Industry culture and methodologies evolve in response to a wide range of factors. Significant forces influencing design and construction today include waste and lack of productivity; technological evolution; and owner demand for value. *We stand in the early stages of an accelerating, pervasive and positive transformation.* Kenig (2010) (p.1)

Understanding and applying scheduling and cost control to construction projects is essential to successful construction management. The control of information is critical to all project participants. All construction projects should have an independent, unbiased, professional Cost Manager or Quantity Surveyor onboard through the duration of the contract to police and overview the procedures in order to protect the financial interests of the Owner.

The Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) says the professional construction management services concept has grown out of a universal recognition throughout the design and construction community that quality-focused, cost-effective, dispute- and injury-free project delivery does not occur without a deliberate commitment and effort to manage the project delivery process. The cost and complexity of today's capital projects, the importance of time, and the need to deal with unanticipated events and unforeseen conditions all argue the need for an integrated and managed approach to planning, design, and construction of the built environment.

Master's degree programs are also available in construction science and construction management. This advanced degree, with related experience, often leads to positions in very large construction or construction management companies. Those who have a bachelor's degree in another type of subject tend to seek a master's degree in construction science or construction management as a way into the construction industry. On the other hand, some construction managers choose to later get a master's degree in finance or business administration to improve their career prospects.

Cost is among the major considerations throughout the project management lifecycle and can be regarded as one of the most important parameters of a project and the driving force of project success.