We are pleased to announce a reciprocal 4+1 Degree option, to better prepare the graduates of both the Bachelor of Arts in Conservation and the Bachelor of Science in Surveying for the growing demand for knowledge in multiple disciplines and interdisciplinary solutions to complex problems in the built environment. BA(Conservation) graduates (with an upper second-class honours classification, or above) have the option to be admitted to the Master of Science in Real Estate or Master of Science in Construction Project Management, unconditionally, within 2-years of graduation. Likewise, the BSc(Surveying) graduates have the option to be admitted to the Master of Science in Conservation under the same conditions. These 4+1 options are applicable to this year’s graduates as well.

Architectural conservation is now recognised worldwide as an important component of sustainable development and a key part of the building life cycle. Professionals of the built environment, such as conservationists and surveyors, are facing more and more complex problems that cannot be resolved effectively and efficiently without an interdisciplinary approach. To remain competitive in the marketplace, professionals need to acquire knowledge outside of their traditionally defined discipline.

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The BA(Conservation) is accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), while the BSc(Surveying) is accredited by RICS, the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS), the Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors (PAQS) and the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB). At the graduate level, the MSc(Conservation) is supported by the Hong Kong Institute of Architectural Conservationists (HKICON), while the MSc(Real Estate) and MSc(CPM) are accredited by CIOB, HKIS and RICS, with the MSc(CPM) accredited by PAQS as well. These accreditations provide numerous networking and professional development opportunities to our graduates.

The BSc(Surveying) Degree offered by the Department of Real Estate and Construction (DREC) was first launched in 1988 as the world’s first common surveying programme recognised by multiple surveying professions. The BA(Conservation) Degree is a newer programme, launched in 2012, by the Division of Architectural Conservation Programmes of the DREC, in response to the growing need for individuals with an in-depth understanding of the field of conservation. Students of these two programmes share a number of common courses throughout their undergraduate degrees. The structure of these academic units and their degree contents reflect that architectural conservation and real estate development truly complement each other. It is on account of this that there is a need citywide, and beyond, for more individuals trained in these complementary fields.