Potential Careers

NMU’s Construction Management Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

Occupations

Assistant Project Managers
Construction Supervisors
Electrical Contractors
Estimators
Field Engineers
Heating and Air Conditioning
Plumbing
Project Coordinator
Project Managers
Scheduler
Superintendents

Additional Resources and Info

What To Do With A Major In….

For Career Planning and Opportunities:

Academic & Career Advisement Center
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
103 Jacobetti Complex
906-227-2283
www.nmu.edu/acac

Technology and Occupational Science Department
101 Jacobetti Complex
906-227-2190
www.nmu.edu/tos

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:

Career Services
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:

Center for Student Enrichment
1206 University Center
906-227-2439
www.nmu.edu/cse

Northern Michigan Constructors (NMC)
http://myweb.nmu.edu/~nmc
constructorsclub@gmail.com

Internet Resource Links:

www.careers.org
www.careerresource.net

For Career Information with National Organizations:

www.aicnet.org American Institute of Constructors
www.apc.org Associated General Contractors of America
www.cmaanet.org Construction Management Association of America

Current as of Fall 2015
Provided by:

The Academic & Career Advisement Center
Construction Management

Do you like building things? Do you enjoy working with your hands? Why not combine these preferences and do what you like for a living? The Construction Management major may be the key.

Construction Managers coordinate all phases of building construction including estimating, scheduling, writing contracts, purchasing materials, and working with subcontractors and material suppliers to ensure the job gets done on time and within budget. Graduates may begin as project managers, field engineers, estimators, assistant project managers, superintendents, or one of many other employment positions.

Students attracted to construction management enjoy seeing a project through from beginning to end. They enjoy being involved in all aspects of construction including: maintaining a safe and healthy work environment, setting up accounts for labor and material costs, and determining what is the most cost effective plan and schedule.

Skills and Competencies

Experience is highly encouraged and may be gained through summer work, cooperative education, and internship programs through NMU. New graduates with Bachelor of Science degrees begin employment with construction firms at entry level as assistant estimators, assistant schedulers, and assistant project managers. A construction manager must be decisive and adaptable with excellent organizational skills, have the ability to analyze and solve problems, visualize completed projects, coordinate many details, and work on more than one aspect of construction at the same time. They must have good leadership skills, and the ability to communicate effectively with a variety of professionals, from the skilled trade workers to the chief executives. They must also be able to work under pressure, especially when faced with unexpected delays.

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with liberal studies and graduation requirements.

Core
- CN 107 Construction Documents (3 cr.)
- CN 110 Construction Processes (2 cr.)
- CN 153 Introduction to Construction Design (3 cr.)
- CN 156 Construction Systems and Methods (3 cr.)
- CN 158 Concrete (3 cr.)
- CN 251 Construction Field Operations (2 cr.)
- CN 252 Codes and Inspection (3 cr.)
- CN 254 Construction Surveying and Layout (3 cr.)
- CN 278 Mechanical Systems (4 cr.)
- CN 283 Construction Estimating (3 cr.)
- CN 353 Soils and Foundations (3 cr.)
- CN 357 Legal Aspects of Construction (3 cr.)
- CN 358 Bidding Strategies (3 cr.)
- CN 369 Construction Economics and Standard Practices (3 cr.)
- CN 372 Advanced Design and Conventions (3 cr.)
- CN 445 Property Development (3 cr.)
- CN 450 Project Control (3 cr.)
- CN 455 Construction Safety (3 cr.)
- CN 459 Construction Management (3 cr.)

Other Required Courses
- ACT 230 Principles of Accounting I (4 cr.)
- MA 106 Trigonometry (3 cr.)
- MET 211 Mechanics and Statics (4 cr.)
- MKT 230 Introduction to Marketing (4 cr.)
- PH 201 College Physics (5 cr.)
- SP 100 Public Address (4 cr.)

Detailed course descriptions can be found at www.nmu.edu/bulletin.

Career Development

You should begin the résumé-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your résumé and look for job openings. Becoming involved in an industry-related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. You are encouraged to join the Northern Michigan Constructors, a student organization that provides many service learning and leadership opportunities. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Considerations

Going into your own business requires working capital plus knowledge of legal and contractual issues, building codes, construction standards, safety requirements, functional design, and building a reputation for hard work.

Some construction career specialties may require more education and education. Constructor’s licenses are required in many states and municipalities. Check the regulations where you plan to work. You should stay informed of improved construction materials and technologies as well as changes in both state and federal regulations regarding safety, environment, and employment.

Career Outlook

Median annual pay for Construction Managers is over $83,000. Salaries are contingent upon geographic location and individual work experience. The industry average wage ranges from $30,000 to $55,000. There is a projected 17% growth rate for the Construction Management positions, which is faster than average growth. Career placement has been consistently well over 95% for graduates.