



Programme Specification

QS-HNC-2023: Quantity Surveying for England

Pearson Higher National Certificate awarded by Pearson (FHEQ Level 4)

Programme Status: Approved | Version: 1

Introduction

This programme specification provides a summary of the main features of the Quantity Surveying for England programme and includes the learning outcomes that you as a student are expected to have achieved on successful completion of the programme.

Further detailed information related to this programme and the College can be found in the following resources:

- Programme Handbook
- B&FC Admissions Policy
- Work based and placement learning handbook (for foundation degrees)
- Student guide to assessment and feedback

When undertaken as part of a Degree Apprenticeship additional information is available in the following resources:

- The Programme Delivery Plan
- The End Point Assessment Guide
- B&FC Mentor Guide
- B&FC Apprenticeship Strategy

Key Programme Information

Programme Code	QS-HNC-2023
Programme Title	Quantity Surveying for England
Teaching Institution	Blackpool and The Fylde College
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) Accreditation	None
UCAS Code	
Language of Study	English
Version	1
Approval Status	Approved
Approval Date	16 August 2023
JACS Code	B900: Others in subjects allied to medicine (B900)
Programme Leader	Gail Rice

Programme Awards

Award	Award Type	Level	Awarding Body
Pearson Higher National Certificate	Higher National Certificate	Level 4	Pearson

Programme Overview

The HNC in Quantity Surveying and the Higher Apprenticeship for Construction Quantity Surveying Technician are routes which can lead to you being a quantity surveying technician in the construction industry. The HNC will be offered as a part-time route over two years, with the higher apprenticeship being delivered over 28 months plus 6 months for the end point assessment.

This HNC has been granted HTQ (Higher Technical Qualification) status, meaning that it has been approved against occupational standards decided by employers, to meet the knowledge and skills needed by the construction sector.

The Level 4 modules lay the foundation of learning by providing a broad introduction to construction planning and quantity surveying practice. This develops and strengthens your core skills while preparing you for specialist subjects at Level 5 and increases your employability by giving qualities necessary for job roles that require increasing personal responsibility.

Quantity Surveying practice is a discipline that is sought after in the construction and built environment. The Quantity Surveying Technician is responsible for the planning, costing and legal management of a construction project. They produce and devise the project plans using a variety of project management tools to plan the allocation of resources for each activity on the project. They are trained to understand the key resources required to successfully complete tasks.

You will gain a wide range of construction and quantity surveying knowledge linked to practical skills gained through taught class sessions, research, independent study, directed study, site visits, industry/professional body seminars, and workplace scenarios. You will be involved in vocational activities that develop behaviours (the attitudes and approaches required for competence) and transferable skills. Transferable skills include leadership, communication, teamwork, research, management, and analysis, which are highly valued in higher education construction management and in the workplace.

A number of employers have been involved in the planning for this programme, including Blackpool Coastal Housing, Tyson's, DES Energy, Blackpool Borough Council and the Federation of Master Builders.

Admission Criteria

For students who have recently been in education, the entry profile normally includes one of the following:

- a BTEC Level 3 qualification in Construction (or a related subject), including T level
- a GCE Advanced Level profile that demonstrates strong performance in a relevant subject or adequate performance in more than one GCE subject; this profile is likely to be supported by GCSE grades A* to C and/or 9 to 4 (or equivalent) in subjects such as maths and English
- other related Level 3 qualifications
- an Access to Higher Education Diploma awarded by an approved further education institution
- related work experience

Career Options and Progression Opportunities

Whilst most students/apprentices will become quantity surveying technicians in the construction industry, there are other career options for you within construction costing/estimating, procurement and contract administration. These roles attract good salaries with a typical starting salary of £29 000. If you go on to complete a degree and appropriate training/ experience you could become a quantity surveyor, civil engineers or senior project managers.

The Pearson HNC Quantity Surveying for England programme is a platform to progress onto a level 5 programme or a Degree in quantity surveying, Project Management, Construction Management, or related discipline. There is also the option of progressing professionally as a member of the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) enroute to a professional chartership with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS).

Programme Aims

1. To give students the skills, knowledge, and understanding they need to achieve high performance in the international construction environment for quantity surveying
2. To develop students with enquiring minds, who have the abilities and confidence to work across different business functions and to lead, manage, respond to change, and tackle a range of complex quantity surveying situations
3. To provide the core skills required for a range of careers in quantity surveying, specifically those related to management and operations to offer a balance between employability skills and the knowledge essential for students with entrepreneurial, employment, or academic ambitions
4. To develop students' understanding of the major impact that new digital technologies and sustainability have on the construction environment
5. To provide insight into international business operations and the opportunities and challenges presented by a global marketplace
6. To equip students with knowledge and understanding of culturally diverse organisations, cross-cultural issues, diversity, and values, and allow flexible study to meet local and specialist needs.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Level 4

Upon successful completion of this level, students will be able to:

1. Explain the core themes in the construction sector relating to quantity surveying, including health and safety, sustainability and value.
2. Apply appropriate skills in quantity surveying
3. Demonstrate technical skills relating to employment in the industry.
4. Describe the local, regional and global context of the construction sector
5. Discuss contemporary issues facing the industry; with particular emphasis on sustainability and digitisation.
6. Demonstrate professional ethics and their relation to personal, professional and statutory responsibilities within the industry

Programme Structure

Module	Level	Credits	%	Category	Description	Length/Word Count	Grading Method
Stage 1							
D/618/8104/UNIT26: Digital Applications for Building Information Modelling (Mandatory)	4	15	-	Coursework: Assignment	Report and construction drawings in relation to a given scenario	2500	Pass/Fail
D/618/8135/UNIT25: Quantity Surveying Practice (Mandatory)	4	15	-	Coursework: Assignment	Poster presentation, report and presentation relating to a given case study	2500	Pass/Fail
R/618/8083/UNIT4: The Construction Environment (Mandatory)	4	15	-	Coursework: Assignment	Poster presentation	1250	Pass/Fail
			-	Coursework: Assignment	Formal written report	1250	Pass/Fail
T/618/8089/UNIT10: Measurement & Estimating (Mandatory)	4	15	-	Coursework: Assignment	Report including calculations for a given scenario (taking-off)	1250	Pass/Fail
			-	Coursework: Assignment	Report including calculations for a given scenario (estimating)	1250	Pass/Fail
Stage 2							
F/618/8080/UNIT1: Construction Design Project (Mandatory)	4	15	-	Coursework: Assignment	Project Presentation and construction information package	2500	Pass/Fail
H/618/8136/UNIT23: Construction Economics & Sustainability (Mandatory)	4	15	-	Coursework: Assignment	Written report and presentation	2500	Pass/Fail
M/618/8091/UNIT12: Tender & Procurement (Mandatory)	4	15	-	Coursework: Assignment	Poster presentation	1250	Pass/Fail
			-	Coursework: Assignment	Report including tender documentation for a given scenario	1250	Pass/Fail
Y/618/8134/UNIT27: Law & Legal Frameworks in Quantity Surveying (Mandatory)	4	15	-	Coursework: Assignment	Poster Presentation	1250	Pass/Fail
			-	Coursework: Assignment	Formal written report	1250	Pass/Fail

Study Workload

The programme is designed as day release at the Bispham Campus and so you will access the HNC on a part time basis over 2 academic years, one day per week. The apprentices will also follow this route, but additional sessions will be timetabled to meet apprenticeship requirements over 28 months plus 6 months for end point assessment.

In addition to time in College, you will be expected to work independently for at least 6 hours per week to prepare assessments and prepare for taught sessions.

Programme Delivery: Learning and Teaching

The programme covers the key knowledge, understanding and skills required in the construction sector in quantity surveying, costing, estimating and procurement, legislation, practice and BIM. The above aspects are captured in a professional mix of eight units over the two years programme; four units per year, two units per semester. The Level 4 optional unit within this qualification has been selected to include BIM processes laying the foundation of learning by providing a broad introduction to modern construction processes and management functions, and also to meet the Apprenticeship Standards.

The programme(s) will be delivered through a mixture of taught lectures, practical sessions (CAD, and BIM), guest speakers, tutorials, and site visits. The delivery design of the programme will provide access to a VLE (Canvas) and online library to access study materials, resources, and links to support independent study and research of the changing construction industry.

The range of learning methods will include case studies to illustrate how a range of concepts, theories and perspectives can be applied in the explanation and evaluation of real life construction industry examples. Peer learning workshop sessions and spaces will be facilitated in order to foster collaborative active social learning, the co-creation of knowledge and the sharing of good practice, allowing you to discuss your ideas, arguments and perspectives.

Programme Delivery: Assessment

Formative assessments are delivered in a physical or digital environment that will help you to develop your skills, knowledge, and understanding through practice and feedback that will help you prepare progressively for the demands of summative assessments. It aids learning by generating feedback to enable you to develop your academic performance in preparation for summative assessment. In addition to regular in class activities and questions and answers, you will also have the opportunity to develop short written questions which will allow you to consolidate and review your learning. Written feedback will be provided on the submitted formative assessments, allowing you to begin to recognise gaps in your knowledge.

The Higher National Certificate is summatively assessed using a combination of internally assessed Centre-devised internal assignments (which are set and marked by Centres) and an internally assessed Pearson-set assignment for Unit 1: Construction Design Project . For some units, the practical demonstration of skills is necessary, such as Unit 26: Digital Applications for BIM and, for others, you will need to carry out your own research and analysis, working independently or as part of a team. The forms of assessment across the programme will consist of essays, reports and presentations and are used to support the development of skills and abilities. The principal rationale for selecting these methods of assessment and feedback is that they reflect sector requirements and are designed to address both domain-specific subject knowledge and employability skills. Each summative assessment will be contextualised to a local or work-based scenario to make them more realistic for you to relate to.

All units will be graded as 'pass', 'merit' or 'distinction'. To achieve a pass grade for the unit you must meet the Pass assessment criteria set out in the assessment criteria. Merit and distinction grades are awarded for higher-level achievement.

Programme Delivery: Work Based and Placement Learning

For apprentices, you must be employed in a suitable role in the sector to enable you to meet the required outcomes of the apprenticeship. Initial assessment will be carried out through a skillscan and discussion with your employer to ensure that you are working in an appropriate job role to enable you to collect evidence for the EPA.

As an HNC student, you will carry out practical activities relating to the workplace and assessments will link to real life scenarios.

Programme Delivery: Graduate Skill Development

- A commitment to lifelong learning and career development
- This programme develops the skills you have acquired through your level 3 programme and work experiences to enable you to progress in the workplace.
- Collaborative teamwork and leadership skills
- Some of the units will require you to work and sometimes lead, a team in carrying out a project, mirroring the workplace.
- Personal and intellectual autonomy
- This programme is delivered at level 4 to enable you to make links between theory and practice.
- Ethical, social and professional understanding
- These are important areas within this programme, both considering how you work with others and also considering ethical building practices.
- Communication, information and digital literacies
- These skills are essential in the workplace and you will develop them through a number of the units. Digital skills are becoming increasingly important in this sector, so you will develop skills in using Building Information Modelling systems.
- Global citizenship
- Recognising that the construction industry both has an impact on, and impacts globally is a focus of this programme
- Research, scholarship and enquiry skills
- You will carry out research projects linked to the industry to hone your skills for your future career
- The ability to solve complex and unforeseen problems with creativity and imagination
- Problem solving is a regular requirement in your future job role so you will have the opportunity to practise this through classroom and assessment activities.

Study Costs: Equipment Requirements

Own computer/laptop (access to microsoft office apps are available for the duration of your programme)

Own PPE - minimum requirement steel toe-capped boots

All other technical equipment such as CAD software will be provided for use on site at college.

Study Costs: Additional Costs

Optional local trips may require a contribution towards travel costs.

Related Courses

It is intended that this programme will be offered alongside the HNC in Construction Management. You may decide to move sideways onto either Business Management or Project Management programmes at level 4 at B&FC.