BSc Hons Quantity Surveying

The Programme Team

Programme leader

Each programme has a programme leader, ultimately responsible for its smooth running and organisation.

Year tutors

The role of year tutors is to coordinate the teaching, coursework, visiting speakers, attendance etc. and generally ensure the smooth running of the course.
The Year 1 tutor is Kanchana Ginige
The Year 2 & Placement tutor is Jon Lonsdale

The final year tutor is Marjorie Ridgway.

Teaching team

The main staff you will come across from the Department are as follows:

Name	Room	Tel	Email
Programme Leader			
Nirodha Fernando	A201	227 5367	nirodha.fernando@northumbria.ac.uk
Dr Alan Davies	A211	227 4697	alan.davies@northumbria.ac.uk
Kauchaua Ginige	A211	227 5364	Kanchana@northumbria.ac.uk
Srinath Perera	A209	2273172	srinath.perera@northumbria.ac.uk
Marjorie Ridgway	A201	243 7288	marjorie.ridgway@northumbria.ac.uk
Chris Winks	A201	227 4785	chris.winksl@northumbria.ac.uk
Jon Pearson	A219	243 7012	john.pearson@northumbria.ac.uk
Jon Lonsdale	A211	243 7142	jon.lonsdale@northumbria.ac.uk

Programme administration

Each programme has dedicated programme support who are responsible for the administration of your programme. Your Programme Support Coordinators are based in room B201, Ellison Building and can be contacted on 0191 227 4722.

Guidance tutor

You will be allocated a guidance tutor, a member of academic staff who has the duty of providing you with advice on academic, procedural and (where desired and appropriate) personal matters. Where possible, you will retain the same guidance tutor throughout your time at Northumbria.
You will be expected to consult with your guidance tutor during induction week, and regularly thereafter, including whenever modular or progression results are available, and whenever option choices have to be made.
You may in addition ask for a meeting with your guidance tutor at any time.

How to contact tutors

Appointments

Academic staff teach on many modules/programmes and it is advisable to make an appointment if you wish to see them. Occasionally you may be able to have an immediate appointment, but don't be disappointed if you are asked to return at a mutually convenient time. Please contact staff to cancel if you are unable to make the arranged appointment.

Email and the eLearning Portal

The main means of contact for staff with students are email and the eLearning Portal (Blackboard).
You will be allocated an email address automatically by the University once you have enrolled.

Do remember that your Northumbria email address will be the one that is used to make contact with you by both academic and non-academic staff within the University, so make sure that you check it regularly, particularly if you also use a personal email account. Students are reminded that it is important that they keep their contact and home addresses up-to-date to
ensure they receive any correspondence from the University. Students are requested to amend their details via the eLearning Portal or by advising the Student Support Team.

YOU MUST REGULARLY CHECK THE NOTICEBOARDS, EMAIL AND ELEARNING PORTAL ANNOUNCEMENTS. It is particularly important to check notices at the start of the semester when timetable changes are more likely and towards the assessment period when important information will be displayed.

eLearning Portal

The Blackboard eLearning portal is Northumbria's managed learning environment for staff and students. It allows students, amongst other things, to access learning over the internet, communicate with one another and their tutors, and take online assessments. Incorporated within the portal are access to Library Services, Students' Union and the Student Support Centre Service and many other facilities.

Notice boards

Where possible we will send information via email or the eLearning Portal but in some cases we put relevant information on notice boards. You must check the notice boards regularly. The locations of our notice boards will be provided on enrolment. Alteratively they are available from the Student Support Team in B201 Ellison Building.

It is particularly important to check the notices at the start of the semester when timetable changes are more likely and towards the assessment period when important information such as exam rooms and pass lists will be displayed. Notice boards in relation to News and Events, the Library Service, Student Services, the Students' Union and Team Northumbria are located on the second floor of A Block, Ellison Building.

Room locations

Much of your teaching will take place in Ellison Building but you may be required to go to other parts of the University for classes. The building/room abbreviations will be explained when you receive your timetable.

Programme structures

In line with other academic institutions, the University operates a modularised system of programmes. The normal full-time undergraduate year is equal to 120 credit points, which is equivalent to 1200 hours of Notional Student Workload (NSW). Each standard module of study is 10 points and therefore 12 modules are included in each year. In the two semester system this represents six modules per semester, at 100

hours of NSW per module, or about seven hours per subject per week of NSW including lectures, seminars and private study. Modules may run in semester 1 or semester 2 or for the whole year (Year Long).

Level 4

Level 4 modules introduce the student to a range of formation studies to ensure a basic knowledge and understanding of the main programme subject areas to underpin the whole academic programme along with an insight into the structure of the industry and the professions operating within the built environment. Project activity aims to provide the bridge and link between all discrete subject areas to examine the holistic dimension of the building process from inception to completion.

Level 5

Level 5 modules extend the factual knowledge and understanding in each of the main subject areas and are intended to increase a students ability to take responsibility for their own learning.

Placement Year – Building Surveyors

The professional placement year within each course provides students with opportunities of experience and insight into 'real world' practices and problems which are intended to build on and develop their own interpersonal skills and effectiveness but also importantly, opportunities to investigate and examine research issues of practical relevance which may form the basis of their Level 6 dissertation activities.

It is also intended that this experience will be used to introduce and enable practical relevance to Level 6 subject modules.

Level 6 – Final Year

This consolidates levels 4 and 5 and provides the final academic challenge for the student as demonstrated by an ability to deal with decision-making at strategic levels; identification and analysis of problems; to synthesise solutions. A major focus of activity will be the modules devoted to the Dissertation where opportunities will be provided for each student to demonstrate their full range of personal transferable skills.

Modules of study

Listed overleaf are the modules that you will be studying this year.

There is a national requirement that all programmes of study have a publicly available 'Programme Specification'. The Programme Specification provides an account of the 'Learning Outcomes' of a programme of study (broadly – the student's capabilities of the programme) and how these are to be achieved in a structured way by progression through the programme.

This section of the handbook is based on the Programme Specification for your programme. The full and definitive version can be found at

www.northumbria.ac.uk/programmespecs/

Sandwich Degree Programme – Full-time

Year 1 Structure (Level 4)

	BE1262 Initial Project (10 credits)				
Semester 1	BE1266 Introduction to Construction Economics (10 credits)	BE1265 QS Practice and Procedure	BE1255 Land Surveying	BE1264 Quantification and Cost Modelling	BE1271 Construction Technology
Semester 2	BE0826 Introduction to Law for the Built Environment (10 credits)	(20 credits)	(20 credits)	(20 credits)	(20 credits)
		BE1267 QS Level 4 Integrated Project (10 credits)			

Year 2 (Level 5)

	BE1169 Construction Law	BE1272 QS Practice & Procedure 2	BE1347 Construction Management	BE0890 Technology & Measurement	BE1228 Civil Engineering Measurement	BE1273 Building Surveying Technology & Measurement
Semester 1						
Semester 2	(20 credits)	(20 credits)	(20 credits)	(20 credits)	(10 credits)	(20 credits)
	BE1377 Professional Practice Project (10 credits)					

Year 3 (Level 5) - Placement Year

Professional Placement EE0500 (40 credits)

Year 4 - Final Year Structure (Level 6) – QUANTITY SURVEYING ROUTE

	Professional Development Project BE0519 (10 credits)	Dissertation (Quantity Surveying) BE0582	Development Economics BE0891	Advanced Construction Law BE1348 (10 Credits) Strategic and Financial Management BE1383 (10 credits)	Advanced Construction BE1399	Advanced Measurement and Technology BE0898
Semester 1						
Semester 2		(30 credits)	(20 credits)		(20 credits)	(20 credits)

Part-time Programme

The part-time degree takes five years to complete.

Part-time Year 1 (Level 4)		
BE1262 Initial Project (10 credits)		
Semester 1 — BE1265 QS Practice and Procedure	BE1271 Construction Technology	
Semester 1 — (20 credits)	(20 credits)	BE0826 Introduction to law for the Built Environment (10 credits)

Year 2		
Semester 1 — BE1264 Quantification and Cost Modelling	BE1255 Land Surveying	BE1266 Introduction to Construction Economics (10 credits)
Semester 1 — (20 credits)	(20 credits)	
BE1267 QS Level 4 Integrated Project (10 Credits)		

Year 3		
Semester 1 — BE1272 QS Practice & Procedure 2	BE1347 Construction Management	BE0890 Technology & Measurement
Semester 1 — (20 credits)	(20 credits)	(20 credits)
BE1216 QS Level 5 Professional Practice project		

Year 4			
Semester 1	BE1228 Civil Engineering Measurement (10 credits)	BE0891 Development Economics	BE1169 Construction Law	BE1273 Building Services Measurement & Technology
Semester 1	BE0582 Dissertation (10 credits)	(20 credits)	(20 credits)	(20 credits)

Part Time Year 5 – Final Year (Level 6) – QUANTITY SURVEYING ROUTE				
Semester 1	Advanced Technology and Measurement BE0898 (20 credits)	Advanced Construction BE1399 (20 credits)	Advanced Construction Law BE1348 (10 Credits) Strategic and Financial Management BE1383	Dissertation BE0852 (20 credits)	
Semester 2					Integrated Project BE0519 (10 credits)

Learning outcomes for BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying

Specified in terms of performance capabilities to be shown on completion of the programme/pathway.

Knowledge and understanding

On successful completion of the programme Quantity Surveying students will have:

- an awareness of the technological, socio-economic, geographical and environmental context within which construction takes place a comprehension of the legal, financial and organisational
- structures relating to construction procurement an understanding of the main theories relating to the key
- elements of the discipline and their application an appreciation of the different needs of employers, users and
- other stakeholders in the built environment the capacity to identify and apply appropriate
- professional judgement

Intellectual skills

On successful completion of the programme Quantity Surveying students will:

- have developed an academic approach to the discipline of Quantity Surveying comprising; critical thinking and reasoning, the capacity to question existing practice, independence of thought, ability in critical analysis and application of an intellectual perspective on all issues
- have developed research skills comprising; the handling of large volumes of information, the analysis of issues from various perspectives and a capacity for problem solving – the identification and analysis of a problem, the research and evaluation of appropriate data
- be able to make connections between different aspects of a problem, transferring knowledge and skills from one context to another
- be able to apply technical knowledge to more complex and unfamiliar problems and those involving new and unpredictable issues

Practical skills

On successful completion of the programme Quantity Surveying students will have the following employability skills:

- Core capabilities in relation to all aspects of the construction process; namely; project feasibility, the preparation of tender documents, the cost planning and cost control of construction works and the effective avoidance and resolution of construction disputes
- Information and Communication Technology; both general and subject specific ICT skills, including the generation, management and quantitative analysis of data

- Presentation; proficiency both with personal work output and in the production and delivery of formal presentations Personal;
- initiative, creativity, an ability to think conceptually, entrepreneurship, self-discipline, time and resource-management, self –motivation and independent learning and the ability to reflect upon and learn from practical experience
- Interpersonal; relating to team working, leadership, negotiation and conflict resolution skills
- Professionalism; encompassing ethical principles, client focus and the practice of life-long learning

Transferable/key skills

On successful completion of the programme Quantity Surveying students will be able to:

- work effectively with others within the context of a team exercise
- independent learning and self-managed development apply IT
- systems and packages
- apply basic research methods
- use numeracy skills, including statistical analysis
- analyse data and extract appropriate information
- work with professional people and clients
- negotiate and manage conflict

Assessment Regulations for Northumbria Awards

The Assessment regulations for Northumbria Awards (ARNA) are the standard regulations which apply to all of the University's academic programmes. Any variations to ARNA have to be approved for a particular programme.

For full details please go to: **www.northumbria.ac.uk/arna**

Module descriptors

Module descriptors give information about each module (subject) delivered on your programme.

How to obtain a module descriptor from the University's website Log on to the
Northumbria University website at **www.northumbria.ac.uk**
Click on:

1. My Northumbria
2. Module Search
3. Type in module code
4. Click on 'Go'

Or alternatively, type the following address into your browser:

http://nuweb.northumbria.ac.uk/live/webserv/mod.php

Assessment Processes Explained

Why are assessments necessary ?

Assessment makes an essential contribution to your education. It acts to motivate you to focus and reflect on your learning and to apply and synthesise your knowledge. It also permits you to gauge your progress and act to address any weaknesses. Assessment methods are therefore an integral part of the learning process. From the University's perspective, it enables your tutors to monitor your progress, measure your attainment, maintain standards on the programme, and determine your final degree classification.

How can you be sure that the assessments are appropriate and relevant ?

The mix of assessments across each programme is carefully selected to enable students to demonstrate a range of skills and knowledge which become progressively more challenging level-by-level. Assessment techniques are chosen to fit the subject discipline and reflect the expectations of employers and accreditation bodies. Each assessment task is aligned with module and programme learning outcomes and contributes in part to the development of discipline-specific knowledge and understanding, academic, practical or transferable skills.

How can you be sure that the assessments which are set are fair ?

Individual assessment tasks are written by Module Leaders and are subject to peer-review by other staff in the Department before they are agreed and distributed to students. In addition, External Examiners, who are colleagues from other Universities and (for professionally accredited programmes) from industry, are appointed to ensure that the standards at Northumbria are appropriate, and a key role is to review the assessment questions and marking schemes.

How do we inform you about the criteria we use to judge your work ?

Generic grade descriptors by level of study are supplied within your Handbook. These reflect the increasing demands and expectations of standards as students progress through their programme. In addition, you are supplied with specific assessment criteria at the module level as part of your coursework specifications.

How do we undertake marking ?

Marking involves staff allocating marks according to defined marking criteria that have been approved in advance. Assessments may be marked by a single staff member or a team of markers (depending on the size of the module). These are invariably the staff who delivered the module and their expertise in the subject discipline is assured. If the work is marked by a team, initial meetings and sample marking is undertaken to establish common expectations in relation to the marking criteria to minimise variations across markers.

How do you know that marking is fair ?

Once all the marking has been completed for an assessment, a sample of the work is selected for 'moderation'. The sample size is proportional to the number of scripts and is selected from the whole range of marks. Student work is anonymous during the marking and moderation process and your name will only be revealed once all the marks have been agreed following the sample check. Prior to the Examination Board, the External Examiner also verifies the appropriateness of the marks awarded within the sample, and it is only at the Exam Board stage that the marks are fully approved. If there are disparities between markers during the moderation process, then additional work may be sampled and third markers may be called upon to resolve any differences. By the end of the whole process the Exam Board must report that it is satisfied that the marks that have been awarded are a true reflection of the quality of the work.

Why does it take 4 weeks to mark your work ?

Although 20 working days (4 weeks) may seem to you like a long time for work to be marked and returned to you, it is important that we allocate sufficient time for staff to carefully consider the work, so that the mark allocated fairly reflects the quality of your submission. Tutors' marking workloads have to be considered in relation to the other academic duties they have to perform. We estimate that, on average, each assessment takes approximately 20-30 minutes to mark and provide feedback. In addition, once marked, all assessments have to be moderated (see above) to ensure fairness and consistency.

What level of feedback should you expect ?

Feedback is a vital part of your learning process and will occur throughout your engagement with academic staff. Informal levels of feedback will often occur in lectures, seminars, lab work and project activities, and through the use of in-class activities and questioning. More formal feedback occurs during the assessment process and usually involves staff writing comments on scripts that are returned to students. Whilst there will invariably be differences in the styles that individual staff members adopt to provide feedback, their comments should serve three main purposes: (1) to explain the mark awarded;(2) to identify strengths within the work; and (3) to indicate areas that could be improved on for future work.

What should you do with the feedback you receive ?

It is imperative that you collect all your assessment scripts so that you benefit from the feedback comments provided by the tutors. Your feedback provides you with the key opportunity to use assessment to improve your learning. Hence, if you have any problems understanding the feedback on your work, you should arrange a meeting with the staff member to clarify their comments.

It is important to review the comments you have received on all your work to identify any consistent issues that have arisen across several pieces of assessment.

This will help you formulate an action plan to deal with recurring weaknesses affecting your attainment. The Skills Plus programme managed by the University Library is an extremely valuable resource for students who require general advice such as 'Writing Assignments', 'Preparing for Exams' or 'Thinking Critically'.

books, over 700,000 eBooks and more than 50,000 electronic journals. More details can be found on the University Library website: http://library.northumbria.ac.uk/home

 City Campus Library (number 14 on City Campus map) is housed near the Student Union building (number 30 on City Campus map).

Coach Lane Library is situated on the East Side of the Campus, in F Block (number 16 on Coach Lane Campus map).

City Campus library is open 24/7 during term time and from 9am to midnight during vacation times. Coach Lane library is open 7am until midnight (Monday to Friday), 9am until midnight (Saturday and Sunday). Opening hours are prominently displayed in the foyers of the library buildings, any changes are advertised on the Library website and on social media. Opening hours vary during bank holidays and are subject to change, so please check before you travel.

You will need to keep your smartcard with you to gain access to and leave the libraries. Your Smartcard is a universal card which not only gives access to the Libraries and other University buildings, but it also allows you to print, copy, scan, borrow books and make cashless payments.

The Library Catalogue can be accessed on and off-campus through the University Library website and the dedicated catalogue computers on each floor of both Libraries. The catalogue can be used to search for books and eBooks located in the University Library. It is quick and easy to use and will give you the information you need to locate the material on the shelves or read online. eBooks can be read on and off-campus, anytime, anywhere. NORA can be used to search for, and retrieve, up-to-date scholarly materials including articles, reports and statistics that are relevant to your studies. You can browse through all the online resources relating to your subject in one place including databases, journals and websites.

Students are entitled to borrow up to 15 items at any one time. Items can be issued using the self-issue machines on the ground floor of City and Coach Lane Libraries. You can renew your library books online through the MyLibrary section of MyNorthumbria or via the Library Catalogue.

Northumbria students can use other libraries such as the Robinson Library at Newcastle University and Newcastle City Library using the SCONUL access scheme. For more information see the Library SCONUL information page: http://library.northumbria.ac.uk/sconul-holiday

The Northumbria Skills Programme is a comprehensive skills programme designed to develop the key skills you need to succeed at university and beyond provided by the Library. It runs throughout the year and provides classroom style skills sessions on many topics including academic writing skills, giving accomplished presentations, and referencing your work correctly, as well as regular drop in surgeries. Some sessions are bookable; simply consult the timetable on the Northumbria Skills Programme website: http://library.northumbria.ac.uk/skillsdev-nsp

Skills Plus is the Library's collection of online learning materials, with a focus on digital literacy and study skills that can be accessed on and off-campus. Using these resources is an excellent way to develop your skills through a range of online tutorials with quizzes, video demonstrations and printable help guides. http://nuweb2.northumbria.ac.uk/library/skillsplus/topics.html?l3-0

If you need help or advice, on or off campus, you can contact Ask4Help. The Ask4Help service provides you with help and support to access a range of University services including Library, Disability Support, Student Finance and Careers. The quickest way to find answers to some of the most popular questions asked by students is to look at Ask4help online. You can also contact us by phone and speak to a member of our dedicated enquiry team or email us your questions.

www.northumbria.ac.uk/ask4help
ask4help@northumbria.ac.uk
0191 227 4646

Northumbria Students' Union (NSU) is here to make sure you have the best experience possible. NSU is one of the largest and most exciting Unions in the country and that's all because of YOU. We represent you, the student, on all levels, on the issues students are concerned about; receiving a great academic experience, being very employable when you graduate, being safe on campus and in the city and having a fantastic time while a student.

NSU is run by students for students. You can have your say in what NSU does and how it is run, by contacting your Sabbatical Officers or by coming along to Student Council

MEMBERSHIP: As a student of Northumbria University you are automatically a member of the Students' Union. We also sell NUS Extra Card from the Students' Union at both Coach Lane and City Campus giving you discounts in shops and online, but you don't need one to use any of our services.

DIVERSE: Your Students' Union is a place which brings together students from all walks of life, all parts of the country and the world and many different cultures. NSU provides lots of opportunities for you to Get Involved, make lasting friendships, increase employability and have FUN!

INDEPENDENT: NSU is independent of the University, with its own staff, services and decision-making structure. Run by students for students, providing the best services and opportunities for students we push for change from the University to deliver for students. Find our more at our You Said, SU Did page. If you need advice about academic appeals or other issues, we can help. Check out the Advice Page.

VALUE: Your NSU offers the best value for money, and everything you spend goes straight back into the Students' Union to fund all the activities that we run for you.

If you would like more information check out the website www.mynsu.co.uk or come and see us at our offices in City, Coach Lane and London.