Cardiff University School of Modern Languages

Culturally DIVERSE

ACADEMIC excellence

HIGH EMPLOYABILITY

Transferable SKILLS

www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages
Want to know what life at Cardiff is really like? Our insiders are real students studying a range of subjects. You can read their blogs, post comments and message them on Facebook and Twitter.

To find out more go to: [www.cardiff.ac.uk/insiders](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/insiders)

95% of our graduates were in employment and/or further study six months after graduating.
Discover the Cardiff Experience

A leading university . . .

➤ You’ll be part of a Russell Group university - one of the UK’s world-class universities.
➤ You can choose from more than 350 degree programmes. The Cardiff University degree is known and respected worldwide with a substantial number accredited by the professions and other external bodies.
➤ You’ll benefit from outstanding teaching in a research-led environment - Cardiff is ranked in the UK’s top 5 universities for research quality.
➤ Staff include a Nobel Laureate and numerous Fellows of the Royal Society and other prestigious institutions.

in an outstanding city . . .

➤ You’ll live in a friendly, compact and safe city with all your study, living and leisure needs within walking distance.
➤ Your money will go further at Cardiff with capital city attractions at provincial prices - including one of the lowest average costs of living for university cities.¹

with able and motivated students . . .

➤ You’ll be at a first choice university where demand for places is strong.
➤ You’ll be studying in an environment with able and motivated students who have high grades at A-level or equivalent.
➤ You’ll be at an international university with students from more than 100 countries.
➤ You can be confident of your future prospects - typically, 95% of our students were employed or had entered further study within six months of completing their studies.²
➤ You’ll be in demand - Cardiff is among the top 25 universities targeted by employers seeking high calibre graduates.³

who have excellent career prospects.

Notes
1. Moneysupermarket.com
2. Complete University Guide 2015
3. High Fliers Research
4. The Graduate Market 2016

www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages
Welcome

The School is committed to excellence in teaching and to nurturing and developing our students throughout their learning journey. All staff support and promote this by providing high quality research-linked teaching. We have excellent facilities for study, an exciting range of extra-curricular activities and a wide range of opportunities for study abroad.

There is no better time to be studying for a degree in modern languages than now: in a world of global communications, it is graduates with specialised language qualifications who have the intercultural skills, knowledge and understanding vital for today’s global citizenship. At Cardiff School of Modern Languages, we provide a supportive, welcoming and highly international environment. We enable students to develop the skills and understanding that will help them progress in their chosen careers, and contribute effectively to society and culture in the UK and worldwide.

The School of Modern Languages offers undergraduate degree programmes in seven major world languages: Chinese, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish (with Catalan as an option) and Japanese. The School also offers three and four-year Translation Studies BA degrees. These popular, vocationally-orientated BA degrees also provide an excellent grounding for students continuing on to our very successful MA in Translation Studies and a future career in translation.

Modern Languages at Cardiff will develop you as a linguist across 4 years of BA study so that you will graduate with near-native competency in your language(s) of choice. We place particularly strong emphasis on employability and the value of developing language(s) skills for professional life.

Combined with specialised language study, at Cardiff you will also follow courses that develop your understanding of national societies and cultures and the place of these in the world. As you progress in your studies, you will have the choice to follow a number of specialist modules which will deepen your knowledge of national and transnational topics in society and culture.

Our teaching is informed by our staff’s high-quality research. Our excellence in research was recognised in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework exercise (REF) where we were rated top 10 in the UK for the quality of our research and first in the UK for the positive impact of our research beyond the University. Our lecturers bring this research expertise to the classroom and to the development of our modern languages programmes. These include Joint Honours degrees with a range of subjects across the Humanities and Social Sciences; the prestigious dual degree with the Institut des études politiques in Bordeaux where our students spend time studying in both Cardiff and Bordeaux and become graduates of both institutions; and our innovative degrees in Chinese Studies in collaboration with Beijing Normal University, where students have the exciting opportunity of an extended period of study in China.

The experiences our students gain on their year abroad (which they may spend as students in a partner university, as language teachers with the British Council, or on a range of work placements) are a central feature of our modern language degrees. The year abroad provides a transformational experience that equips students very effectively for a global future, and we work hard to prepare and support our students for their time abroad, enabling them to enjoy it to the full.

In choosing to study languages and translation studies at Cardiff University, you will become part of a exciting, student-focused learning environment that is centred on your development as a linguist. We would be delighted to welcome you on a visit to the School of Modern Languages, to tell you more about our degrees and to introduce you to our vibrant community of teachers, scholars and students. We very much hope that you will be able to come and experience what makes us the one of the leading University centres for Modern Languages in Wales and the UK.

Professor Rachael Langford
Head of School
Cardiff: A capital city

"Cardiff is one of Europe’s youngest capital cities – small enough to be friendly and big enough to offer the best of living in a major city."

The Complete University Guide 2016

The Principality (Millennium) Stadium nestles in the heart of the city, and is home to numerous sporting events and concerts throughout the year.
Cardiff is a thriving and attractive city, which is widely recognised as an outstanding place in which to live and study. It combines all the advantages of a compact, friendly and inexpensive location, with the cultural and recreational facilities of a modern capital city.

Cardiff offers everything from the excitement of the city to the peace and tranquillity of the nearby coast and countryside. With its distinctive character, good quality of life, and growing national and international reputation, it hosts many high-profile cultural and sporting events, including international rugby, soccer, cricket and motor sport.

When it comes to entertainment, Cardiff is well-equipped to satisfy student needs. There is a multitude of cafés, pubs and nightclubs. The city is home to the world-renowned Welsh National Opera, it boasts prestigious concert venues such as the Wales Millennium Centre, St David’s Hall and the Motorpoint Arena, as well as the iconic Principality (Millennium) Stadium, the National Museum Wales, several theatres and the historic Cardiff Castle.

Cardiff is the location for award-winning television productions, including Doctor Who, Sherlock, Torchwood and Casualty, and the Doctor Who Experience in Cardiff Bay is a popular attraction.

The city is one of the UK’s best shopping destinations, with St David’s Dewi Sant retail centre standing alongside pedestrianised shopping streets, indoor and outdoor markets, and a fascinating network of glass-canopied Victorian and Edwardian arcades.

Cardiff also has more urban green space than any other UK city, and offers easy access to the countryside, coast and mountains.

Lively, elegant, confident, cosmopolitan and ambitious are all words readily used to describe modern-day Cardiff. Together, the city and the University provide students with the ‘Cardiff Experience’, a lifestyle our students remember long after graduation.

“Cardiff is a popular student city, relatively inexpensive and with a good range of nightlife and cultural venues”
The Times/Sunday Times Good University Guide 2015

Come and see for yourself . . .

Cardiff benefits from excellent road and rail links with Britain’s other major towns and cities. London, for example, is two hours by train, and the M4 links both the West and South of England, as well as West Wales. Travel to the Midlands and to the North is equally convenient. The journey by road from Birmingham, for example, takes only two hours. The main coach and railway stations are both centrally placed, and Cardiff also benefits from an international airport.

“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.”
Guardian University Guide 2016
Cardiff: A leading university

“Cardiff University is one of Britain’s leading teaching and research universities.”

Telegraph Guide to UK Universities
Cardiff University has an international reputation for excellence in teaching and research, built on a history of service and achievement since 1883, and recognised by our membership of the Russell Group of leading research-led universities.

With attractive and compact campuses, excellent student accommodation, and a hugely popular Students’ Union, all within easy walking distance of each other in a thriving city, it is not surprising that Cardiff is a university of first choice among well-prepared applicants.

We admits approximately 5,000 undergraduate entrants each year, the majority of whom are school and college leavers, and have high grades at A-level or equivalent. While competition for entry is strong, Cardiff is an inclusive university with a good record on widening participation and fair access, and we welcome applications, irrespective of background, from everyone with the potential to succeed at Cardiff University.

The University’s Cathays Park Campus is located in and around the impressive Portland stone buildings, parks and wide tree-lined avenues that form Cardiff’s attractive civic centre. The majority of academic schools are located here - just a few minutes’ walk from the city centre. The three academic schools offering healthcare courses (excluding Optometry and Pharmacy) are based at the Heath Park Campus, approximately one mile away, which is also home to the University Hospital of Wales.

Although dating from 1883, Cardiff is focused on the 21st century, and has modern state-of-the-art buildings and facilities. The University has invested substantially in its estate in recent years and continues to do so today. Most academic schools have benefited from major refurbishment, including new and well-equipped laboratories, lecture theatres, libraries and computing facilities.

International opportunities are available via our Global Opportunity Centre. These include study, work and volunteering placements in 27 EU countries as well as international exchange opportunities. All students also have the opportunity to study a language, in addition to their degree, through the University’s Languages For All programme.

The University takes its environmental, safety and security responsibilities very seriously. It has comprehensive policies in place which are making great savings in energy consumption and, to support the safety and security of all members of the University community and their property, there is 24-hour security cover throughout the campus.

What the Guides say...

“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.”

Guardian University Guide 2016

“Cardiff is the perennial choice as the Sunday Times best Welsh University. It is the Principality’s only member of the Russell Group of research-led universities and its sole representative in the top 200 of the world rankings.”

The Times/Sunday Times Good University Guide 2015-2016
Living in Cardiff

As a fast developing capital city, Cardiff is a great place to be a student. It’s large enough to offer you an exciting variety of activities and entertainment, but small enough for you to feel comfortable in.
Accommodation

Cardiff offers guaranteed University accommodation, good quality and value, and a range of residences to suit individual preferences and budgets.

All undergraduates who accept their offer of a place from Cardiff, on a firm basis, are guaranteed a single occupancy place in University residences during their first year of study.

Please see our website for full details of our accommodation guarantee and associated deadlines: www.cardiff.ac.uk/residences

The University is continually investing in its student residences, and the views of students are taken into account at the design stage. Unusually for a civic university, most of our residences are within easy walking distance of lecture theatres, libraries, laboratories, the Students’ Union and city centre.

There are 15 different residences, providing more than 5,500 study bedrooms and students can apply for the residences which best suit their preferences, interests and budgets. Some 70% have en-suite shower and toilet facilities and all halls of residence have computer network connection points and access to Wi-Fi.

Fees depend on the facilities included and whether catered, part-catered or self-catered, but prices compare very favourably with those of other UK universities. Besides managing University property, the Residences Office maintains close links with the private sector and provides assistance to students seeking to rent or share houses or flats.

Student Life

The Students’ Union

Cardiff Students’ Union is one of the biggest, best and most active in Britain. A multi-million pound investment has been made in Union facilities in recent years, which has included a new venue called Y Plas, which at night becomes a nightclub. Hosting live music, club nights, stand-up comedy, fashion shows and awards ceremonies, there’s lots to keep you entertained from your first day to your last.

Other facilities include a new food court, a bank, a print shop, a hair salon and a bookshop. The Lounge offers IT and Sky facilities, meeting rooms and a “chillout” area, as well as snooker tables and multi-faith prayer room. The Union also has its own letting agency and an Advice and Representaion centre. In addition, it is home to CU TV and Xpress Radio (the students’ own TV and radio stations) and more than 200 cultural, political, religious, social, sporting societies and clubs.

Jobshop

Jobshop is the Union’s own student employment service and provides casual, clerical and catering jobs around the University to hundreds of students.

What the Guides say . . .

Cardiff is ranked 3rd amongst the UK’s top cities for quality of life. Research by moneysupermarket examined factors such as cost of living, average disposable income and life satisfaction in the UK’s twelve biggest cities.

Moneysupermarket.com – Quality of Living Index 2015

“The cost of living for a student in Cardiff is generally lower than elsewhere in the UK.”

The Independent A-Z University Guide 2015

“Cardiff has one of the biggest, best and most active students’ unions in the UK and is currently benefiting from a multi-million investment.”

The Complete University Guide 2016
Cardiff University boasts one of the largest and most dynamic Modern Languages centres in the UK.

With an excellent reputation for research and teaching, the School of Modern Languages gives students the opportunity to pursue their interest in languages and cultures in an exciting, interdisciplinary environment.

Located at the heart of the University, the School of Modern Languages offers an impressive range of degree programmes for those with an active interest in language and culture.

Proven teaching expertise in French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish (with Catalan), Chinese and Japanese means that students gain an in-depth understanding of their chosen language, literature, culture and history. Students can also choose our unique degree in translation, which offers a foundation in two languages as well as invaluable practical skills.

In addition, our popular Joint Honours degrees provide an opportunity to combine an interest in languages with a number of other subjects including politics, business and economics.

The School offers a friendly, diverse environment and personal tutors ensure support throughout the degree programme. Regular events, lectures and organised activities create a lively atmosphere.

Close links with top universities across the world provide diverse options for a year abroad immersed in a foreign culture. Students can also become part of the Student Language Ambassador scheme, which offers the opportunity to work with schools across the South Wales area to teach and promote the importance of languages.

An excellent understanding of languages and cultures is essential in today’s world and our graduates are highly skilled communicators, ideally placed for international careers.
The School of Modern Languages offers a broad range of Single and Joint Honours programmes.

If you have an interest in language and culture, we offer a range of Single Honours and Joint Honours degree courses to choose from.

Our courses aim to allow students to develop a high level of proficiency in their chosen language(s), as well as a comprehensive understanding of cultures that shape them. All languages can be studied from beginner or advanced level.

Our courses are very flexible and allow you to expand your interests with a range of optional modules.

A Joint Honours degree is the perfect option for those who would like to combine their interests. Many choose to combine two of the languages taught within the School itself. Students are required to complete a year abroad period when a language is one of the two subjects selected as part of a Joint Honours programme.

Subjects you can combine your degree with include (language choice dependant):

- Ancient History
- Archaeology
- English Language
- English Literature
- Economics
- History
- Music
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Religious Studies
- Welsh

NB: Please see our website for full listing of Joint Honours programmes

www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages
A Modern Languages degree in Cardiff has three broad aims of development:

- Near-native competency in the language(s) studied.
- An in-depth understanding of the politics, economy, society, history and culture of the countries whose languages are studied.
- High-quality transferable skills of independent problem-solving, written and oral communication and analytical skills that will make you highly attractive to prospective employers.

Content is taught by a combination of lectures and seminars. Lectures provide a broad structure for each subject, introduce key concepts, and convey relevant up-to-date information.

Seminars provide an opportunity to ask questions and discuss key ideas in a small group environment. Seminars are kept small and usually average between 12-15 students. This is designed to give you ample opportunity to participate and interact with members of the academic staff.

Different seminar formats are used:

- Set questions and readings form the basis for discussions.
- Presentations develop your capacity to gather, organise and synthesise relevant information and to communicate these ideas in a logical and concise manner.
- Tutor-led and student-led discussions hone logical skills and give you practice in applying different concepts, theories and methods to subject-matter while exposing you to different interpretations of ideas and events.
- Group problem-solving helps develop collaborative skills. This unique blend of intercultural, personal and linguistic skills puts you at the forefront of the job market.

All members of staff at Cardiff are keen to share with students their enthusiasm and research-led knowledge. Their expertise spans a wide range of subjects creating flexibility to specialise or mix and match options. Language provision is also supplemented by meetings with language assistants for further oral practice, as well as opportunities to join one of our language or Erasmus societies.

Year 1

The BA programme, in its entirety, offers students the opportunity to pursue their own areas of interest with a wide variety of modules in literature, political and cultural studies and history.

Modern Language students (excluding those studying joint Japanese courses) may also be able to study the two first-year translation modules of the BA Translation, enabling you to specialise in translation throughout your degree, provided you have taken the pre-requisite modules. Alternatively, you could transfer to the 3-year BA Translation or 4-year Modern Languages and Translation degree programme at the end of year one.

Year 2

The second year builds on the core knowledge and skills developed in the first year, through the study of language and optional modules. These are often related to the research area of lecturers so that you get the most up-to-date knowledge delivered by experts in the field. Some optional modules are also delivered through the target language.

Optional modules enable you to specialise in area studies/social science or in literary/cultural studies, as you wish.

Year 3 – The Year Abroad

The third year is spent abroad either as a student in one of our partner universities, as a language assistant in a foreign school, or on a work placement. Students studying one language will spend two semesters in the host country. Students studying two languages will spend one semester in each host country.

Study Abroad

We have developed numerous partnerships with top universities, which means that you have the opportunity to study in some of the most iconic and inspiring cities in Europe as well as across the world. We will make sure you are well prepared to make the most of this experience.

Students have previously travelled to Paris, Berlin, Milan and Barcelona, as well as many other universities across Europe. Spanish students also have the option to spend their year abroad further afield in Latin America, such as Lima (Peru) and Guadalajara (Mexico). Students taking Japanese will be attending select universities in Tokyo, Kyoto, Beppu, Saitama, Hiroshima, Kobe, Kitakyushu and Yokohama depending upon their degree, preferences and the nature of the exchange. We also have specific links with prestigious translation schools for those on the relevant programmes.

Students studying Joint Honours with another language split their time between the two countries of the languages studied – for instance half in France, half in Spain.

Work Abroad

There are opportunities to apply to teach with the British Council, students offered a place on the British Council Scheme are employed as teaching assistants on a part-time basis. This option provides excellent experience and enables the student to earn a salary sufficient to live on. Training is provided by the British Council in the destination country.

The flexibility, independence and problem-solving skills developed during this year are often cited by employers as a major attraction for hiring language students after graduation.

Final Year

Students consolidate their general language skills and develop a more professional focus by concentrating on core areas in which language skills will be of most relevance in future employment or study.

One of our recent innovations is the Student Language Ambassador Scheme, a final year option. Through this scheme the School is at the forefront of innovative teaching and learning and engaging with professionals. This structured scheme immerses students in secondary schools in order that they gain experience of acting as a classroom assistant to Modern Language teachers. The scheme offers final-year students theoretical and empirical training, reinforcing their employability in a context which draws on and refines their university studies in key skills: presentation, organisation, linguistic and cultural awareness. It also offers valuable personal development and professional experience, and not just for those who envisage a career in teaching.
Chinese

The BA in Modern Chinese is a new dual degree offered jointly by Cardiff University and Beijing Normal University (BNU).

Why study Chinese?

Mandarin Chinese is the only ancient language still in full use within the contemporary world. It is spoken by more than 1 billion people making it the most widely used language in the world. Learning Chinese language and culture is increasingly perceived as a most advantageous element to obtaining key positions in the political, economic, and artistic world.

The BA in Modern Chinese is the newest programme of our growing range of undergraduate degree programmes.

Upon completion of the programme, you will have developed a network of valuable Chinese contacts, proficiency in Mandarin Chinese language skills and original research work. You will be able to continue within higher education at this point or use the employability skills embedded in your degree to enter the world of work with enhanced prospects.

On completion you will receive a BA in Modern Chinese from Cardiff and a BA in Chinese language and culture studies from BNU.

The four-year programme is divided across both institutions and is a unique and exciting opportunity for students interested in China and its culture. You will spend years one and four in Cardiff and years two and three in Beijing.

Before going to China, you will acquire a thorough grounding in Chinese history and culture as well as linguistic skills. While in Beijing, you will take part in classroom studies and undertake an internship, chosen from a wide range of options in the cultural sector which could range from private art galleries, book publishers and media design companies to state opera houses, for linguistic consolidation as well as research data collection.

On returning to Cardiff, you will be required to write a dissertation (in English) which will be an analytical work based on the two years of research in Beijing.

If you are keen to learn about the language and culture of China and to experience the transnational life in full, the BA Modern Chinese is the obvious route for you.

For more details on courses offered please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages/courses/undergraduate/chinese
French language and culture have been centre-stage in European and world affairs for centuries.

**Why study French?**

In the new globalised world, French is more important than ever before and the ability to communicate in the language is an invaluable skill. Not only are there exciting career opportunities within Europe for those with a degree in French, but the excellent communications skills you will acquire are highly desired by multinational organisations worldwide.

French is an official language of 29 countries, of all United Nations agencies, and of many other international organisations. It is considered the international language of diplomacy, and is second only to English in its influence.

French is spoken across the globe as a native or second language by up to half a billion people. The French-speaking world extends across the globe from Europe to North Africa, Asia and the Americas. French is also the foreign language most prized by British Businesses, two-thirds of which seek to recruit staff with foreign language skills.

On completion of a four year course in French, you will have a high level of proficiency in French, as well as a critical understanding of key aspects of modern and contemporary French and Francophone culture.

**Year abroad options**

The third year of this course offers a fantastic opportunity to live in a French-speaking environment. You will either work as a paid teaching assistant in a French school or attend a French university as part of the Erasmus programme. Established exchange programmes provide exciting opportunities to study in French cities including Montpellier and Nantes, and we also have academic links with universities in Brussels, Belgium and Geneva in Switzerland.

For more details on courses offered please visit our website:  
[www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages/courses/undergraduate/french](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages/courses/undergraduate/french)
German

German is one of the key languages in international business, with nearly 100 million native speakers.

Why study German?
German language skills are highly desirable for employers in international business in a wide range of fields including finance, marketing, translating, teaching, media, arts, publishing, and civil service. A recent survey by the UK’s leading employers’ organisation CBI rated German as the language most valued by UK managers (50%). In contrast, the British Council recently reported an alarming shortage of people in the UK able to speak the ten most important foreign languages for the country’s future prosperity and global standing, one of which is German—giving those with language skills a competitive advantage in the job market.

Language and culture are inseparable, and students will no doubt discover that there is more to German culture than most think.

The unique heritages and histories of Germany, Austria and Switzerland have played an important role in the development of the West.

Taught by native speakers, all of our German courses provide comprehensive language training combined with the opportunity to explore the cultures, literatures and intellectual histories of German-speaking countries.

We welcome students with GCSE or A-level German as well as those with no previous knowledge of the language. Entry at beginner level will generally require an A-level in any modern foreign language.

Alexander Packer
BA French & German, 2016, MA Translation Studies 2017

My absolute favourite aspect of studying German at Cardiff was the wide range of topics and modules available. The areas I enjoyed the most were those I never thought I could enjoy before my undergraduate programme – particularly literature and art. The academic staff have expertise in a wide range of areas and they certainly convey their passion to students.

I always felt I could turn to them for inspiration and support throughout my four years of study and they’re still there when I need them, even after I’ve left!

For more details on courses offered please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages/courses/undergraduate/german
Why study Italian?
Italian opens up a host of opportunities to work in both the public and private sectors in Europe. The unique communications and intercultural skills that language graduates develop are in high demand by employers in the fields of teaching, fine arts, banking, the media, tourism and law to name a few. Italy is a major political partner in the European Union; it is a leading force in fields such as engineering and architecture. It is the home of the design and fashion industries. Understanding Italian means that you can explore some of the major contributions to European cultural life, including film and literature, in their native language.

Italy is the home of the design and fashion industries as well as being one of the world leaders in the arts, cinema, architecture and music. With a rich history dating back to the Roman era, Italy has significantly influenced the development of Europe.

Our courses in Italian offer you the chance not only to learn the language to a high level of proficiency, but also explore the culture that has shaped the social landscape of this inspiring country. Italian can be studied either from a beginner or advanced level depending on your ability. We apply innovative methodologies in our teaching, including small group activities and constant discussion, with the support of native Italian teachers and exchange students.

Year abroad options
One of the most exciting elements of this course is the opportunity to study or work in Italy during the third year. Many students choose to join the Erasmus programme and study in some of Italy’s most inspiring cities, including Milan and Venice.

I began studying for my BA in Italian (Advanced) and Spanish (Beginners) after taking some years out from studying to go travelling and teach abroad. I am now a second year student and I am enjoying studying at Cardiff University more than anything. The teachers instil a real passion for both culture and language and the modules I have taken have been a great opportunity to gain a more thorough understanding of the countries and their history. The teaching is of the highest quality and they always have time to help students. During the past two years I have also been an active member of the Italian/Spanish society and have participated in lots of language related events and work, including a trial translation/interpreting job. I also helped to organise a trip to Rome which took place in reading week of my second year. It was a fantastic experience and great practice for my year abroad. I am really looking forward to my Erasmus year where I will spend the first semester in Florence and the second semester in Barcelona as a teacher. I could not have been more fortunate that I got into Cardiff University.

For more details on courses offered please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages/courses/undergraduate/italian
Japanese

A modern Asian language shaped by ancient customs and culture.

Why study Japanese?
A Joint Honours degree in Japanese offers exciting prospects for anyone interested in Japan. With the huge amount of Japanese investment and interest in UK-based manufacturing, finance and marketing, the link with Japan continues to be a healthy one that is likely to foster many career opportunities for those fluent in Japanese.

Contemporary Japan is founded on a rich and fascinating cultural history that stretches back thousands of years. It remains a major economic power as well as an innovator in the fast-moving automotive and electronic industries.

We offer a leading British centre of Japanese Studies. Japanese can be studied as part of a Joint Honours degree and can be combined with Business Studies, French, German, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish. By the end of the course, you will be proficient in the Japanese language, as well as having an excellent understanding of life and culture in Japan.

Study or work abroad
You will have the opportunity to spend time in Japan during your third year and immerse yourself in Japanese culture and language. During this year, you should develop a high level of language skills in order to complete an advanced language course in your final year in Cardiff.

For more details on courses offered please visit our website:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages/courses/undergraduate/japanese
One of the world’s most widely-spoken languages, especially important for international business and politics.

**Why study Portuguese?**

Portuguese is one of the most important languages for international business and politics, spoken by more than 260 million people worldwide. The official language of nine countries in four continents, Portuguese is also increasingly used as a community and second language in the USA, Europe and Australasia. A degree in Portuguese could take you across the world!

As a major global language, Portuguese has been identified by The British Council as one of the most vital languages for the future of the UK. Portuguese is in high demand, and proficiency in the language and in-depth cultural understanding will make you stand out from the crowd.

The BA Joint Honours in Portuguese offers specially-developed courses for students at advanced and beginners levels, and we welcome students who have a Portuguese-language heritage. Regular contact with native speakers will support you in building fluency and awareness of different forms of Portuguese. You will also learn about the vibrant cultures and societies of the contemporary Portuguese-speaking world, from Europe to Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Our innovative teaching methodologies and supportive environment cater for diverse learners and develop your skills so that you’ll be ready to take advantage of the wide range of employment prospects that a degree in Portuguese can open up.

The degree provides the perfect opportunity to study Portuguese along with French, German, Italian, Spanish, Japanese and Translation. The programme is supported by Camões-Instituto da Cooperação e da Língua.

**Year abroad options**

One of the most exciting aspects of learning Portuguese is the opportunity to study in a Portuguese-speaking country in your third year. Many students join the Erasmus programme which allows you to study or work in Portugal, or you can opt for a placement in Brazil. The year abroad is an opportunity to enhance and deepen your linguistic fluency and cultural understanding, and to see in real life the cultures that you have studied.

For more details on courses offered please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages/courses/undergraduate/portuguese

Jasmin Shergill
BA Portuguese and Spanish

Studying Portuguese opens up a huge range of possibilities for work and travel. I’m really enjoying my course: there is plenty of support from the teaching staff and we really did get a long way in the first year. In the cultural modules, I get a broad perspective on the history and culture of Portugal and Brazil as well as Portuguese-speaking Africa and Asia – that’s really important considering I didn’t know any Portuguese before I started. Although it is hard work to learn a new language from the very beginning, there are also additional language clubs, film screenings and events going on all through the year, so there’s always opportunity for extra practice – I even met one of the authors that I am studying this year!
Spanish

A language with a global reach, shaped by a culturally diverse heritage.

Why study Spanish?
Spanish is an important European language which also has a global reach. Latin American countries in particular are now integral players in international trade, meaning that the Spanish language is more important than ever. Speaking Spanish allows you to explore the vibrant cultures, literature and politics of the Hispanic world.

There is high demand for Spanish graduates from multinational employers who value the language, communications and intercultural skills that are developed through language degrees. A Spanish course can open up a range of exciting career opportunities in fields such as international politics or business, consultancy, sales and marketing, finance, teaching, and translating/interpreting.

With approximately 400 million native speakers in more than twenty countries where Spanish is an official language, Español is one of the three international languages in the world. Today Spanish is spoken in many parts of Europe, South America, Africa, and increasingly in the USA.

By the end of your course, you will have a near-fluent command of the Spanish language as well as an in-depth understanding of Hispanic culture and society.

We welcome those with no previous knowledge of Spanish, as well as those with A-level Spanish. For entry at beginner level, an A-level in another foreign language is required.

Year abroad options
During the third year, you will have a fantastic opportunity to improve your spoken and written language, immerse yourself in another culture or gain work experience in a Spanish-speaking country. Many choose to study at one of our many partner universities in Spain or Latin America, or gain work experience as a teaching assistant in a Spanish school.

Robin Joynson
BA Spanish

I cannot stress how much I have enjoyed studying languages at Cardiff University so far. The staff have been incredibly supportive and helpful and the course matter has been absolutely fascinating. I love the fantastic range of cultural modules which are available as part of a languages degree at Cardiff - in particular, I have enjoyed studying the modules Drama in German and Landmark Films of Spain and Latin America. I have also been very impressed by the beginners’ language courses at Cardiff - it is remarkable how much Spanish I have learnt in just 18 months after having very little previous knowledge of the language.

For more details on courses offered please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages/courses/undergraduate/spanish
Why study Translation?
As well as receiving practical and in-depth language tuition, students are also given translation specific skills not available on the traditional language courses, which allow students to carve out a particular career path, and act as an excellent foundation for a foothold in the translation industry. Specialist modules introduce the different institutional contexts you may encounter in your future careers (government, media, multinational business) and alert you to some of the real challenges of the translation profession such as time-management, managing resources, establishing and maintaining networks.

There is an increasing demand for translation skills in the UK and worldwide. We offer specialist translation programmes that provide you with theoretical, vocational and practical translation skills, alongside the opportunity to gain an excellent command of either one or two modern languages and cultures.

Our translation curriculum (in line with the Institute of Linguists and the Institute for Translators and Interpreters standards) will focus on combining the theory behind translation with methodology and practical skills.

These unique courses offer:
- A good foundation in one or two languages and cultures (French, German, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Chinese and Japanese)
- A translation curriculum in line with standards set by professional bodies (Institute of Linguists and the Institute for Translators and Interpreters)
- Generic and specialised translation skills in areas such as legal, commercial and scientific translation
- Two ways to study. You can choose to study for three years or study for four years and spend a year abroad.

For more details on courses offered please visit our website:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages/courses/undergraduate/translation
Graduates from the School are in high demand in both the public and private sectors, not only for their language capability but also for their excellent communications skills and intercultural understanding.

In 2013, nearly 92% of graduates (of known destination) from the School, were in full-time employment or study six months after completing their degree.

Many of our graduates find themselves working in the areas of finance, business consultancy, education, social welfare, health and the media. After further training, many language students pursue careers in interpreting, translation and teaching.

Open Days
University-wide Open Days are held each year and provide the opportunity to visit all Schools in addition to residences, the Students’ Union and sports facilities. The Admissions Tutors are also very willing to discuss queries, by telephone, letter or email. For further information, please see our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/opendays

Careers and Employability Service
The University offers a careers and employability service for students, graduates and postgraduates. You can access careers information, explore your options and speak to a consultant who can advise you of opportunities relating to your degree or preferred field, including advice on postgraduate degrees. The service offers guidance on preparing a CV and job applications and gives you the chance to meet and network with top graduate recruiters at Careers Fairs and events. If you are looking for work experience, the careers service can assist with planning and organising your placement.

Key Figures 2013/14
- Employment 62%
- Employment and Further Study 13%
- Further Study 19%
- Unemployed 5%
- Other 1%

www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages
To be considered for entry onto one of our degree programmes you should apply online via the UCAS website using the ‘UCAS Apply’ facility. To use this facility you need to log onto: www.ucas.ac.uk/apply

The website will provide you with information on how to apply and explains the UCAS procedure.

Typical Entry Requirements
For detailed entry requirements and latest typical offers please see: www.cardiff.ac.uk/ugcourses

Applications Information
Typical intake: 230
Typical number of applications: 1,300

Equal Opportunities
Cardiff University is committed to promoting equality and diversity in all of its practices and activities, including those relating to student recruitment, selection and admission.

The University aims to establish an inclusive culture which welcomes and ensures equality of opportunity for applicants of all ages, ethnicities, disabilities, family structures, genders, nationalities, sexual orientations, races, religious or other beliefs, and socio-economic backgrounds.

This commitment forms part of the Equality and Diversity Policy which is available at: www.cardiff.ac.uk/cocom/equalityanddiversity/index

Applicants with Disabilities/ Specific Needs
All offers to study at Cardiff University are made solely on the basis of academic merit. Where applicants have specific requirements that relate to a disability or medical condition, they are encouraged to discuss these with relevant staff in order that appropriate arrangements can be made to ensure the University provides an accessible environment. Specifically, applicants are invited to contact the Disability Adviser who can provide information about the applications procedure, course delivery and access to the physical environment. Where appropriate, informal visits can be arranged in which applicants can view accommodation and meet academic staff.

The Disability Adviser can be contacted at:
Student Support Centre
50 Park Place, Cardiff CF10 3AT
Tel/Minicom: +44 (0)29 2087 4844
Email: disability@cardiff.ac.uk

Deferred Entry
The School has no objection to the possibility of deferred entry provided the intervening year is spent in a positive and worthwhile way. Application is made through UCAS in the usual way, although the UCAS application must show the deferred year of entry.

Admissions Contacts
For further information on applying, please contact:
Admissions Office
65-68 Park Place, Cardiff CF10 3AS
Tel: (029) 2087 0824
Email: languages-ug-admissions@cardiff.ac.uk

Tuition Fees and Financial Assistance
The University charges an annual fee which covers all tuition fees, registration and examinations other than the re-taking of examinations by students not currently registered. Please note charges for accommodation in University Residences are additional.

Please see the following website for more information: www.cardiff.ac.uk/fees

Scholarships and Bursaries
For more information please visit the following website:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/scholarships

Useful Websites:
For information about tuition fees and financial assistance:
Cardiff University website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/fees
Student Support Centre website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/financialsupport/index.html
Student Finance Wales: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk
Student Finance England: www.studentfinanceengland.co.uk
Student Loans Company: www.slc.co.uk
Terms and Conditions

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How to find the School

The School of Modern Languages is located at 65-68 Park Place, which is situated at the heart of Cathays Park Campus, a short walk from the city centre. The buildings are very close to the Cathays railway station and is easily accessible from the University Halls of residence.

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Tel: 029 2087 4455
Email: RobertsL9@cardiff.ac.uk

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To find out more about the School of Modern Languages please visit our website: website www.cardiff.ac.uk/modern-languages

Got questions about student life? Get them answered at: www.cardiff.ac.uk/insiders

Some of our current students are sharing their experiences online through their Facebook pages, so if you want to know what life as a student at Cardiff is really like, then you can find out now. There is also lots of information about what is happening in Cardiff, including articles written by our students, videos, and much more.