

Undergraduate Programme

Our Bachelor of Science (Honours) Quantity Surveying programme is the first to be established in West Africa. At inception in 1971 and during the early decades, it was a leading programme not only in Nigeria but across the commonwealth.

Philosophy and Objectives of the Programme

Philosophy

The philosophy of the Quantity surveying programme of Ahmadu Bello University is tied to the resourcefulness of the profession.

As a profession that delves into several disciplines, it prepares professionals in a broad-based knowledge to enable them improve, sustain and uplift the socio-economic well being of their environment. Emphasis is placed on planning, management and economic activities. Furthermore, the programme prepares the graduates to play distinctive and prominent roles in the construction industry.

The manpower needs of Nigeria (and beyond) are given a special attention in the programme.

Objectives of the Programme

These include the following:

- (1) To fully prepare candidates as Quantity Surveyors
- (2) To educate students in the principles of construction and allied economics
- (3) To train students in broad based management concepts and how they can apply acquired theory in any sector of the economy
- (4) To prepare candidates as a manpower resource and especially as project managers
- (5) To encourage students to develop research skills
- (6) To develop the inanimate potentials of students
- (7) To mould the virtues of equity, discipline, commitment and sincerity in Quantity Surveyors.

Duration of the Programme

At inception, the duration of the B.Sc. Quantity Surveying course was three years. Entry qualification was three A-level passes including Mathematics and Physics.

However in 1981, the duration of the course was increased to four years in line with the other courses in the Faculty of Engineering, to allow for enhanced industrial/practical training of 32 weeks.

In 1988, the course was restructured to last five years in line with the 6-3-3-4 system of education that was introduced in Nigeria. The first year is basically introductory with most courses being of general nature.

Title of Degree

The nomenclature of the degree is Bachelor of Science in Quantity Surveying, B.Sc. (QS).

REGULATIONS GOVERNING ADMISSION/REGISTRATION

Admission Requirements

The regulations governing the admission of students into the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, as stipulated in the University guidelines apply in the Department of Quantity Surveying.

Candidates can, depending on their qualifications, enter the programme at any of three points, namely the 100, 200 or 300 levels:

- a) The main entry point is the 100 level where a candidate requires credits at O-Level or its equivalent. The pre-qualifications are five credits, which must include: Mathematics; Physics; English; and Chemistry/Economics /Technical Drawing. In addition a candidate will need to pass the University Matriculation Examinations (UME) set for that purpose by the Joint Matriculation and Examination Board (JAMB). Applicants must attain an acceptable standard in the Use of English (compulsory) and three relevant subjects as set out in the JAMB brochure. Applicants to the Department of Quantity Surveying are required to obtain a minimum of 180 marks in the JAMB examinations and also above the recommended minimum score in the Post-UME test.
- b) For entry at 200 level, candidates must apply through JAMB Direct Entry and are expected to have either passed Ordinary National Diploma in Quantity Surveying at minimum of Upper Credit level from a recognised polytechnic or three A-level credits including Mathematics and Physics in addition to meeting the O-level requirements above.
- c) For entry at 300 Level, candidates should have met (a) above and attained upper credit in Higher National Diploma in Quantity Surveying. The route is through the University's special admission process.

In addition to the above, a limited opportunity is available to those who want to come in via a transfer from another University to Ahmadu Bello University or from related courses within ABU after satisfying the relevant stipulated conditions. However, such a candidate is accepted on the basis of merit, and must spend not less than two years in the University before graduation.

Students' Registration and Orientation

The registration of students into the Department is conducted by the Departmental Registration Officer (DRO) after the candidates have been duly screened at the Faculty. The DRO checks the candidate's original document to ascertain the qualifications and authenticity of such documents. The documents to be checked include:

- Admission letter and clearance from the faculty
- Academic certificates to confirm that the departmental entrance requirements are fulfilled
- Student's name as indicated in the certificates all correspond with the admission letter

- Local Government Area of origin
- Birth Certificate (or a sworn affidavit where this is not available)

Candidates who meet the above requirements are subsequently duly registered and are given registration numbers in accordance with their level and year of entry. Registered students are required to indicate the registration number in all communications with the Department. The current DRO is Mrs K.J. Adogbo.

Registration Guidelines

- (i) Fresh students must come with original of relevant documents to the Faculty to collect admission letter and to be interviewed. Successful candidate would be informed of the procedure for registration with the Academic Office, the Faculty and the Department.
- (ii) Students should note the time and schedule of registration, and be in possession of proper identification documents at all times.
- (iii) Students should consult with their assigned Academic advisors before filling the course registration form.
- (iv) Pre-requisite and/or co-requisite must be satisfied for courses that require such.
- (v) All courses are registered at an officially designated centre, except otherwise stated.
- (vi) Unrestricted electives chosen outside those listed must be approved by the Department.
- (vii) Minimum and maximum credit units registered for full time students are 12 and 24 units respectively.
- (viii) At registration, a student is required to pay the National Association of Quantity Surveying Students (NAQSS) dues, buy Departmental publications and also settle other charges as may be required from time to time.
- (ix) Late registration usually granted after normal registration period attracts a penalty and does not last beyond a quarter of the semester period.
- (x) De-registration and registration of additional courses continues through the period of late registration.
- (xi) De-registration of research project, with consent of the supervisor, is not allowed beyond second semester registration period.
- (xii) Registration problems associated with ill-health may be entertained, subject to the provision of (xiii) below.
- (xiii) If, as a result of ill-health a student is likely to be late for registration, the department should be informed immediately and supporting evidence(s) must be presented upon resumption.
- (xiv) Application for deferment must be made to/through the department on time, for such requests to be tendered for consideration by appropriate bodies.
- (xv) A student is regarded as registered only when the necessary registration forms have been submitted to the DRO.
- (xvi) A student who fails to register for two consecutive semesters shall be deemed to have voluntarily withdrawn from the course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The Course Credit System

The course credit system refers to a system of organisation of the curriculum in which disciplines or integrated disciplines are broken down into courses. These courses are arranged in progressive order of difficulty or in levels of academic progress. The second aspect of the system is that courses are assigned weights called Credit Units. Credit Units are assigned to a course depending on how many hours it meets for the duration of the course.

The course units in the Department are organized on the course credit system per semester. A semester lasts for approximately 18 weeks, including the periods of registration and examinations provided that not less than 15 weeks are devoted to actual teaching. One credit unit is the equivalent of 15 contact hours of classroom teaching or 30 hours of laboratory work. The course units in the Department carry the weight of 3, 2 or 1 credit unit(s), suggesting that they are taught for 45, 30 or 15 hours in the semester or 3, 2 or 1 one-hour periods per week respectively. In courses with strong practical component, this means that there are 15 hours of teaching and 45 hours of practical to qualify for 2 credit units or 30 hours of teaching and 45 hours of practical for 3 credit unit courses.

To graduate with BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying, a student must pass all the core, cognate and restricted electives. The core credit units include those of:

- Student Work Experience Programme (SWEP) - an attachment programme taken by the students in the Faculty at the end of the 200 level; and
- Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES)- An industrial attachment undertaken by the students during the whole of the second semester of the fourth year and it lasts twenty-four (24) weeks. The attachment is aimed at exposing the students to practical Quantity surveying.

List of Courses

The list of core, cognate and elective courses for the programme are given in subsequent pages. Courses fall under the following headings:

- a) *Core Courses* central to the degree and they constitute not less than 60% of all the course units that the student must take to complete the requirements for a degree in the department. They are departmental courses that the student must attend and pass before graduation.
- b) *Cognate Courses* are prescribed non-departmental courses from related fields which are indispensable for an understanding and appreciation of the student's a major field and the student is required to attend and pass these courses.
- c) *Restricted Elective* courses are optional courses within and outside the Faculty from which the student may select and attend to meet the minimum requirement

of 12 Credit Units per Semester and which must be selected before the student can choose unrestricted electives.

- d) *Unrestricted Elective Courses* are courses which are opted for by the student in accordance with his or her own interest and which the student may select and attend. Subject to any future modification of this curriculum, the student may take only the Elective Courses indicated in this curriculum.

Restricted plus Unrestricted Electives constitute a minimum of 5% and a maximum of 20% of the total number of Credit Units required for graduation.

From 200 Level to 500 Level, many courses are associated with *Prerequisite Courses*. For each course, the prerequisites are lower level courses that the student must attend and pass before he/she is allowed to register for the specified higher-level course. The aim is that the student would have the background needed to follow the higher-level course and find the course relatively easy to comprehend and pass.