each student producing an individual professional structured portfolio of work compiled of evidence which replicates typical industry standard rules of conduct, procedures and activities. In addition to the work being subject to 'safe assign' plagiarism scrutiny- students are expected to follow and adhere to the ethical standards of the professional bodies and are required to reference all work in strict accordance with the UWE Harvard system.

Resit Presentation - as groupwork was not a learning outcome of the module, an individual presentation is a more appropriate form of assessment for the resit. Students will be required to undertake a 20 minute individual viva based presentation.

Resit Portfolio - a similar brief to that described above, which may include a summary of changes since any previously submitted portfolio.

Assessment tasks:

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: Presentation (20 minutes)

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio (2500 words)

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Presentation (20 minutes)

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio (2500 words)

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Building Surveying [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26

Building Surveying [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27

Building Surveying [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27