ABOUT THE SCHOOL
Welcome to the School of Construction Economics and Management. We are located on the East Campus of Wits University. Choosing to study at our School will place you in one of the best environments in the country for education in the built environment. Our three year BSc Construction Studies programme is designed to educate those who aspire to professional careers in construction project management, quantity surveying and construction management.

Our aim is to attract the best students and educate them to the highest possible standards; and to produce graduates who can achieve results through the practical application of their knowledge.

Our taught programmes are continually reviewed to reflect the very best of current practice, including the latest developments in the application of digital technologies (Building Information Modelling); sustainability and adaptation of the built environment to climate change; and construction industry developments locally and internationally. We aim to provide our students with an all-round education to prepare them for their professional careers wherever they may be and whoever they may be working with.

We have close links with industry. And our students are a core part of everything we do. This enables us to provide our students with the best learning experience.

The Construction Studies programme is accredited by the South African Council for the Quantity Surveying Profession (SACQSP); Association of South African Quantity Surveyors (ASAQS); South African Council for the Project and Construction Management Professions (SACPCMP) and leads into honours degrees accredited by the South African Council for Quantity Surveyors (SACQSP) and the South African Council for Construction Management (SACPCMP) and leads into honours degrees accredited by the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) and The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS).

This means that our graduates are firmly on the track for membership of these professional bodies and are well positioned to become leaders and managers in their employment and professions. The 3 year BSc degree in Construction Studies is an excellent foundation to a successful professional career.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
The construction industry offers a wide range of career opportunities. Our programmes provide an excellent foundation for a career in the built environment. The diverse selection of courses that you complete will open many doors to you and upon graduation you can decide which specific path to follow. Your options would include amongst others:

• Project Management
• Construction Management
• Quantity Surveying Practice
• Management and supervision of construction activities
• Specialising as a subcontractor in the construction industry
• Commercial trading such as a material or equipment supplier
• Lecturing, teaching or training for the construction industry
• Non-commercial careers with local authorities and government

You can choose which of these careers you wish to pursue in the fields of commercial, residential, industrial, institutional, construction infrastructure development or consulting through specialisation at the Honours level or one of our Masters programmes.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

BSc in Construction Studies
BSc Honours in Quantity Surveying
BSc Honours in Construction Management

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

BSc in Construction Studies
For admission into the three year BSc Construction Studies (CS) Degree Programme, you will be required to pass the National Senior Certificate (NSC) with a minimum pass in English Home Language or 1st Additional language at level 5 and a pass in Mathematics at level 5 with a Wits Admission Points Score (APS) of 36 and above.

BSc Honours in QS and CM
For admission into the one year Quantity Surveying (QS) or Construction Management (CM) Honours Programme, you will normally be required to have completed your degree programme with a minimum average of 60 per cent. Admission into our Honours programme is open to Construction Studies graduates from Wits and other universities.

PROGRAMME CURRICULUM

The courses we offer cover the relevant areas of competence and skills development that our graduates require to approach their careers confidently. Students will complete courses relating to the scientific and technological aspects of buildings and infrastructure and the construction process.

A student who graduates from our School will have a broad appreciation of knowledge relating to all aspects of a construction project’s life cycle and how this applies to various sizes of buildings and infrastructure.

It is important to say that we encourage industrial placements which enable students to acquire practical experiences which are essential for their employability and careers.

Our programmes cover a range of courses from first year to Honours level. See overleaf for details.
CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

First Year
MATHS1012 Maths
APPM1022 Statistics
PHYS1025 Physics
LAW1000 Commercial Law I
BUQS1004 Construction Drawings
BUQS1005 Construction Materials and Environment
BUQS1006 Construction Technology I
BUQS1007 Communication Skills
BUQS1008 Quantities and Specifications I

Second Year
ECON1006 Economics 1A
ECON1009 Economics 1B
CIVN2012 Civil Engineering Theory I
MINN2004 Engineering Surveying
BUQS2003 Building Science
BUQS2004 Construction Technology II
BUQS2005 Quantities and Specifications II
BUQS2006 Site Management
BUQS2007 Property Studies I
BUQS2008 Accounting Principles in Construction

Third Year
LAWS 2007 Business Enterprise Law
BUQS3011 Professional and Research Skills
BUQS3012 Quantities & Specifications III
BUQS3013 Construction Technology
BUQS3014 Estimating and Analysis of Prices
BUQS3015 Management Principles in Construction
BUQS3016 Building Science I
BUQS3017 Property Studies II
BUQS3018 Introduction to Construction Management
CIVN3019 Civil Engineering Theory II (CS)
Vacation Work II (Building)

HONOURS

Construction Management
BUQS4012 Discourse
BUQS4013 Construction Planning & Design IV
BUQS4014 Building Science II
BUQS4015 Commercial Procedures including Relevant Legislation
BUQS4016 Introduction to Construction Project Management
BUQS4017 Estimating and Analysis of Prices
CIVN4012 Civil Engineering Theory III

Quantity Surveying
BUQS4015 Commercial Procedures including Relevant Legislation
BUQS4016 Introduction to Construction Project Management
BUQS4017 Estimating and Analysis of Prices
BUQS4018 Property Finance and Investment
BUQS4019 Theory and Practice of Quantity Surveying
BUQS4020 Cost Evaluation and Control
BUQS4021 Discourse

WHAT CHARACTERISTICS DO YOU REQUIRE TO SUCCESSFULLY OBTAIN THE WITS DEGREE?

Owing to the diversity of the construction industry, you can aspire for one of various careers. Some of the essential skills and attitudes you will need to develop include:

- Willingness to work hard
- Developing good communication skills
- Working within a team
- Performing well under pressure
- Having an analytical problem solving attitude
- An ability to mix with and motivate people
- Problem solving skills
- Leadership skills

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