



SOCIETY OF  
**CHARTERED  
SURVEYORS**  
IRELAND

# A Career in Surveying



**RICS**

the mark of  
property  
professionalism  
worldwide

## What is Chartered Surveying?

The Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland (SCSI) is the leading professional body for property, construction and land professionals in Ireland. With over 4,000 members, the Society is closely linked to RICS, the global professional body.

The designation of Chartered Surveyor – awarded by the Society and RICS - is recognised around the world as a mark of excellence and professionalism in property, construction and land by employers and their clients including banks, accountants, regulators, government and the business community.

The Chartered Surveying profession is recognised across the globe and membership of the professional body opens doors to a network of over 150,000 surveyors around the world.

## How to become a Chartered Surveyor

The Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland accredits undergraduate degrees in property, construction and land in Institutes of Technology around Ireland.

Graduates of these courses are entitled to enrol as Trainee Members with the Society, whilst gaining on-the-job training in order to become a Chartered Surveyor.

By becoming a Chartered Surveyor, you gain a recognised professional qualification in addition to your academic qualification, and an elite professional standing recognised by employers within the industry.



## Now is the time to consider a career in Surveying!

Surveying is not a single career, but a collective name for a group of careers within property, construction and land.

Surveying careers are surprisingly varied and include quantity surveying, estate agency, valuation and investment, project management, property and facilities management, land surveying and mapping, planning and development and mining.

According to a recent report by the SCSl, due to the contraction in the property and construction sector in recent years, there is currently a growing shortage of suitably qualified surveying graduates.

There has been a significant increase in the availability of job opportunities for graduate surveyors in areas such as sustainable development, banking, valuation and estate agency. There has also been an increased requirement for asset management and facilities management professionals from financial institutions and large multinational corporations such as Google, Facebook, BSkyB, Paddy Power and PayPal.

Second level students entering third-level property, construction and land courses now are ideally placed to enter a profession during a period of recovery and expansion with bright job prospects expected in the coming years.

In addition, having been trained in a variety of technical and transferable skills, including economics, business, real estate, sustainability and construction studies, graduate surveyors will be well-positioned to bring their skills to work at the heart of a changing market, both at home and abroad.



## A Career as a Property Surveyor

Do you have strong business acumen? Are you a creative problem-solver? Do you like dealing with people? Are you looking for a varied career that puts you at the heart of organisations globally?

Property Surveyors are highly trained professionals who specialise in one of the following areas:

- Estate Agency
- Asset Management
- Commercial Property (retail, office, industrial, hotels and leisure)
- Valuation and Investment
- Property and Facilities Management
- Planning and Development
- Arts and Antiques
- Forestry and Rural Land

“My knowledge and experience of the surveying profession allowed me to work in one of the largest tech firms in the world right on my doorstep.” - **Davina Gray, Real Estate and Work Place Service Analyst, Google.**

## Where do they work?

As a Property Surveyor, you might find yourself giving advice to Google on where best to locate their new offices or helping Forever 21 or Abercrombie & Fitch identify the best retail pitch in a city centre.

In terms of residential property, a surveyor's role can vary from assisting a young couple buying their first home to providing professional valuation advice to a financial institution to sourcing suitable accommodation for an international film director looking for a short-term letting.

As a surveyor in the public sector, you could be at the heart of government decisions regarding state-owned properties and portfolios, including offices and forestry.



## What sort of subjects should you be interested in to pursue a career in this area?

An interest in business is a distinct advantage. But property is a wide ranging career, and courses include subjects such as law, economics, information technology and management.

It's worth noting that property surveying tends to be a very sociable and team-based career – ideal for those who enjoy interacting with and meeting lots of new people.

### Property Surveying Courses

#### Dublin Institute of Technology

BSc (Hons) Property Economics – **DT110**

BSc (Hons) Spatial Planning – **DT106**

#### Limerick Institute of Technology

BSc (Hons) Property Valuation  
and Management \* - **LC242**

\* Includes a third year industrial placement programme



## A Career in Construction Surveying

All construction projects – including infrastructure, housing estates, office developments, airport terminals and national sports stadiums – require significant financial investment and expertise to plan, project manage and maintain through their lifecycle, and surveyors are central to the construction process.

Surveyors specialise in one of the following areas of construction:

- Quantity Surveying
- Building Surveying
- Project Management

Quantity Surveyors provide value for money through the efficient cost management of the construction process – their objective is to plan and control cost, limit risk and add value to the project ensuring that the design and construction of a project delivers value to the client on time and on budget.

Building Surveyors provide design expertise and also undertake structural surveys on commercial, industrial and residential buildings.

Surveyors also often act as project managers – appointed at the beginning of a project, they assist the client in developing the project brief and then selecting, appointing and co-ordinating the project team which will also usually include engineers and architects.

“*The surveying course gave me skills which are highly sought-after in most economies around the world. It opened doors for me to work globally, in countries such as Saudi Arabia, France, USA, Singapore, China, Poland, Australia and of course at home in Ireland too*” - **John Butler, Regional Director, Asia Pacific, Bruce Shaw.** ”



## What sort of subjects should you be interested in to pursue a career in this area?

Surveying courses in construction cover a wide range of technical skills in the area of science, technology and professional capability. Therefore, you should be interested in subjects such as science, maths, construction technology, law, business and information technology. The courses also place great emphasis on professional skills, including communication, leadership and dispute resolution.

### Construction Surveying Courses

**Dublin Institute of Technology** BSc (Hons) Construction Economics – **DT111**  
(Quantity Surveying)

**Limerick Institute of Technology** BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying \* - **LC243**

**Dundalk Institute of Technology** BSc (Hons) Building Surveying – **DK830**

**Cork Institute of Technology** BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying – **CR570**

**Waterford Institute of Technology** BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying \* - **WD162**

**Sligo Institute of Technology** BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying – **SG343**

**Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology** BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying – **GA482**

**Letterkenny Institute of Technology** BSc (Ord) Quantity Surveying – **LY507**

\* Includes a third year industrial placement programme



## A Career in Land Surveying

Have you ever wondered who creates the maps that we use on our smart phones and SatNavs?

Land Surveyors – also known as Geomatic Surveyors – are the professionals responsible for collecting, processing, managing and analysing geographic information. By creating “intelligent maps”, the surveyor adds information which could, for example, allow you find where you can get the best pizza in town!

Land Surveyors use cutting-edge technologies including Geographical Information Systems (GIS), satellite imagery, Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and laser scanning, together with state-of-the-art information technologies in their quest to capture accurate information and convert it into useful, intelligent maps and 3-D models.

The profession is experiencing significant growth as consumers and businesses increasingly use location based services and big data initiatives.

## Where do they work?

As extremely versatile professionals, Land Surveyors work in every corner of the world, from the ice caps of Antarctica to the mines of Africa and deep water harbours of Australia – as well, of course, as here in Ireland.

Land Surveying careers entail great diversity, involving indoor and outdoor work locations as well as individual and team-based activities.

Career prospects are good and progression opportunities are excellent – both at home and across the globe.

**“** *“Land Surveyors have a significant role to play in the economic development of the state as location information plays an increasingly important role in the planning of infrastructure and managing of assets”* - **Colin Bray, Chief Executive, Ordnance Survey Ireland.** **”**



## What sort of subjects should you be interested in to pursue a career in this area?

This is a profession ideally suited to students who enjoy working with numbers. You should have good spatial awareness and an interest in geography and information technology. Creativity is also important as mapping and 3-D modelling require good design skills.

### Land Surveying Courses

**Dublin Institute of Technology**

BSc (Hons) Geomatics – **DT112**



## Take a Closer Look

Not sure yet if surveying is right for you? Why not take part in one of our free programmes to get a better idea of what surveying is all about?

### A Day in the Life

We can arrange for a surveyor to come to your school to give you the facts about surveying courses and careers, and what a surveyor does on a day-to-day basis.

### A Career for a Week

Let us secure you a work placement in a leading surveying firm during your transition year. You'll get hands-on experience of this fast-moving and varied industry.

### Get a Taste of College Life

We'll get you to college before the rest of your friends. Spend time in a busy urban campus experiencing life as a surveying student, sampling the variety of courses and technology on offer.



To learn more about Surveying Courses and Careers and what the Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland can do for you and your school, visit our dedicated website page at:

**[www.scsi.ie/acareerinsurveying](http://www.scsi.ie/acareerinsurveying)**

or contact us directly at: **[education@scsi.ie](mailto:education@scsi.ie)**



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Dating back to 1895, the Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland is the independent professional body for Chartered Surveyors working and practicing in Ireland.

Working in partnership with RICS, the pre-eminent Chartered professional body for the construction, land and property sectors around the world, the Society and RICS act in the public interest: setting and maintaining the highest standards of competence and integrity among the profession; and providing impartial, authoritative advice on key issues for business, society and governments worldwide.

Advancing standards in construction, land and property, the Chartered Surveyor professional qualification is the world's leading qualification when it comes to professional standards. In a world where more and more people, governments, banks and commercial organisations demand greater certainty of professional standards and ethics, attaining the Chartered Surveyor qualification is the recognised mark of property professionalism.

Members of the profession are typically employed in the construction, land and property markets through private practice, in central and local government, in state agencies, in academic institutions, in business organisations and in non-governmental organisations.

Members' services are diverse and can include offering strategic advice on the economics, valuation, law, technology, finance and management in all aspects of the construction, land and property industry.

All aspects of the profession, from education through to qualification and the continuing maintenance of the highest professional standards are regulated and overseen through the partnership of the Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland and RICS, in the public interest.

This valuable partnership with RICS enables access to a worldwide network of research, experience and advice.

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Society of Chartered  
Surveyors Ireland  
38 Merrion Square,  
Dublin 2, Ireland  
Tel: + 353 (0)1 644 5500  
Email: [info@scsi.ie](mailto:info@scsi.ie)  
**[www.scsi.ie](http://www.scsi.ie)**



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