

Requirements for MS in Construction Management

Procedures and requirements for the M.S.C.M. degree will be as prescribed by the Graduate College under [Academic Policies](#), with additional provisions as follows:

1. Each student in conjunction with the Program's Graduate Coordinator will select either the Thesis option or Project Option.

a. Thesis Option.

i. Student's pursuing the thesis option shall have an Advising Committee composed of at least four members of the UNLV Graduate Faculty of which at least two must be tenured or tenure-track members of the Construction Management Program, the third from the Construction Management Program or a related field, and the fourth must be appointed by the Graduate College.

ii. Requires completion of at least 30 credits, comprised of 18 required 600/700-level credits of CEM and MBA course work (see 2.a and 2.b below), six credits of approved electives, and six credits of thesis research. The final examination will include a defense of the thesis. Completion of a thesis requires the student to make a unique contribution to the existing knowledge in the field of construction management or engineering. The effort must include the development of a contemporary research topic and the methodology for investigating the topic. The student is required to undertake the research effort to investigate the topic. The thesis prepared as part of this option shall include a literature review, description of the research topic, methodology, and results, and present conclusions obtained from the research effort and recommendations for further work.

iii. The thesis option student's program of study must be approved by the student's advisory committee.

b. Project Option.

Requires completion of at least 36 credits comprised of 18 required 600/700-level credits of CEM and MBA course work (see 2.a and 2.b), 15 credits of approved electives of which nine credits must be 600/700-level credits of CEM (see 2.c).

Additional course requirement:

[CEM 796 - Special Project in Construction Engineering and Management](#)
(minimum 3 credits)

Completion of a project requires the student to investigate and solve, or propose solutions to, a problem related to the field of construction management. It is expected that the results of this effort will be beneficial for and applied to other construction-related projects or problems. The project report prepared for this option shall include a description of the issue investigated, how the investigation was performed, the results obtained, conclusions regarding the investigation, and recommendations for further work.

2. Program course requirements. Both graduate degree options require students to:

a. Complete the following courses:

[CEM 651 - Construction Estimating](#)
[CEM 653 - Construction Scheduling and Resource Optimization](#)
[CEM 700 - Research Methods in Construction Management](#)
[CEM 750 - Advanced Construction Scheduling](#)

or

[CEM 751 - Construction Cost Analysis and Estimating](#)
[CEM 685 - Construction Law and Contracts](#)

or

[CEM 740 - Construction Safety and Performance Improvement](#)

or

[CEM 775 - Construction Operations and Management](#)

or

[CEM 705 - Construction Engineering Management](#)
[MBA 775 - Data Modeling and Analysis](#)

Other courses may be substituted upon written permission of the student's graduate faculty advisor. Students who have credit in CEM 451 and CEM 453 or equivalent courses will select two other courses from the approved elective list.

b. Complete the following courses within the first two semesters of study:

[MBA 775 - Data Modeling and Analysis](#)

[CEM 700 - Research Methods in Construction Management](#)

c. The student's graduate program to show suitable breadth and coherence. As specified in the [Academic Policies](#) section of this catalog, the proposed graduate degree program must be submitted to the Graduate College prior to completion of 16 credit hours of course work toward the degree. The responsibility for meeting this requirement rests with the student.

Students will be placed on probation or separated from the program if they neglect this requirement.

- i. The *thesis option program* of study will be jointly developed by the student and advisor, approved by the student's committee, and then filed with the Graduate College.
- ii. The *project option program* of study will be jointly developed by the student and advisor, then filed with the Graduate College.

3. Performance Requirements:

Students must make satisfactory progress and comply with all Graduate College and Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering policies. If progress is not satisfactory, probation and separation from the graduate program may result, in accordance with the rules of the Graduate College. Satisfactory progress is defined as filing an proposed graduate degree program before the completion of 16 credit hours of course work, completion of at least six credits of the approved program per calendar year, maintenance of a GPA of 3.00 (4.00), no grades below C and compliance with the letter and spirit of the Graduate Catalog and published policies of the Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering. Additionally, no more than nine credits below B are allowed in the student's graduate program. If progress is not satisfactory, probation and separation may result, in accordance with the rules of the Graduate College. Any student whose GPA falls below 3.00 will be placed on probation and will have two semesters to raise it to 3.00 or above. Students who are awarded a graduate assistantship must be enrolled in 9 credit hours per semester and must elect the thesis option.