

## Programme Specification

MSc Rural Land and Business Management (full-time)

PFTRURLANDM

For students entering in 2021/22

**This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Awarding Institution  | University of Reading  |
| Teaching Institution  | University of Reading  |
| Length of Programme   | MSc Rural Land and Business Management (full-time) - 1 years |
| Accreditation         | RICS   |
| Programme Start Dates | September  |

### Programme information and content

The MSc Rural Land and Business programme – accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and recognised by the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers – aims to prepare students for a career in rural surveying. It is designed to equip graduates with an understanding of the economic, technological, legal and social concepts and principles that govern the management of our countryside and the techniques that apply to the management of agricultural and other rural businesses, a critical awareness of current issues and challenges affecting the rural sector, and the strategic decision-making skills that are needed to undertake a career in rural land and business management at the highest level. It draws on the academic strengths of Real Estate and Planning (REP) at the University of Reading and the expertise of rural practitioners to deliver a flexible and challenging programme, highly relevant to the changing demands of modern business. REP enjoys excellent relationships with neighbouring landowners and, wherever possible, teaching is augmented by site visits to farms and rural estates to demonstrate the practical application of taught content, as well as providing sites for real-life case studies.

The programme is suitable for graduates with a good first degree in any subject (2:1 or better). Relevant work experience is strongly recommended and will be taken into account at application.

### Module information

The programme comprises 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

#### Compulsory modules

| Module    | Name   | Credits | Level |
|-----------|--|---------|-------|
| REMDISS40 | Real Estate and Planning Dissertation            | 40      | M     |
| REMF47    | Business and Professional Values                 | 10      | M     |
| REMMCS    | Management Case Studies in Rural Surveying       | 20      | M     |
| REMRARI   | Introduction to Agriculture and Rural Industries | 20      | M     |
| REMREE    | Real Estate Economics                            | 10      | M     |

|         |                                  |    |   |
|---------|----------------------------------|----|---|
| REMRFT  | Rural Field Trip                 | 10 | M |
| REMRPLV | Rural Property Law and Valuation | 20 | M |
| REMRPP  | Rural Policy And Planning        | 10 | M |
| REMRSAM | Strategic Rural Asset Management | 20 | M |

Students will select 20 credits of option modules in Real Estate and Planning or Agriculture subjects.

### **Part-time or flexible modular arrangements**

The programme is offered in full time mode. A part time version will be offered for September 2019 subject to numbers. Students taking the programme on a part time basis will take the same core modules as the full time students but over a two year period. In Year 1 students will study Introduction to Agriculture and Rural Industries, Rural Property Law and Valuation and Rural Policy and Planning (a total of 50 credits). In Year 2 they will study Strategic Rural Asset Management, Management Case Studies in Rural Surveying, Real Estate Economics and Business and Professional Values (a total of 60 credits) during the two teaching terms. In the summer term they will undertake the Rural Field Trip (10 credits) and the 40-credit Dissertation.

### **Additional costs of the programme**

Students will take part in a Rural Field Trip in the summer term. The trip will commence at the University of Reading. Students are expected to pay for some meals and all drinks during the trip. Accommodation and travel will be provided.

There is a required textbook for module REMRPLV which will cost approximately £40 to purchase.

A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks, electronic resources and computer facilities, are available through the Central Library and the Henley Business School Library.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost per A4 page of £0.05 (black and white) and £0.30 (colour). Essential costs in this area will be low as most coursework is submitted electronically. Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

### **Optional modules**

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. Although the University tries to

ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

### **Placement opportunities**

There are no placements available on this programme.

### **Study abroad opportunities**

### **Teaching and learning delivery**

Core teaching is organised in three 10-credit modules and four 20-credit modules, each credit representing a notional 10 hours of student effort. The relationship between class contact in the form of lecture, workshop, seminar, tutorial and student centred learning in the form of individual research and project/case study varies across the modules and is set out in the individual module descriptions. All modules are designed to deliver level 7 outcomes. Within each of these modules, the overall aim is for students to be able to understand the knowledge obtained and be critically aware of the theoretical and practical implications of the material.

Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study that a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Assessment is by a combination of written examinations and coursework in the form of individual and group assignments including applied problem solving, essays, literature reviews, reports and presentations, as indicated in the module descriptors. The formal examinations take place at the start of the summer term each year.

Students are encouraged to start working towards their individual dissertation in the spring term of Year 2 in the case of part time students); the third term and the summer period comprise further research and writing stages of the dissertation. Students are expected to spend approximately 400 hours study time on researching and writing the dissertation.

### **Accreditation details**

The master's degree programme is included within the University/Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) partnership arrangement and graduates entering relevant employment are eligible to enrol in the workplace on the two-year RICS APC rural pathway leading to membership of the RICS.

### **Assessment**

Students may be assessed by a range of methods including individual and group assignments, essays, reports, presentations and examinations. The formal examinations will take place in May/June. Students will have the right to re-sit any module once. Normally examination and assignment re-sits will be in late August/early September.

## **Progression**

### **Part-time and modular progression requirements**

N/A

## **Classification**

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

### **Mark Interpretation**

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

### **Failing categories:**

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory work

### *For Master's Degree*

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
- ii. a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
- iii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iv. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and

- ii. a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- iii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iv. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
- ii. a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- iii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iv. the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

*For PG Diploma*

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
- ii. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iii. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
- ii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iii. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits; and
- ii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

*For PG Certificate*

To qualify for a **Postgraduate Certificate**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits; and

the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.

**For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

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23 February 2021

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