SUBJECT DESCRIPTION FORM

Subject title: Professional Workshop and Project

Subject code: BRE505

Credit value: 3

Responsible staff and department:
Dr. Linda Fan and Dr. Stanley Yeung (BRE)

Pre-requisite:
(Subject title and code no, if any)
Research and Consultancy Techniques for Construction and Real Estate (BRE501)

Recommended background knowledge:

Students should complete Research and Consultancy Techniques for Construction and Real Estate (BRE501) and at least 2 core subjects of the MSc in Construction and Real Estate.

Mutual exclusions:
Non-CRM students

Learning approach:

The subject consists of a series of 3-hour workshops during the first semester for developing students’ research skills on a relevant aspect of construction and real estate sectors. Small group meetings will be held with students throughout the studies. 6-hour seminar is to be held for presentation and exchange of information among students.

Contact hours:

Workshops (3 hours x 6 weeks) = 18 hours
Small group meetings (around 10 students per group) = 9 hours per student
Seminars for presentation in Semester 2 (3 hours per group) = 3 hours
= 30 hours

Independent study:
Individual assignment = 55 hours
Self study = 55 hours
Total = 140 hours

Assessment:

The assessment will be 100% by coursework. Assessment criteria will normally be explicitly linked to the learning outcomes for the subject and will be distributed to students as they embark on the subject, usually at the first workshop, which precedes the subject. The assessment criteria for the individual assignment are given in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Criterion</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Progress (Proposal)</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evidence of critical judgement, synthesis, comprehensiveness of background research</td>
<td>3, 4</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rigour in research formulation, design and execution</td>
<td>4, 5</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use of judgement in drawing conclusions</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication and presentation</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Objectives:

The primary objective of the subject is to strengthen students' capacity for independent, analytical study in the area of construction and real estate sectors in a professional context. In conjunction with the core subjects in construction and real estate studies, it forms an integrating component in the course. It is also used as a vehicle for students to engage in a critical assessment of their own work.

Learning strategy and outcomes:

The key learning strategy for the subject is that of learning by doing. Students are expected to work independently and individually, reflecting on the experience of the work in progress and feedback from the supervisor. The principle educational aims for the subject are to promote the following abilities and disciplines:

- Self learning
- Independence of thought
- Critical evaluation
- Formulation and research of complex problems
- Communication of complex ideas and conclusions

By the end of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Select and pursue in depth, a non-trivial topic relevant to professional practice in the field of construction or real estate.
2. Complete a substantial piece of work autonomously, with guidance from a supervisor but without detailed day-to-day supervision.
3. Formulate a set of questions in a way that renders them amenable to rigorous investigation.
4. Discriminate and identify in the available written material that which is useful to the topic under investigation.
5. Identify and make use of methods of investigation appropriate to the subject.
6. Draw conclusions that are based on the work undertaken and relevant to construction management and assess the limitations of those conclusions.
7. Communicate clearly in written English and present an individual project in an appropriate style.

Indicative reading list and references:


