

Module specification

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Module Code	AUR5B3
Module Title	Procurement and Contract Practice
Level	5
Credit value	20
Faculty	Faculty of Art, Computing and Engineering
HECoS Code	100151
Cost Code	GABE

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
BSc(Hons) Architectural Design Technology	Core
BSc(Hons) Building Surveying Degree Apprenticeship	Core
BSc(Hons) Building Surveying	Core
BEng(Hons) Civil Engineering Degree Apprenticeship	Core
BSc(Hons) Construction Management Degree Apprenticeship	Core
BSc(Hons) Construction Management	Core
BSc(Hons) Quantity Surveying Degree Apprenticeship	Core
BSc(Hons) Quantity Surveying	Core

Pre-requisites

There are no pre-requisites for this module.

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	170 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	3 rd July 2024



For office use only	
With effect from date	September 2024
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1

Module aims

The principal aim of 'Procurement and Contract Practice' is to explain how building and infrastructure projects are procured and implemented by contract in the construction industry, and to provide opportunities for students to develop appropriate skills, knowledge, experience and behaviours through a mixture of academic study and the application of knowledge in the development of building and infrastructure projects.

The module also aims to demonstrate how procurement within the construction sector is significantly influenced by the structure, operational relationships and performance characteristics of the industry, which dictates the use of complex and comprehensive contractual arrangements and close supervision.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Differentiate public, private and third sector development contexts, and explain the procedural mechanisms by which construction and civil engineering projects are procured.
2	Evaluate procurement options and justify the selection of a preferred route in the context of a given set of development circumstances.
3	Differentiate standard forms of building and civil engineering contracts, and justify the selection of a standard form that best-suits a given set of development circumstances.
4	Interpret contractual clauses and argue appropriate courses of action in response to a range of given construction-phase issues.

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

'Procurement and Contract Practice' will be assessed through a written assignment and an Examination which are equally weighted in terms of their contribution to the final recommended mark for the subject.

The Written Assignment (2,000 words) will be based upon a given development scenario, and will provide students opportunities to investigate the feasibility of a construction project, interpret associated legal, regulatory and contractual implications, consider a range of procurement options and justify an optimum procurement process and standard form of contract, including any optional clauses that are relevant to their preferred approach.

The Examination (2 hrs) will require written responses to a series of questions that require students to consider scenario-based situations, interpret related contractual provisions, recommend immediate and/or subsequent courses of action, and to explain the longer term implications of the decisions made. The Examination will be conducted in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1 & 2	Written Assignment	50
2	3 & 4	Examination	50

Derogations

N/A

Learning and Teaching Strategies

Learning and teaching strategies in the context of 'Procurement and Contract Practice' will accommodate both didactic and scenario-based opportunities to ensure that students gain knowledge and understanding through traditional teaching delivery, and are able to contextualise it through the interpretation of scenarios based upon typical sets of circumstances that arise in the procurement of buildings and infrastructure. Delivery will incorporate the principles of the University's Active Learning Framework (ALF), so that learning opportunities are both synchronous and asynchronous, and are supported by an accessible range of material resources.

Class-based study will comprise didactic sessions that accommodate definitive and theoretical constructs in the procurement of built assets, and will draw upon market-related threats and opportunities, procurement options within public-, private- and third-sector contexts, legal and regulatory frameworks, established best-practice in terms of process, oversight and control, the establishment and operation of contractual arrangements, and the completion, handover and transfer of ownership of the development following completion.

Class-based study should accommodate the use of case studies as far as possible, to help illustrate the ways in which built assets are delivered through well-established procurement processes, strict procedural requirements to ensure transparency and equity of opportunity, and through the demonstrable professional conduct and authoritative decision-making of all those involved in the design, construction, use and disposal of buildings and infrastructure.

Delivery should accommodate a wide range of development scenarios, and should recognise the evolutionary nature of procurement practice in respect of both the development of contemporaneous best practice, and current trends that respond to the changing financial, legal and regulatory environment that exists within the property sector.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

Procurement:

- acquisition and disposal of property
- providing information, data, and advice to clients, colleagues, or stakeholders
- obtaining and managing finance
- stakeholder behaviour to mitigate climate change, foster inclusivity etc.
- legal and regulatory frameworks
- ethical considerations, including anti-bribery and corruption
- procurement, tendering and contracts
- framework agreements
- nature of organisations that own and operate buildings
- professional roles and responsibilities of key players in the property development cycle
- Climate Change Act and Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- regulating bodies such as Natural Resources Wales / Environment Agency



- risks/ uncertainty and environmental and societal impact
- time, cost quality and value drivers affecting the design and construction and occupancy of buildings
- Social Value/Community Engagement
- Bid writing

Contract practice:

- standard forms of building and civil engineering contracts
- contract structure
- contract definitions
- contractual mechanisms
- contract administration
- carrying out the works
- controlling the works
- valuation and payment
- injury, damage and insurance
- conflict avoidance/dispute resolution
- termination

Indicative Bibliography:

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

Essential Reads

Greenhalgh, B., Squires, G. & Mahamadu, A.-M. (2021), *Construction Procurement: Complex Property Development*. Abingdon: Taylor & Francis Ltd.

Ashworth, A. & Perera, S. (2018), *Contractual Procedures in the Construction Industry*. 7th, new ed. Abingdon: Taylor & Francis Ltd.

Other indicative reading

Aqua Group (2016), *The Aqua Group Guide to Procurement, Tendering and Contract Administration*. 2nd ed. New York: John Wiley And Sons Ltd.

Heaphy, I. (2019), *Procurement and Contract Strategies for Construction*. Leeds: ICE Publishing.

Other sources:

The Joint Contracts Tribunal: <https://www.jctltd.co.uk/>

NEC Contracts: <https://www.neccontract.com/>

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors www.rics.org

Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists: www.ciat.org.uk

Royal Institute of British Architects www.architecture.com

Chartered Institute of Building www.ciob.org.uk

Ordnance Survey www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/

Institution of Civil Engineers www.ice.org.uk

Designing Buildings Wiki www.designingbuildings.co.uk

Institution of Structural Engineers www.istructe.org.uk

IHS Database www.ihsti.com