Founded in 1889, Western Carolina University is a campus of the University of North Carolina system. An hour west of Asheville, N.C., and 2.5 hours northeast of Atlanta, WCU is located in a beautiful valley between the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky mountains with convenient access to a region that offers tremendous opportunities for outdoor research and recreation.

The university is a co-educational residential public university with enrollment of approximately 9,600 students, including more than 1,800 graduate students from throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, Africa, and North and South America. We offer approximately 220 majors and concentrations for undergraduates in addition to more than 40 graduate-level programs of study.

Hunter Library, the largest in Western North Carolina, provides electronic resources including e-books and journal subscriptions readily available to support research and extended learning experiences.

Classes are offered online for distance education and face-to-face in Cullowhee, Asheville, and other locations throughout Western North Carolina. A combination of service learning and engagement in the community by faculty and students is a critical part of Western Carolina’s tradition of academic excellence. The university employs approximately 457 full-time faculty members, 73 percent of whom hold doctoral or terminal degrees.

Western Carolina University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor’s, master’s, education specialist, and doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Western Carolina University. Also, the university holds 21 special program accreditations and is a member of more than 30 state and national associations and organizations to which its professional programs are related.

Apply for Admission

Step 1:
Prepare the application items identified below and submit them along with the $55 non-refundable application fee.

Step 2:
Request an official transcript record (in English) from each college or university you have attended. Transcripts should be mailed directly to the Graduate School at the address below.

Step 3:
Submit your recommendation forms. One employer recommendation is required, additional recommendations are advised.

Step 4:
Official scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the academic version of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) are required for applicants from countries where English is not the primary language. A minimum score of 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based), or 79 (Internet-based) is required on the TOEFL. A minimum overall band score of 6.5 is required on the IELTS, with a minimum band score of 6 on each of the four modules. This requirement will be waived for applicants who successfully complete WCU’s Intensive English Program (IEP).

SUBMIT ALL MATERIALS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:
Graduate School
Western Carolina University
110 Cordelia Camp
69 East University Way
Cullowhee, NC 28723-9022
828.227.7396 tel | 800.369.9854 toll free

CONTACT:
Graduate Program Director
Construction Management
Western Carolina University
211 Belk
Cullowhee, NC 28723
828.227.2201 tel | 828.227.7138 fax | cm@wcu.edu

“One of the benefits of Western’s online program is the flexibility it gives you to work around your full time job while you’re earning a graduate degree. You can study anywhere there’s an Internet connection. My research combines CM and IT to create building-model databases. It’s been a great experience.”

– Andrew Sapienza
The online degree program requires 30 semester hours of coursework, which may be completed over five semesters. Applications are accepted year-round. Residency is not required for completion of this degree.

**Construction Management Core Courses (18 hrs)**
- **Leadership in Construction Management**
  Theory and practice of leadership in construction management, including in-depth coverage of motivation, conflict resolution, decision making and other construction management leadership topics.
- **Advanced Construction Finance**
  Financial management of construction companies, financial decision making, and project financing.
- **Sustainability in Construction**
  Sustainability and green building concepts and how they are integrated into the construction industry.
- **Advanced Legal Issues in Construction**
  Standard construction contracts traditionally used between contractors, owners, design professionals, and subcontractors, and an introduction to different contractual delivery risk mechanisms.
- **Research in Construction**
  Application of statistical techniques to quality control, decision making and risk analysis.
- **Computer Applications in Construction (BIM)**
  Computer applications in the construction industry, including hardware and software, as well as emerging computing and information technologies.

**Construction Management Elective Courses (12 hrs)**
- **Advanced Materials and Methods**
  Methods and materials used in the construction process, including asphalt, concrete, timber, masonry, fiber reinforced polymeric (FRP) composites, and other materials.
- **Construction Operations and Safety**
  Theory and case studies related to construction analysis and safety operations, including productivity improvement and human factors.
- **Advanced Topics in Construction**
  This course focuses on three current topics, their reasons for development, progress, and impact on the industry.
- **Construction Forensics**
  Investigates construction failures, construction failure investigation techniques, and preventing construction failures.
- **Construction Best Practices**
  Examination of approaches to benchmarking and to current construction industry best practices.
- **Construction Estimating**
  Principles, techniques, technologies, and concepts related to the methodologies and strategies used in the preparation of construction estimates and bid proposals.
- **Construction Scheduling**
  Construction scheduling utilizing the critical path method, program evaluation and review technique, and computer applications.

The online Master of Construction Management (MCM) program is designed to bring the benefits of modern technology and high-quality, graduate-level instruction to professionals in a form that parallels their fast-paced working world. The program provides flexible access to graduate education from any location, any time. Students with related degrees in business or technology are also encouraged to apply for admission to the MCM program.

**Directed Project**
A formal investigation of a particular research problem under the guidance of a faculty member.

**Land Development I & II**
These courses introduce and develop knowledge of land development feasibility and site analysis, conceptual design, planning, environment regulations, sustainable site planning, and construction.

**Fundamentals of Project Management**
An overview of the project management discipline, project phases, and knowledge areas; the strategic context of projects. Introduction to project management tools and techniques.

**Project Selection and Initiation**
Strategic context for selection. Issues involved in project initiation. Selection of appropriate contracts for managing identical risks; principles of negotiations for procurement and contracting.

**Project Planning**
Preparation of a team project plan by defining the WBS, interdependencies, allocating resources, estimating costs; planning risk, quality and integrated change control, and Critical Chain.