Entry into the Programme

A*AA, any academic subjects. Admission is based on high achievement in ‘A’ level or equivalent examinations, school recommendations and success in interview. On average there are 52-58 students in each year, all of whom are full-time. Affiliated students undertake the degree in two years and take Parts IB and II, subject to the approval of the Board of Land Economy.

Teaching Provision and Facilities

The Department of Land Economy is situated on Silver Street in central Cambridge. Teaching takes place in the Mill Lane Lecture rooms and other University buildings in fully-equipped lecture halls. The Department’s Library is in the SPS Library. There are approximately 35-40,000 books, journals and papers in the Library, and eight Managed Cluster System (MCS) machines. Students have access to all the University and College Library catalogues through terminals across the University. In particular, in addition to the University Library, the Marshall Library and Squire Law Library on the Sidgwick Site provide important collections. Other teaching materials are provided via the Moodle VLE and on the Department intranet. Students also have access to online journals and books.

Educational aims of the programme

The course aims:

i) to provide teaching and learning to undergraduate students, within the two primary disciplines of law and economics, with the focus on the environment, land, urban analysis and real estate;

ii) to provide students with up-to-date interdisciplinary skills and versatility, so giving a range of career opportunities in areas including the law, business and finance, environmental agencies civil service, public service, property professions, further study and national/international agencies. The courses offer full or partial exemption from the requirements of a number of professional bodies, including the Law Society and Bar Council (for intending lawyers) and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors;
iii) to provide an integrated structure of learning and teaching.

**Part IA**

On completion of Part IA students should have:

1) made the transition into University modes of learning, including academic self-
responsibility;

2) acquired an introduction to economic concepts and theory and the economic environment
in which the private sector, governments and organisations operate;

3) acquired an understanding of constitutional and administrative law, including the European
Union, Parliament, the Executive, the public sector, Human Rights Act and judicial review;

4) acquired an introduction to principles of statistics and mathematics;

5) acquired an understanding of the major economic, environmental, institutional and
technological challenges and their impact upon the natural and built environments of the
United Kingdom.

**Part IB**

Candidates can take Part IB if they have obtained honours in Part IA of the Land Economy
Tripos or another honours examination, provided that they have kept at least four and not more
than twelve terms of residence in Cambridge.

On completion of Part IB, students should have further developed interdisciplinary skills
introduced in Part IA. In particular they will have:

1) subject-specific knowledge, through the study of primary and secondary sources, of the
major themes and issues to a level sufficient to lay the foundations for, and inform choice
of, advanced specialisation and application in some or all of them in Part II;

2) confidence in the independent exercise of skills of:

   - careful reading, analysis and critical interpretation of primary texts within
     and across a range of disciplines;
   - the construction of arguments and the assembling of relevant evidence
     within and across a range of disciplines;
   - clear written expression in essay form;
   - effective and constructive participation in individually supervised and
     group discussion; and
   - familiarity with web-based research within and across a range of
     disciplines.

**Part II**

Candidates may take Part II if they have obtained honours in Part IB or another honours
examination (not including Part IA), provided that they have kept at least seven and not more
than fifteen terms of residence.

On completion of Part II students should have also acquired:
1) advanced understanding of selected areas of land, urban, real estate and environmental management and policy;

2) a more advanced level of subject-related skills, in all cases through the:

- study of specialised topics in a particular field;
- more sophisticated enhancement of interdisciplinary perspectives and skills, including the ability within and across a range of disciplines to integrate detailed substantiation and argumentation into broader policy analysis; and
- acquisition of skills of formal oral presentation to, and of constructive and critical participation in, seminar classes and larger groups.

Students will also have had the opportunity to acquire:

- detailed knowledge of a specific issue in a chosen field, of the basic principles and skills of scholarly research, of independent and critical judgement, of a more collaborative association with a teaching member of the Department, and of the construction of complex argument, through the writing of a dissertation.

Students continue to study at a more complex level. Students must complete a dissertation, including a formal presentation at the end of Lent Term reporting their interim findings. This enables students to engage in an aspect of the research activity of the Department and in an integrative approach to the subject.

Teaching

Teaching is delivered by lectures, classes and seminars in the Department which relate to the papers offered in the Tripos and by supervisions in the Colleges which provide individual teaching through written work and feedback thereon. Supervisions are a College responsibility, but the Department assists in their organisation. Supervisions are normally held in small groups for which students are expected to have prepared essays and material for discussion. College-appointed Directors of Study will see their students at the beginning and end of each Term with an account of the student's performance in supervisions. Besides attending lectures and supervisions, students are expected to undertake independent reading and study to consolidate what is being taught.

Assessment

Formative assessment is provided through the supervision system where feedback is given in oral and written form. Summative assessment, which takes place at the end of each year, is by unseen written examinations, submission of essays/projects and a dissertation.

Part IA students are required to take 4 compulsory papers assessed by written examinations, coursework, and project completion.

Part IB students are required to take 5 papers, and assessment is through written examinations.

Part II students submit a 10,000 word dissertation and take a further 4 papers assessed by written examinations.
Skills

On completion of the course, the University expects students to have acquired the following skills:

i) Knowledge and understanding of the economic, legal and other implications of environmental management, land use and real estate, especially in the United Kingdom.

ii) Intellectual skills: the written work which students undertake enables them to learn how to study steadily, assimilate issues and large amounts of literature swiftly, evaluate positions and evidence critically, to produce succinct arguments to tight deadlines and to engage with those with whom they disagree. Students will be familiar with a range of material, ranging from legal texts, through statistical and financial to macro- and micro-economic models and policy analysis. They will have mastered modes of analysis and argument within and across a range of disciplines, including economics and law. They will have the intellectual skills and dexterity to meld this material into general critical analysis at a variety of levels – the local, regional, national and international. The dissertation develops the skill of articulating an argument at length and working independently under the direction of a supervisor. Students will learn to present an argument and attain analytical skills. By the end of the course students should have completed a degree which could be a basis for postgraduate study.

iii) Practical Skills: identification and use of bibliographic materials, via libraries and electronically; taking notes effectively; thorough IT skills.

iv) Transferable skills: the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; to work to deadlines and under pressure; to manage time; to set priorities; to formulate an argument; to work independently and with initiative; thorough IT skills (email, data analysis and internet use); critical analysis; to present papers in a seminar context; linguistic skills; skills of analysis and interpretation; self-discipline, self-direction; and respect for other views.

Career Destinations

The University works closely with the Careers Service and employers in the public and private sectors. Land Economy graduates are highly successful in the labour market and in recent years there has been virtually 100% employment with those seeking employment getting the jobs they want. Graduates often go on to professional careers, such as lawyers, economists, civil servants, chartered surveyors and town planners. They work for organisations involved in conservation and environmental protection including international agencies and local authorities. A significant proportion work in careers in financial services and management.

Quality Management

The Board of Land Economy is responsible for all teaching in the Department. The quality of the course is maintained by:

i) scrutiny of the reports of External and Internal Examiners by the Teaching Committee, Examiners’ meetings, the Board of Land Economy and the General Board’s Education Committee. Suggestions by them for improvement are acted on where appropriate;

ii) student feedback through comprehensive questionnaires;
iii) the Student Liaison Committee and the Board of Land Economy provide a forum for student participation with regard to course organisation and content;

iv) appraisal and evaluation of staff, and the provision of staff development programmes; and

v) the General Board’s programme for reviewing Faculties and Departments every six years.

**Indicators of Quality**

vi) QAA score: 22

vii) REF 2014 GPA: 3.35

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this programme specification. At the time of publication, the programme specification has been approved by the relevant Faculty Board (or equivalent). Programme specifications are reviewed annually, however, during the course of the academical year, any approved changes to the programme will be communicated to enrolled students through email notification or publication in the *Reporter*. The relevant faculty or department will endeavour to update the programme specification accordingly, and prior to the start of the next academical year.

Further information about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for all awards of the University is available online at: [https://www.camdata.admin.cam.ac.uk/](https://www.camdata.admin.cam.ac.uk/)