The course explores the future of construction, seeking new paradigms and innovative models that draw on the latest research in management, construction technologies and processes. The course is a two-year part-time research degree targeted at students who have several years’ professional experience and have already attained a leadership role or been identified as potential leaders in their organisations. This part-time format enables students to continue with their professional careers whilst studying. It is designed to contribute to the students’ own career development and enhance the performance of their companies.

The course prepares students to act as agents of change in the industry, helping them to improve the performance, efficiency and sustainability of the construction sector by applying state-of-the-art technical knowledge, skills and techniques.

The Construction Engineering Masters (CEM) programme encompasses the full spectrum of the construction industry. The topics covered in the course range from the high-level financing requirements of mega-projects through to the latest innovations in analysis, design and materials technology.

The course aims to revolutionise construction by challenging widely held assumptions.

“The course opened new sources of thinking from all aspects of industry, which were not limited to the construction sector. This has enabled me to take a more holistic view in the decision-making process.”

John Hannah, CEM student, 2011-2013

“The opportunity to discuss processes and innovations within the industry with such a range of different companies, from small independent firms to multinationals and Government bodies, has enabled me to increase the breadth of my knowledge and opened up opportunities to become involved myself.”

Angela Beckwith, CEM student, 2012-2014

“The strong support the CEM programme has received is a clear indication of the importance that those at the very top of industry are placing on educating the future leaders of construction and the faith that they have in the University of Cambridge to be able to do so.”

Professor Dame Anne Dowling, President of the Royal Academy of Engineering
The CEM programme focuses on the following themes:

- Finance, planning and procurement
- Advanced construction management and methods
- Advanced construction technologies
- Design for construction, value and performance
- Sector specialisation
- Innovation, research and the future of construction
- Leadership

In addition, the themes of sustainability, whole-life performance and whole-systems thinking are woven through the entire course.

Course Structure

The Construction Engineering Masters programme is a two-year part-time course. Students spend a total of seven residential weeks in Cambridge - four weeks in the first year and three in the second. Attendance for all weeks is compulsory.

A typical residential week includes:

- lectures, seminars and workshops
- group projects and presentations
- individual meetings with Supervisors and the Director of Studies.

The course is delivered by a combination of academic staff and industry experts who provide lectures and seminars on the latest technologies and cutting-edge ideas. Students become full members of Queens’ College – a college founded in 1448 that sits astride the River Cam with its two halves joined across the river by the famous Mathematical Bridge. The college provides accommodation for the residential weeks.

Course Assessment

The course is primarily assessed through students’ written work, which is completed between residential weeks. The course assignments are as follows:

- one 5,000-word case study
- two 3,000-word essays
- one 15,000-word dissertation.

Topics may be based on an individual’s interests, experience and current employment, and are selected with guidance from the Director of Studies.

Course Themes

The CEM programme focuses on the following themes:

- Leadership
- Innovation, research and the future of construction
- Sector specialisation
- Design for construction, value and performance
- Whole-life performance and whole-systems thinking
- Sustainability
- Finance, planning and procurement
- Advanced construction management and methods
- Advanced construction technologies
- Research and development
- Industry and academic engagement
- Construction industry research
- Construction leadership
- Construction management
- Construction technologies
- Construction value and performance
- Whole-life performance and whole-systems thinking
- Sustainability

Course fees

The fees for the entire two-year CEM programme are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Costs</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University and College Fees</td>
<td>£22,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>£1,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course total (for the entire two years)</td>
<td>£23,986</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
- Please note that college fees and accommodation rates are set independently by Queens’ College. The above costs exclude meals.
- Most of our students obtain full or partial funding from their employer. Where this is not possible, bursaries may be available for a proportion of the tuition fee. Please contact the CEM Programme Manager for more information.
- You should consider carefully your capacity for balancing personal and professional commitments before submitting your application.

How to apply

To apply for this course you will need to have:

- a first or upper second class UK honours degree or overseas equivalent in a construction related discipline
- at least three years’ professional experience.

If you have alternative experience or qualifications, you should contact the CEM office for advice. We are looking for people who are passionate about making a difference.

Applications for the Construction Engineering Masters programme are managed online by the Institute of Continuing Education at the University of Cambridge. To apply online please click the link on the Construction Engineering Masters home page.

Karl Wilkinson, CEM student, 2013-2015

“The course changed my way of thinking … it gave me the space to look at things differently … I’m now applying the skills learnt to meet challenges at work …”

Scott Kelley, CEM student, 2011-2013

“…cannot be a course in any other discipline that manages to attract the level of industry experts and high-flyers as well as academics”