Module Specifications: Schools of Construction & Engineering

Module Title: BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Module Code: BSCS06C

Level: 4
Credits: 15

Pre-Requisites: None

Module Description:

This module is designed to introduce students to the economic and legal frameworks within which the construction industry operates. It includes economic principles and theory applied to the construction industry and the legal system and legislation applicable to the industry.

Indicative Content:

- The English legal system: civil/criminal law, sources of law, contract, liabilities, negligence, trespass, nuisance, breach, damages, third parties, risks, insurance, warranties, covenants,
- Property,
- Health and safety,
- Environment.
- Statutory control,
- Case studies applicable to construction
- Economics of the UK construction industry:
- Market structure, land, materials, plant, labour, finance,
- Supply/demand, marginal theory,
- Management: business operations, commercial risk,
- Government activity

Learning and Teaching Methods:

The module will be delivered through lectures, case studies or live projects to reinforce the learning process. Tutor centred teaching and learner centred investigation will be key activities. Students will be asked to contribute with 'real' examples relating to the syllabus topics.

The module will develop sustainability issues related to the design process of buildings and the consequential relationship and influence.

This module will concentrate on the legal aspects of health and safety and its application to companies, sub contractors and individuals.



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Specific Learning Resources:

Current publications, journals and libraries, electronic search facilities, industry statistics

Bibliography

Highly Recommended

Owen, S (1998) Law for the Construction Industry 2nd Edition Harlow: Longman Turner, D (1999) Building Contract Claims and Disputes 2nd Edition Harlow: Longman

Uff, J (2009) Construction Law, Sweet and Maxwell Ltd

Shutt, R C (1997) Economics for the Construction Industry Harlow Longman Gruneberg S (1997) Construction Economics Palgrave Macmillan

S L Gruneberg & G J Ive (2000) The Economics of the Modern Construction Firm Palgrave Macmillan

G J Ive & S L Gruneberg (2000) The Economics of the Modern Construction Sector Palgrave Macmillan

I H Seeley (1997) Building Economics Palgrave Macmillan

Recommended

Current Standard Forms of Contract

Current legislation relevant to the construction industry (Building Regulations, Planning Regulations, Health and Safety Regulations, CDM Regulations)

Background Reading

Daily papers: The Times; Financial Times; Guardian; Independent Technical and Professional Journals (CIOB Journal, Building, Construction News, Building Engineer)

Dalby, J (1998) EU Law for the Construction Industry Oxford: Blackwell Science Health and Safety Executive, (2007) Managing Health and Safety in Construction: Approved Code of Practice: 2007: CDM 2007, HSE Books

Module Learning Outcomes

Subject Specific Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module you will be able to:

LO	Demonstrate an understanding of the nature and significance of principles and procedures of law as applied to the construction industry.
LO	Apply the principles and procedures of law and legislation to the construction process.
LO	Explore the economics of the UK construction industry.



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LO Evaluate government activity and its effects on the construction industry.

Assessment Title or element	Weighting (%)
Written Assignments	2 x 50%

Information correct at point of publication.

