

- BA History
- BA History with Welsh History
- BA Integrated Degree (Archaeology & Medieval History, Ancient History & Medieval History)
- BA Joint Schemes (with Archaeology, Religious Studies, Languages etc.)
- BscEcon Modern History and Politics

School of History, Archaeology and Religion, Cardiff University

## Undergraduate History Degrees



# Cardiff University and Cardiff School of History, Archaeology and Religion

Cardiff University is one of the UK's major teaching and research universities and a member of the elite 'Russell Group'.

Located in the centre of the capital city of Wales, it has an international reputation for teaching and research, and attracts staff and students from around the world.

History forms one of four Departments of the School of History, Archaeology and Religion, alongside its sister Departments: Ancient History, Archaeology & Conservation and Religious Studies & Theology. The School is one of five that constitute the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science. You may take Joint degrees or individual courses from many of the disciplines within the School and Faculty.

Housed in the purpose-built Humanities Building in the heart of the city and the university quarter, the History Department is close to the Students Union, the Arts and Social Studies Library and the National Museum. The Department has modern purpose-built lecture theatres with multi-media equipment and its own undergraduate computer room serviced by a technician. The Humanities Building has a cafeteria in which students may relax between classes with colleagues from their courses and from other disciplines.

The History Department offers courses from the Medieval to Modern era, and from Asia to Europe, Britain and Wales. Topics include social, medical, military, political, gender and economic and cultural histories, among many others.

## What the papers say about us

*'Cardiff is long established as the front-runner in Welsh higher education and a leading player in the UK and beyond. It is a member of the Russell Group of 20 research-led universities and has two Nobel Laureates on its staff. Teaching quality is also highly rated ...the Quality Assurance Agency complimented the university on its 'powerful academic vision and well-developed and effectively articulated mission to achieve excellence in teaching and research'. Cardiff has done well in every edition of the National Student Survey, finishing just outside the top 30 in 2009.'*

Times Good University Guide, June 2011

*'Cardiff seems to have it all: grand civic architecture in a breezy waterside location, super-smart city bars and venues just a short hop from lovely countryside. The university is as confident and forward-looking as the city it's located in, and has an excellent reputation for the quality of its teaching and research. Almost 60% of its research is ranked as world-leading and it is a member of the Russell group of leading research universities. There are approximately 27,000 students, including more than 3,000 from over 100 countries outside the UK, helping to create a vibrant, cosmopolitan community.'*

The Guardian 8 June 2010

## Contacts

Information on Cardiff and the university for prospective students can be found at [www.cardiff.ac.uk/for/prospective/index.html](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/for/prospective/index.html)

For more information on our degrees contact the appropriate Admissions Tutor.

Single Honours History

Email: [historyugadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:historyugadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk)  
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4313

Joint Honours History

Email: [jointhistoryugadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:jointhistoryugadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk)  
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4313



# Which Degree is for Me?

## BA History

BA History provides students with an insight into the process of change from the medieval to the modern periods (and if you wish, you may extend your knowledge further back by taking modules in Ancient History).

The course is designed to teach you each of the stages involved in producing your own knowledge of the past.

In Year One, courses are broad and cover long periods.

In Year Two, you take options that develop in more depth the knowledge gained in Year One, and you begin to specialise. You also take two compulsory courses in Year Two: *Approaches to History* examines the methods that historians have brought to bear on the study of the past; *Exploring Historical Debate* teaches you to evaluate the state of knowledge in a particular field so that you can make a contribution of your own.

In Year Three you take three specialised Advanced Options, in which you examine the broad themes of the earlier years through specialised study. An original dissertation is attached to one of the Advanced Options.

## BA History with Welsh History

This scheme is for those who wish to combine a love of History with a particular interest in the history of Wales. Year One includes *Medieval Europe*, *Early Modern England and Wales*, *The Making of the Modern World* and *Modern Welsh History*. Half of your Year Two and Three courses will be in Welsh History. In other respects, this scheme follows the structure of BA History.

## BA Ancient History & Medieval History (Integrated)

This scheme provides students with the opportunity to study the Mediterranean and European worlds from the Minoan to medieval period, comparing two historical fields, and drawing on modules taught by historians actively researching a wide variety of aspects of this period from relations between East and West, gender and sexuality to the later Roman Empire.

## BscEcon Modern History and Politics (Integrated)

This popular scheme offers complementary courses in the related disciplines of History and Political Science. In Year One you will take *The Making of the Modern World* and another History course, along with Politics courses. In each of Years Two and Three, you take two courses in Modern History, and may also choose to do *Approaches to History*, *Exploring Historical Debate* and/or the Dissertation.

The Scheme is run jointly with the School of European Studies. View the modules offered by visiting [www.cardiff.uk/SHARE/currentstudents.html](http://www.cardiff.uk/SHARE/currentstudents.html)

## BA Joint Schemes with History

The flexible structure of the Cardiff degree schemes means you can study History in combination with a range of other subjects in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science. Many combinations are available, and each brings something special to the study of History (and vice versa):

English helps you to read sources;

Economics complements the courses in economic and social history taught in the Department;

Philosophy gives you an insight into historical methods;

Non-English languages are an enormous help in the study of the past;

Archaeology and Ancient History allow you to extend chronologically your understanding of human history;

Religious Studies helps you to understand an aspect of experience that is essential in all periods.

## Typical offers

Single honours History: AAB

Joint honours History: ABB

Please note that these offers are for guidance only, and that the Department does not normally make points-equivalent offers.

(Please note Joint honours typical offers vary by subject, for example: *History & English Literature and History & Economics*: typical offer is AAB).

## Applicants with non-traditional qualifications

The Department welcomes enthusiastically applications from students with non-traditional qualifications. We will normally expect you to have engaged in preparative study in the year preceding entry into Cardiff History courses. There are no hard and fast rules concerning which kind of study will be appropriate for you, but as a general rule, Access to Higher Education courses are best suited for those students who did not take A Levels, or who have been out of education for a

long period, during which time they have acquired life experience. A Level study may be more appropriate for applicants who have recently taken A Levels, but who do not have our standard entrance requirements. The University's Continuing Education Department offers courses that may also be appropriate as preparation for entry into History courses, and which may provide you with advanced standing. Prospective applicants are advised to contact the appropriate Admissions Tutor at as early a stage as possible. Applicants with non-traditional qualifications will normally be interviewed.

# Teaching and Learning

## Research-Led Teaching

As in all Russell Group Universities, there is a close link between teaching and research. Your courses will teach you how to *do* research – to evaluate a body of knowledge and present a conclusion supported by evidence. These are precisely the sorts of skills that employers have traditionally valued History graduates for. ‘Research-led teaching’ also means that you will be taught by internationally recognised experts, who have published extensively. Thus, as a student, you will be directly involved in the re-evaluation of old ideas and the creation of new knowledge.

The culmination of your degree will be an original dissertation (optional for joint-degree students).

## Teaching Methods

Most History courses are taught through one or two lectures weekly. These are further supplemented by fortnightly seminars in smaller groups typically of ten to twelve in Year One and in Year Two core courses. In Year Three, the emphasis shifts further towards seminar work, with individual supervision for dissertations.

You will normally attend around twelve hours of classes each week in Year One, and eight in Years Two and Three. That may not sound a lot, but a major difference between School and University is that you are expected to prepare for classes through independent, guided reading and writing, and to contribute to informed discussion. In total, you would be expected to work 35-40 hours per week.

## Teaching Quality

Our courses are the product of a rigorous design programme and of continuous re-evaluation. Academics staff, students and outside experts work together to ensure that degree schemes meet quality benchmarks in their disciplines. Student representatives play a full part in the Departmental Board of Studies and its Working Groups.

## Student Support

Each student is assigned a Personal tutor with whom to discuss and reflect upon academic progress. Every member of staff has weekly contact hours in which you may seek further support. The University and Students Union also offer a range of advice and counselling services.

## Visits and Exchange Programmes

Some of our courses include field trips to local sites of interest such as the Big Pit Museum, and the Rhondda Heritage Park. Year Three French and German options normally include opportunities to visit Paris and Berlin.

BA History students may also participate in the School’s exchange programme with West Virginia University in the USA (Year Two). The ERASMUS programme also enables students to study in another university within Europe.

## Welsh Language Teaching

The History Department is committed to the development of opportunities to learn through the medium of Welsh. Depending on staff availability, Welsh language teaching is available for some modules, and students have the opportunity to submit work in Welsh in any of our courses.

## Bursaries and grants

For the latest information on scholarships and bursaries follow the links from our web page:  
[www.cardiff.ac.uk/SHARE/archaeology/study.html](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/SHARE/archaeology/study.html)

## Your Career

History Graduates find work in a wide range of related and non-related professional employment, including teaching, journalism, the law, television research, the army and personnel management. Some graduates choose to undertake postgraduate study at Cardiff or elsewhere, and some have become internationally reputed historians.



# Frequently Asked Questions

Views from current and past students

In choosing to study History at Cardiff you may have a range of questions which can be answered by the information on our web pages.

To supplement this we offer the views of existing and past students by asking them to answer some of the most frequently asked questions.

## How big a change is university from school?

*Joanne from Cheltenham writes...*

"The change from School to Uni wasn't as big or scary as I first imagined. In the first year your tutors try to make you feel welcome and are very friendly, and in the second year you feel very settled. Making friends is easy as you are all in the same boat. There's a lot more freedom compared to school... There is plenty of work, but all tutors are happy to help in my experience."

## Why should I study history at Cardiff?

*James, a BA History graduate writes...*

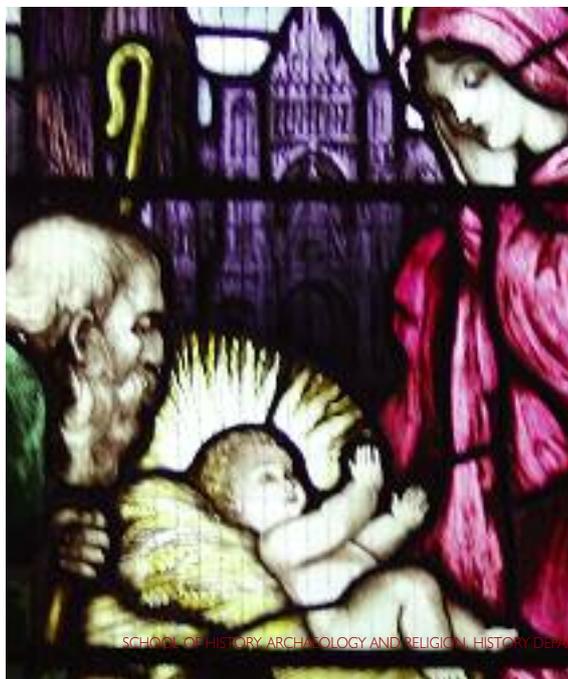
"I recommend History at Cardiff because the school has excellent academic staff offering a wide range of courses and expertise, thereby offering a wide range of specialist study areas. I also recommend History at Cardiff, since in my experience graduates of History at Cardiff are very well respected."

## Will it help me find a career?

*James, now Head of Commercial Litigation for a major legal firm, writes...*

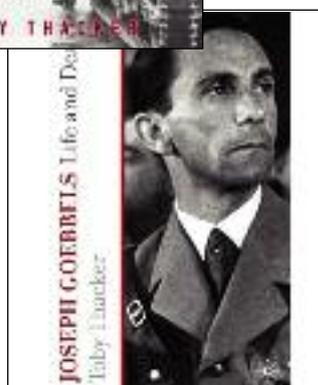
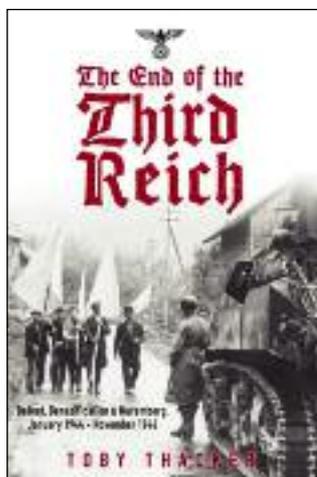
"After graduating, I worked as a research assistant at a global company for one year, and then attended The College of Law, to undertake a post graduate diploma providing me with the equivalent qualification of a law degree. I then attended Cardiff University Law school to complete the Legal Practice Course. Upon graduating from the legal practice course, I trained to be with a solicitor with a major Cardiff law firm.

I have gained the same rights of audience as a Barrister, and I specialise in commercial and general civil litigation, and currently work for a large Cardiff law firm, heading up their commercial and general litigation department. My history degree taught me the research and analytical skills and ability to evaluate a body of information that are so essential in the legal profession."



## About the Staff

The History Department of the School has 18 permanent members of staff. Staff have complementary and diverse research interests, broadly under the headings: Asian History, Early Modern Britain, Gender History, Medieval History, Modern British History (with particular strengths in Economic, Medical and Social aspects), Modern European History (with notable specialisms in France, Germany and Social and Political fields) and Welsh History.



### **William Aird**

Britain and Europe in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, including the Normans and history of the Anglo-Scottish frontier.

### **Padma Anagol**

Indian and Asian History in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, especially gender history and feminism.

### **Lloyd Bowen**

Early Modern Welsh and British history, especially the Civil War and gentry politics.

### **Peter Coss**

English social and Italian history in the late medieval period, particularly the history of the gentry.

### **Peter Edbury**

The history of the Crusades, the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem and the Cyprus under the Lusignan kings.

### **Federica Ferlanti**

Chinese History in the twentieth century, including the history of nationalism.

### **Bill Jones**

The history of emigration and immigration; the Welsh outside Wales in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

### **Dirk Krausmuller**

Byzantine theological and cosmological speculation; hagiography; monasticism.

### **Tracey Loughran**

The History of psychology, psychiatry and medicine; history of women, gender and feminism.

### **Gethin Matthews**

Modern Welsh history, particularly the Welsh overseas and their interaction with 'home' communities.

### **Scott Newton**

Twentieth century British economic history and policy, socio-economic change and international relations.

### **Helen Nicholson**

The military religious orders; crusades; medieval warfare; women's involvement in religious orders and warfare.

### **Jonathan Osmond**

Social and art history of the German Democratic Republic and German rural society.

### **Kevin Passmore**

Modern European and French history, fascism, historiography.

### **Gerwin Strobl**

Modern Germany and Austria, with special interest in cultural and political history.

### **Toby Thacker**

Germany in the Twentieth century, especially music and politics and the life of Joseph Goebbels.

### **Keir Waddington**

The social history of medicine in Britain and Europe; Victorian culture and society.

### **Garthine Walker**

Early modern social, cultural and gender history in England and Wales, especially witchcraft and crime.

### **Stephanie Ward**

Economic and social history of modern Wales and Britain, especially unemployment and social policy in the 1930s.

### **Martin Wright**

British and Welsh History, especially the history of Welsh socialism.

### **Dave Wyatt**

Slavery, gender and conceptions of power in the warrior-centred societies of medieval Britain c. 800-1200.

**Associate Tutors** offer a number of further options across the periods and geographical areas covered by the Department.

# Modules



## Modules available in Year One

Medieval Europe  
Early Modern England and Wales  
The Making of the Modern World  
Modern Welsh History

## Modules typically available in Year Two

### Core Modules

Approaches to History  
Exploring Historical Debate:  
An Independent Study

### Medieval History

Heresy and Dissent  
After Rome  
The Normans in Britain, c.1050-1200  
Blood & Honour: The Viking Age  
in the West

### Modern History

History & ICT: A Guided Study  
Migrant Wales, 1790-1939  
France 1870-1945  
The British Civil Wars and Revolution,  
c.1638-49.  
Early Modern History  
Managing the Mind: Psychiatry,  
Psychology and British Culture,  
1800-2000  
A Great Leap Forward: China  
Transformed, 1840-present  
Llafur, Sosialaeth a Chymru, 1918-1975  
From King Coal to Cool Cymru:  
Wales, 1939-2000  
India & the Raj, 1857-1947  
British Expansion Overseas, 1870-1945  
Radicalism, Anti-Capitalism and Chartism  
Into the Vortex: Britain & the First  
World War  
Modern British/European History

### Welsh History

The Normans in Britain, c.1050-1200  
Blood & Honour: The Viking Age  
in the West  
Migrant Wales, 1790-1939  
Llafur, Sosialaeth a Chymru, 1918-1975  
From King Coal to Cool Cymru:  
Wales, 1939-2000

## Modules typically available in Year Three

### Core Module

Dissertation

### Medieval History

The Military Orders, 1100-1320  
Medieval Monasticism  
William the Conqueror 1035-1087  
The Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem

### Modern History

Britain & the Integration of Europe,  
1945-1975  
Conflict, Coercion and Mass Mobilisation:  
China, 1911-1945  
Fascism & Antifascism in France  
Early Modern History  
Race, Sex & Empire: India 1757-1929  
Socialism, Society and Politics, 1880-1918  
Sosialaeth, Cymdeithas a Gwleidyddiaeth  
ym Mhrydain, 1880-1918  
Culture, Society & Identity in Wales  
1847-1914  
Class, Protest and Politics:  
Wales, 1919-39  
Identity and the British State:  
Wales, 1485-1660  
British Social History 1915-1951  
Britain and Empire: Subjects, Citizens  
& Patriots 1688-1880  
Modern British/European History  
War, Liberation and Reconstruction:  
Europe, 1939-51  
Joseph Goebbels and National Socialism  
Women, Health and Medicine, 1870-1980  
The Dangerous City? Urban Society  
& Culture 1800-1914

### Welsh History

Culture, Society & Identity in Wales  
1847-1914  
Class, Protest and Politics:  
Wales, 1919-39  
Identity and the British State:  
Wales, 1485-1660

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