UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
OF ESTATE MANAGEMENT

Conservation and Adaptation of Buildings

Module Descriptor

Module Code: TEC7MAB

Version: 6.00

Status: Final

Date: 27/02/2025

Conservation and Adaptation of Buildings

Approval History

Version	Date	Name	Organisation
01.00	31/01/2014	Approved by validation panel	CEM
02.00	01/07/2019	Approved by Dean of School	UCEM
03.00	26/02/2020	Approved by validation panel	UCEM
04.00	02/06/2020	Approved by Dean of School	UCEM
05.00	22/07/2020	Approved by SLT	UCEM
06.00	27/02/2025	Approved by revalidation panel	UCEM

Document History

Version	Date	Reason	Person
0.01	18/07/2013	First draft	Stephen Bickell
0.02	30/07/2013	Amendment following initial review	Stephen Bickell
0.03	12/09/2013	Amendment following peer review	Stephen Bickell
0.04	20/09/2013	Associate Dean amendments	Gordon Fogg
0.05	24/10/2013	Strategic alignment	Senior Academic Panel
0.06	30/01/2014	Inclusion of pre-requisite module to meet validation condition	Sylvia Osborn
1.00	31/01/2014	Finalisation post validation	Helen Edwards
1.01	13/06/2019	Amendment to word count ranges and semester wording	Nick Moore
2.01	04/12/2019	First draft for revalidation	Cathy Higgs
3.01	21/05/2020	Draft for accessibility	Aisling Burke
4.01	22/07/2020	Update to Key Module Learning Resources	Ruth Grindey
5.01	01/11/2024	Draft for internal scrutiny	Karen Clarke
5.02	27/11/2024	Draft for revalidation	Karen Clarke

Summary Module Details

Module details

Module Title: Conservation and Adaptation of Buildings

Module Leader: James Ritson

Module Mode: Supported online learning

Semester: Spring (UK)

Level: 7

Credits: 20

Learning Hours: 200

Contact & Study Hours

Directed Study Time: 60hrs (30%)

Self-directed Study Time: 70hrs (35%)

Assessment Study Time: 70hrs (35%)

Assessment Type

Coursework: 100%

Computer Marked Assessment: 0%

Self-directed Research Project: 0%

Portfolio: 0%

Module summary

This module investigates the wider context and technical issues regarding both the conservation and adaptation of existing buildings. The module covers the history of architecture enabling the student to identify different ages and key features that make up existing buildings. This allows the student to make informed decisions about the alteration and adaptation of buildings with in-module developed skills of drawing and design theory.

Taken on which Programmes

MSc Building Surveying (C)

Core (C) or Elective (E)

Module Aims

This module aims to examine:

- The wider context and technical issues regarding both the maintenance and adaptation of existing buildings.
- The scope and rationale for conserving and adapting existing buildings in the context of a sustainable built environment.
- The inspection, assessment, planning, specification, programming, organisation and building adaption in the existing built environment.
- Special situations in the context of building and adaptation.
- The history of buildings.

Module Learning Outcomes

LO1. Synthesise theory and practice to assess appropriate options and techniques for the sustainable adaptation of buildings.

LO2. Critically analyse building, and adaptation and their history, together with an appreciation of the scope of existing buildings.

LO3. Critically appraise adaptation requirements for the effective communication of required information within a digital landscape.

LO4. Critically evaluate appropriate building adaptation issues and provide reasoned solutions.

Indicative Module Content

Module topics

- **Sustainability and Building Assessment**

  The meaning of sustainability when applied specifically to buildings. Consideration of the main environmental responses for sustainable refurbishment, with a focus on the fundamentals of energy and thermal performance. The need for regular maintenance to ensure a building's continued use and development, and the factors that affect these, principally changes in use, lifestyle and environment.

- **Measured Survey and Drawings**

  How to undertake an accurate measured survey and read these details from drawings.

- **Principles and Rationale for Building Adaptation**

  The fundamental principles regarding potential conversion issues and adaptive reuses of buildings. Development of technical and legislative knowledge required when refurbishment is sought for a property, and the meaning of building 'performance'.

- **Adaptive Reuse**

  Assessment of potential reuse options within buildings and associated issues that affect building conversions.

- **Space Planning**

  Understanding space planning parameters, defining and interpreting end user requirements, and understanding the sustainability of buildings for present and future use.

- **Drawings of Designs**

  Reading, understanding, interpreting drawings, section and plans, techniques for measuring and drawing existing buildings.

- **Understanding of Buildings**

  The built environment in context: people, place and space, the reasons different buildings exist in a specific location, and how/why their use may change over time.

- **History of Architecture**

  An appreciation of architectural styles and eras both in the UK and around the world, in relation to social, environmental and economic conditions at different times.

- **Conservation and Heritage of Buildings**

  An appreciation of conservation principles/philosophy.

This content will be reviewed and updated regularly to reflect the legal, moral and financial changes in professional standards and practice.

Overview of Summative Assessment

Module learning outcomes	Assessment	Word count or equivalent	Weighting
LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4	**Assessment 1** Coursework	2,000	40%
LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4	**Assessment 2** Coursework	3,000	60%

Module Pass Mark (as a weighted average of all assessments): 50%

Key Module Learning Resources

Core sources and texts

The core reading resources within each module will be provided via the specific Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) module pages and within the e-Library. Additional reference material and supplementary resources to support your studies are available through the UCEM e-Library.

Module tools

Students will have access to study materials, dedicated academic support, student forums, and learning activities via an online learning platform (VLE).

The module page on the VLE is broken down into structured study weeks to help students plan their time, with each week containing a mixture of reading, case studies, videos/recordings and interactive activities to go through. Online webinars/seminars led by the Module Leader can be attended in real time and provide opportunities to consolidate knowledge, ask questions, discuss topics and work through learning activities together. These sessions are recorded to support students who cannot attend and to enable students to recap the session and work through it at their own pace. Module forums on the VLE provide further opportunities to discuss topics with other students, complete collaborative work and get extra help from the module team.

Professional online resources

The e-Library provides access to trusted, quality online resources, selected by subject specialists, to support students' study. This includes journals, industry publications, magazines, academic books and a dissertation/work-based library. For a list of the key industry specific and education resources available please visit the VLE e-Library.

Other relevant resources

Access is also provided to further information sources that include the British Library and Open University UK catalogues, as well as providing a monthly current awareness service entitled, ***Knowledge Foundations*** - a compendium of news, research and resources relating to the educational sector and the Built Environment.

The module resource list is available on the module website and is updated regularly to ensure materials are relevant and current.