

Flexible Part-time Real Estate Programmes FAQ's & Application Information

What are the entry requirements?

The entry requirements for the **MSc Real Estate Flexible** and, **MSc Real Estate Investment Finance Flexible** is a good first degree (normally upper second) or, an equivalent professional qualification such as FRICS, MRICS, ACA, ACCA. Students are also required to be working in real estate or expected to be starting a career in the Real Estate sector by the commencement of the course.

What are the fees?

The fees are currently £1950 per module. Students (or their sponsors) are invoiced after each module. It is not possible to guarantee that fees will remain fixed for the duration of a programme, as an annual increase is likely.

How do I apply?

You can apply on-line.

Do I have to have an appropriate English language qualification?

Yes, IELTS is preferred- minimum score: 7.0. However, we recognize that this is not necessarily appropriate where students have already been educated in English and/or the language of their current workplace is English. We will require supporting evidence if this is the case.

Do you offer a distance learning course?

No, all modules require 3-5 days residential 'block' attendance at the university.

How are the modules taught and assessed?

Generally, students receive some pre-reading approximately 3-4 weeks before a module commences. The students then come to the University of Reading where there be will 30-40 hours of lectures, workshops, exercises, presentations and/or site visits during the 3-5 day module. Whilst at the University, students will be briefed on an assessment to be handed in 6-8 weeks after the module. It is estimated that students will need to work between 7 – 10 hours per week to complete the assignments.

Do I need to be employed in the real estate sector?

We prefer students to be in relevant employment as this often supports the student's learning experience. However, we recognise that this is not always possible. Additionally, some students find it easier to get a relevant job once they are on the course.

How many students are there on a module?

It can range from 10 – 30

Where does the teaching take place?

It takes place in our own school teaching rooms.

Can I get accommodation on campus?

There are rooms available in Cedars, our on-site hotel facility. You should book in advance as it can get full. This is the only accommodation on campus, but there is a wide selection of hotels and guest houses in the vicinity.

What are the other students like?

Diverse; many will be recent UK graduates employed by property advisory and investment firms who are in their early to mid-twenties. There are also a number of extremely well qualified real estate professionals in mid-career who are updating or enhancing their existing skills. We have a growing number of international students from Germany, Russia, the Middle East and South Africa and other countries.

Can I obtain exemptions from some modules?

No. the School's policy is not to grant exemptions. Many of our students have existing property qualifications and are taking the programme in order to enhance their existing skills. We feel that if we were to grant exemptions, the programme's integrity would be threatened.

When can I start? Do I have to take the modules in a particular order?

Depending on the MSc route you are mostly able to begin the programme not long after you are accepted. Individual advice will be given to you when you accept your offer. Please note that some modules have pre-requisites.

Can I speak to someone who is on the course already?

Yes, it is a good way to find out if this is the course for you. We can help put you in touch with a current student.

What support can I expect once the module has finished?

You will be given access to Blackboard, which is a virtual learning environment, accessed via the Internet. Course documents will be posted here, and there is a discussion board to enable students to debate work in between modules.

Can I attend modules for CPD?

Yes, you can attend any of the modules for continuing professional development. You would not be required to complete the assignment if you were attending on this basis.

What if I do not want to study for the full Masters?

You are able to study for a Post Graduate diploma or Post Graduate certificate. Further details are available from the programme administrator.

How long will it take to achieve the Masters?

The flexible programme allows you to take anything from 2 – 6 years to complete your studies.

How do the programmes differ from those offered by the College of Estate Management?

Our flexible Masters programmes are delivered via 'block release'. This means you will have face to face contact with members of the School during a 3-5 day stay for each module. The modules are led by academic staff from the School, complemented by relevant industry professionals. You will also have opportunity, as a group, to network and discuss ideas and issues informally during your stay. The College of Estate Management delivers its courses via distance learning with some opportunity to attend live teaching sessions at a variety of locations.