Online and distance learning

From the RIBA

RIBA Online CPD

www.riboonlinecpd.com - RIBA online offers a wide range of free, quality on-line seminars and features CPD Providers Network training materials.

NBS TV

NBS TV is a suite of video-based learning services for individuals and organisations working in the architecture, design and construction industry. Each channel subscription is tailored to a specific profession and is available online, in CD-ROM or DVD formats. Individual channels contain a series of high quality programmes focussed on recent projects and events, created by leading industry professionals and experts in the field. Interactive quizzes ensure you test your learning as you go along and get the most from your subscription.

RIBA Project Management Portal

Through its online Project Management portal the RIBA has partnered with Aikona to bring you a wide range of project and programme management learning and development activities, including online, self-study content and classroom based training courses. In addition, RIBA members can access over 20 years of case studies, articles and white papers, from the project management profession's thought leaders.

In every aspect of architecture, from the design concept through to the construction and build, you will use project or programme management skills. The better you are at practising these skills, the more you will instil confidence in your clients and stakeholders, and the project will be delivered more effectively, more efficiently and more professionally, leading to repeat business and wider opportunities for your practice, and for you as an individual.

RIBA Film archives

The RIBA film archives has on offer a selection of short films and videos ranging from a series of talks on climate change to the Sustainability Hub which addresses issues such as ‘Why do Architects need to address sustainability’ and ‘Noise Control’

RIBA Social Networking

You can connect with the RIBA on the following social networks - view videos and photos, share links, join in the debate and count what you learned as informal CPD: The RIBA Knowledge Communities are networks of architects, engineers, surveyors, architectural technologists and other built environment professionals engaging in specialist subjects across the construction industry. They make up cooperative environments with spaces to debate, facilitate and collaborate with the built environment community on topics ranging from highly focused technical issues to pan-industry policy consultations.

RIBA Knowledge Communities http://www.riba-knowledgecommunities.com
RIBA on Facebook  www.architecture.com/facebook
RIBA on LinkedIn  Join the RIBA group
RIBA on Twitter  http://twitter.com/riba

Open Courseware Consortium - MIT

The Open Courseware Consortium delivers a free and open digital publication of high quality university level education materials from dozens of universities around the world. These materials are organized as courses and often include course planning materials and evaluation tools as well as thematic content. There is an extensive collection of courses available from Building Technology I: Materials and Construction and Site and Infrastructure Systems Planning in the department of Architecture and Planning to Structural Engineering Design and Planning for Sustainable Development in the Engineering Department.

RIBA Partners

BRE

BRE offers high quality online training courses keeping you on top of what's happening in the industry. BRE’s online courses are designed to give you a quick and easy understanding of your subject area with access where, when and at a pace you want. Online events and training from BRE are CPD accredited.

BAC (Boston Architectural College)

The Sustainable Design Institute at the Boston Architectural College (RIBA CPD Providers Network members) offers the most comprehensive curriculum in sustainable design available, including over thirty graduate-level, half-semester classes. Classes are online, instructor-led, interactive and asynchronous and can be taken individually or towards one of four graduate certificates in sustainable design. www.the-bac.edu/sustainable

Urban Design London Learning Space

Urban Design London learning space is a free online resource that introduces the theories, tricks and tools you can use to help create well-designed places. It is an invaluable source of information for students and built environment professionals.

Understanding Conservation

The aim of Understanding Conservation is to offer assistance and guidance to practitioners who are presenting their experience to various professional institutes to gain accreditation of building conservation skills. It is not a course nor does it provide an easy route to accreditation; what it does seek to achieve is to influence your way of thinking and provide you with a self-assessment regime that will assist you in compiling an appropriate body of evidence to demonstrate your accrued knowledge across a range of projects.
Homes and Communities Agency

The Skills and Knowledge team at the Homes and Communities Agency Academy have developed courses and resources that help people to work better with other professionals and create sustainable places, and improve the quality of life for local people. Their Skills and Knowledge team helps people in the housing and regeneration industry to maintain and improve their effectiveness by providing specialist advice and support to their partners in places prioritised for investment, promoting courses such as ‘Carbon Management and Climate Change’, and resources that improve knowledge, and supporting local organisations to boost local employment opportunities.  www.hcaacademy.co.uk

UK sources

CPD Study Club

The CPD Study Pack Club distribute booklets that are tailored to fulfill the CPD requirements of all property professionals including chartered surveyors RICS, chartered architects RIBA, chartered builders CIOB, civil engineers ICE, and other recognised chartered institutions. *The Club is now available to overseas students as a direct result of the large number of enquiries received from non-UK based chartered surveyors. www.cpdclub.co.uk

The Open University

The Open University delivers a wide variety of online courses over a broad spectrum, some of which are free of charge. www.open.ac.uk

International Correspondence Schools

The University of Greenwich

The university features a wide selection of MSc distance learning courses ranging from Safety Health and Environment, to Construction, Management and Economics. www.distancelearning.uk.com/

The University of Bath

http://www.bath.ac.uk/ace/icm/ - The MSc International Construction Management (ICM) programme is offered through a high-quality flexible distance learning experience using workfiles and text books complemented by web-based activities and support. Study is undertaken to individually agreed schedules ranging from 15 months to five years. A key element of the programme is learning through reflection on your practice. Emphasis is placed on applying what you learn to the industry and on comparing and contrasting issues with your peers from around the world

The University of Dundee

The MSc in Architecture: Advanced Practice, Management & Law is a distance learning programme combining independent study and a research dissertation. It is designed to be flexible, students can study while they work in a professional office on a part time basis over 18 months. The course is suitable for qualified architects – with
RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) Parts 1 & 2 or equivalent.

http://www.dundee.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/architecture_advanced_practice_management_law_msc.htm

The University of East London

UEL offers an MSc in Advanced Environmental and Energy Studies by distance learning. The programme concentrates on a wide range of current environmental issues that will equip students with skills that are becoming increasingly important. The flexibility of the programme is designed to allow students with work or other personal commitments to study in this area. The programme is run by the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) in Wales which is the foremost centre in Europe for the dissemination of information and demonstrations of good practice in the environmental area. The University of East London (UEL) validate this programme and ensure quality standards are met. There are two possible start dates, in September and in March.

http://www.uel.ac.uk/programmes/cite/postgraduate/environmentaldist.htm - UEL

The Scott Sutherland School of Architecture and Built Environment

If you are an architect or construction/property professional and are looking to advance your skills in the management of design through the latest and emerging ICT technologies then the Design Management MSc offered at The Scott Sutherland School is the course for you. A pioneering course in the field, the MSc Design Management offers student the opportunity to gain vital skills in digital design practice and associated design and project data management.

http://www4.rgu.ac.uk/sss/courses/page.cfm?pge=42654

Oxford Brookes University

With more than 200 modules to choose from, Oxford Brookes University is leading the way in Flexible Distributed Learning (FDL). Already over 2000 people are enjoying off-campus programmes, with easy access to the research and innovation for which Brookes is renowned. The adaptable, student-centred approach makes possible an even wider student mix, adding to the quality and depth of your learning experience.

http://www.brookes.ac.uk/research/odl/

Cardiff University

The distance learning teaching is entirely on line through the Internet, using an electronic learning environment called Blackboard. It includes interactive exercises for students, and project work supervised on line. There is a forum in which students discuss ongoing progress with both staff and their fellow students. Students do not need to travel to Cardiff at any time, although of course they are welcome to visit if they would like to make contact.

The modules are the ones taken in the local course, and their syllabus and learning outcomes are essentially the same. Students earn the same numbers of credits for modules, and the MSc degree awarded on completion has the same standing as the local degree.

http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/archi/distantlearning.php
Universities in the Gulf

British University in Dubai

CPD courses are available in all disciplines offered at BUiD. Modules from BUiD Masters programmes can be taken individually as short CPD courses by those wishing to study a particular aspect of a subject without registering for a full masters programme. CPD courses can also be tailored to meet the needs of specific client groups. Further information is provided on BUiD Institute web pages.

Heriot-Watt Dubai

The Dubai campus of Heriot Watt University offers courses such as Architectural Engineering, and Quantity Surveying. www.hw.ac.uk

Michigan State University Dubai

The university offers MA courses which can be done part time over the course of two years. www.dubai.msu.edu

Virtual University of Tunisia

The Virtual University of Tunisia provides open distance education using multi-media technologies to cover various educational levels: university and college courses, continuing education and life-long education. www.uvt.rnu.tn

Arab Open University

As the title suggests, this is the Arab branch of the Open University. It has links to a lot of the UK Open University Resources along such as the on-line library, and offers courses in Business Management and IT. http://www.arabou.org.sa/

American Universities Online

Harvard University Distance Learning
On offer from Harvard is a broad selection of online courses plus video seminars and plenty of resources for the distant learner. http://www.extension.harvard.edu/distance-education

The San Francisco Institute of Architecture
The San Francisco Institute of Architecture offers the world's most comprehensive distance learning program in Architecture for technical, undergraduate and postgraduate home study. It is possible to start at any time and there are no time limits for completion.

UC Berkely Extension
UC Berkeley Extension offers a comprehensive education from a world-class institution—all from the comfort of a laptop or desktop computer. UC Berkeley reviews and approves the online curricula, and all of the more than 165 courses offer college credit. A large and devoted online department, including student services and technical support, guides you through your online experience. Our experienced and talented instructors combine a love of teaching with expertise in the latest online learning techniques.
Reference

Envirowise

The Envirowise site gives free, independent advice and support on practical ways to increase profits, become more resource efficient, minimise waste and disposal costs and comply with new regulations in the construction industry.

Climate Action Programme

This is an environmental news website launched by SDI and the United Nations Environment Programme which was set up to assist businesses and governments reduce their carbon footprint. www.climateactionprogramme.org

Survival of the Fastest

Google, Telegraph UK and London Business School have joined forces to deliver new though leadership channel for business leaders. This youtube site provides unique bite-sized insights in to some of the UK's leading organisations. www.youtube.com/survivalofthefastest

Keeping up to date with practice and information in the UK

http://www.arb.org.uk/publications/ebulletin/default.php - This is the newsletter of the Architect’s Registration Board

www.blueprintmagazine.co.uk - Blueprint is one of the leading magazines of architecture and design.

www.ribajournal.com/ This is the journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects and is the leading publication serving the architectural profession.

College of Estate Management

Whether you’re just starting out, or you want to further your career, CEM is able to help you make informed choices about your future and keep your skills up to date. This institution offers a wide range and quality of supported distance learning to real estate and construction professionals. They can help you learn from the best without interrupting your career and gain the knowledge you need to further your career. www.cem.ac.uk

LearnDirect

Learn Direct is a valuable resource for people wanting to gain qualifications in business and management or searching for a short course. eCourses are the perfect way to quickly learn new skills. There are more than 300 courses available to buy online, which means you can be up and running in minutes. Simply search or browse through their catalogue to see everything they offer.

Harvard ManageMentor offers training across a range of management disciplines at an intermediate to advanced level. The comprehensive programme will improve the way managers approach their day-to-day responsibilities – from budgeting, performance measurement and recruitment to time management, delegation and crisis handling. http://www.harvardmanagementmentor.org/
The course has been developed using new research, latest ‘best practice’ techniques and input from more than 125 top executives. With over 500 tried and tested tools, worksheets and step-by-step guides, it will enable managers to develop and apply valuable new skills and make an immediate improvement to business performance.

The British Library

The British Library offers support and advice on starting, running or growing your business. Users of this site will be able to find a wealth of resources such as e-courses on intellectual property, business information and free industry guides. [www.bl.uk/bipc/aboutus/index.html](http://www.bl.uk/bipc/aboutus/index.html)

Podcasts

A podcast is a free of charge pre-recorded audio program that's posted to a website and is made available for download so people can listen to them on personal computers or mobile devices.

Podcasting takes its name from the iPod but you don't have to have an iPod to listen. You can listen either as a one off, occasionally, or via a free subscription from listeners, so that when new podcasts are released, they can automatically be delivered, or fed, to your computer or mobile device. Usually, the podcast features an audio show with new episodes that are fed to your computer either sporadically or at planned intervals, such as daily or weekly.

As long as you listen to podcasts only on your computer (the vast majority of podcast subscribers do), you don't need any special software other than the audio player, such as a Windows Media Player or RealPlayer. But if you want to subscribe to a podcast feed, you'll need to install "podcatcher" software on your computer, such as iTunes.

A great number of universities, broadcasters and other organisations offer free podcasts which can be used for your CPD. If you have iTunes, a good starting point is iTunes U: [http://itunes.apple.com](http://itunes.apple.com) and look for iTunes U. A few examples:

MIT World
University of Virginia
Australian Institute of Architects
World Architecture News
The Architectural League of New York
University of Kansas
Architectural Association of Ireland
Harvard
University of Oregon
University of Sydney
University of North Carolina
AIA Architecture Knowledge Review
Yale