School of Music
Undergraduate Degree Programmes
Entry 2018

www.cardiff.ac.uk/music
School of Music

World leading research
Friendly
Flexible modular degrees
Academic excellence
Successful

“Cardiff University is one of Britain’s leading teaching and research universities.”
Telegraph Guide to UK Universities
Insider Information - Find out more...

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
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 - Cardiff is amongst the most affordable/cost effective student destinations in the UK.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.

**who have excellent career prospects.**

- You can be confident of your future prospects - typically, 94.1% 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

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**Notes**

1. Research by HSBC 2015, NatWest 2016
2. HEA Destination of Leavers Survey 2015
3. High Fliers Research The Graduate Market 2016

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**Cardiff Connected**

[www.cardiff.ac.uk](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk)

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[youtube.com/user/cardiffuni](https://youtube.com/user/cardiffuni)

**Contact us**

For students from the UK and EU:
Tel: 029 2087 4455
Email: enquiry@cardiff.ac.uk

For students from the rest of the world:
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4432
Email: international@cardiff.ac.uk
Welcome

We offer undergraduate programmes that will help you to challenge yourself both musically and academically.

Our programmes aim to be flexible and rewarding, allowing you to specialise and develop your own musical interests whilst acquiring a solid, broad-based education in performance, composition, aesthetics, analysis, ethnomusicology and musicology.

With a student body averaging around 275 undergraduates and postgraduates, we are a collegiate group of active musicians and scholars. Most students live within walking distance of the Music Building, where our facilities provide a focal point for study and performance.

Research and Teaching excellence

The results of the 2015 National Student Survey (NSS) showed that 96% of our final-year undergraduate students were satisfied with teaching at the School of Music and 92% were satisfied with their overall experience here. These results are testimony to the strong partnership we have with our students, as well as the dedication of our staff to ensuring that students make the most of their time here.

We are proud to be ranked 2nd among UK university music departments for the quality of our research environment, and 8th for overall research excellence, in the UK government’s latest assessment of research across the UK. All our degree programmes offer the opportunity to undertake independent, supervised project work with the support and guidance of academic staff.

Home to the arts

Cardiff, culturally vibrant, accessible and affordable, is an ideal location for the study of music. It is one of only three UK cities to have both a resident professional orchestra (BBC National Orchestra of Wales) and a national opera company (Welsh National Opera), and of course the city is also home to a major BBC drama production centre.

Important information. Please read carefully.

The University offers the information contained in this brochure as a guide only. It does not constitute a contract and is not binding on prospective students, current students or the University. While the University makes every effort to check the accuracy of the factual content at the time of publication, some changes will inevitably occur in the interval between publication and the academic year to which the brochure relates (Entry 2018). For example, degree programmes may have changed in line with market and student demand, and research development. Applicants should not, therefore, rely solely on this brochure and should visit the website for up-to-date information concerning course content, accreditation, and entry requirements for the relevant academic year when considering applying to the University.
Cardiff: A capital city

“Cardiff is a popular student city, relatively inexpensive and with a good range of nightlife and cultural venues.”

Times Good University Guide 2014
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 tranquility 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 cafes, 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 Millennium Stadium, the National Museum and Gallery of 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 new attraction.

The city is one of the UK’s best shopping destinations, a status enhanced by the opening of the £750 million 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 benefits from excellent road and rail links with Britain’s other major towns and cities. London, for example, is just 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.

Don’t just take our word for it…

“Modern Cardiff combines the best of the old and the new... it has a relatively small population and is fairly inexpensive to live in. Close to the campus, the city centre has an array of shops and entertainment options to cater to all tastes and budgets.”

The Telegraph Guide to UK Universities

Come and see for yourself…

Cardiff is one of the UK’s most successful retail centres. The Principality Stadium nestles in the heart of the city, and is home to numerous sporting events and concerts throughout the year.

Cardiff Bay, the city’s waterfront.
Cardiff: A leading university

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

Telegraph Guide to UK Universities 2014
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 admit 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 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

“[Cardiff] University is the acknowledged leader of higher education in Wales. It is the Principality’s only member of the Russell Group of research-led universities and has two Nobel Laureates on its staff. It is our 2014 Best Welsh University.”
Times Good University Guide 2014

“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 universities.”
Guardian University Guide 2013
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 first year undergraduates who apply during the normal UCAS admissions cycle (i.e., come to Cardiff as a firm or insurance applicant) are guaranteed a single occupancy place in University residences during the first year of study. Please see our website for full details: 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. The Union recently opened 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 Skyping 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 Representation 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.
How to find the School

We are located in the heart of the Cathays Park Campus, a short walk from the city centre. The building is very close to Cathays railway station and is easily accessible from University halls of residence.

What the Guides say

“A place in one of the University’s 5,300 single study bedrooms is guaranteed to all first year undergraduates applying through the normal UCAS admissions cycle.”
Guardian University Guide 2014

“The cost of living for a student in Cardiff is generally lower than elsewhere in the UK.”
The Independent A-Z University Guide 2014

“The Union offers an exciting entertainment programme, a comprehensive range of student support services and 150 clubs and societies.”
The Complete University Guide 2014
The School of Music

The School of Music is housed in a purpose-built building located within Cardiff’s magnificent Civic Centre. The Music Building provides accommodation for all music lectures, seminars and tutorials, as well as practice facilities and a performance space.

Music Library
Next door to the Music Building, you will find Cardiff’s own dedicated and extensive Music Library. It houses more than 18,000 scores and printed music, 9,000 books and 8,000 recordings, as well as archive collections of manuscript and printed music, music journals, videos, DVDs and online research resources. Subject librarians are on hand to assist with advice and specialist IT training.

Computing Facilities
Our computer suite contains both Mac and PC computers all running Sibelius notation software. There are also a number of dedicated digital audio workstations which include full-size music keyboards and headphones.

Performance Facilities
Our 250-seat Concert Hall hosts professional public concerts, as well as a range of student-led events. It houses two concert grand pianos (Steinway and Bösendorfer), a two-manual pipe organ, a chamber organ, a fortepiano, two harpsichords and various other early keyboard instruments, as well as percussion instruments, many of which are available for student use.

The Concert Hall is integral to the life and work of the School, acting as the centre for both student music-making, and our Tuesday-evening concert series. Much of this music-making connects directly with our undergraduate programmes, and a range of visiting professional performers frequently hold masterclasses and workshops in both composition and performance.

Performance Opportunities
One of the attractive features of studying at Cardiff is the richness and diversity of musical activities on offer. Current School-run ensembles include a Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Chorus, Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Choir, Jazz Ensemble, Contemporary Music Group, Gamelan Ensemble and Lanyi, our African dance and drum ensemble. These groups regularly perform in Cardiff’s leading venues as well as further afield. The Cardiff University Symphony Orchestra embarked on its first European tour in 2015, with a second being planned for 2016.

There is also a large range of student-run ensembles and societies, ranging from choral groups to a Big Band and an Operatic Society. Our Concert Hall is available for student use, and our dedicated Concerts Officer can provide support and guidance.

Instrumental lessons
Music students receive instrumental/vocal lessons paid for as part of their course. Many of our practical tutors are members of either the BBC National Orchestra of Wales or Welsh National Opera.

Instrumental tuition is fully funded by the School on your principal study instrument. This includes accompaniment at your final recital. Students will receive 22 half hour lessons over the course of the year. If you are a BMus student taking the open recital module, you will receive 22 full hours of tuition in your third year.

Music Society
The student-led Music Society organises weekly lunchtime concerts, as well as a series of social events for members. Lunchtime concerts take place every Thursday and are open to all.

"Cardiff University Music Society aims to be the first point of support for all musicians throughout the university by providing performance opportunities (like our weekly lunchtime concert series), chances to see excellent professional concerts, and of course being a fantastic chance for networking between musicians. Cardiff boasts a huge diversity of musical opportunities for you to get involved with from the moment you arrive, and we are here to make sure you get the most out of your time here."

"Above all, we as a society just want to be a part of you having the best time in Cardiff, making lifelong friends and creating some excellent memories!"

Joseph Rumming,
2015/16 Music Society President

We are situated within a capital city with a rich artistic culture that combines Wales’ strong musical traditions with exciting contemporary trends. Cardiff is home to the world-renowned Welsh National Opera, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, a major BBC production centre, and numerous other cultural organisations. We benefit from collaborative links with many of these organisations. Our students find enviable opportunities for the study of music as the diverse range of musical activities here is both easily accessible and affordable.

Our student body averages around 275 (undergraduate and postgraduate). As most students live within walking distance of the Music Building, our facilities provide a focal point for student life.

Teaching / Studio Facilities
Our main Music Building has all the amenities you need to facilitate your study. Most teaching activity is located in this building, where a number of lecture theatres and seminar rooms can be found. The building is also home to more than two dozen practice rooms, three ensemble rooms and four electro-acoustic studios. The main recording studio is fully equipped to industry standard, including ProTools hardware and software.

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Joseph Rumming,
2015/16 Music Society President
Our undergraduate programmes offer a high degree of flexibility and student choice.

Our programmes are suited to students interested in a practical, scholarly and creative engagement with music. Our undergraduate curriculum is strong in traditional skills, but also reflects contemporary developments in music and musicology.

Studying music at Cardiff is not for the narrow-minded: during your time here, you will have the opportunity to explore aspects of music that will probably be unfamiliar to you, including ethnomusicology, popular music and music aesthetics. Our flexible modular scheme of study allows you to develop new skills, whilst also having the opportunity to discover new musical interests.

Your first year will essentially be a foundation year preparing you to take advantage of the creative and intellectual benefits of higher education. The second and final years are more advanced and you will focus on more specialist topics. To complement academic study, students are actively encouraged to joined one of the School-run ensembles, such as the Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Chorus or Jazz Ensemble.

Structure
Each year is divided into an autumn and a spring semester, and has a modular structure. At the start of each year you will be given a comprehensive guide containing further details on module aims, learning outcomes, methods of assessment, module syllabuses, and reading and listening lists. Your allocated personal tutor will be able to provide advice and guidance on module choices.

Teaching Methods and Assessments
Methods of assessment vary from module to module and may include essay assignments, presentations, extended projects, performances, or written exams. Two-thirds of the first year course is taught in small groups or individually. Depending on module choices, between 30 and 80 credits of the final-year single-honours programmes are taught on an individual basis.

Study Abroad
You will also have the opportunity to study abroad as part of your undergraduate programme. We currently have links with universities in Berlin, Cologne, Freiburg, Heidelberg, Helsinki, Innsbruck, Krakow, La Rioja, Lisbon, Lubljana, Milan, Münster, Paris, Rouen, Salamanca, Strasbourg, Thessaloniki, Venice and Warsaw. This list is subject to change.

While the study abroad programme is open to students taking the BA/BM us route, it is particularly suitable for those Joint Honours students studying music and a modern language.

The period of study abroad may be one semester or up to a full academic year, and is usually taken in the second year (BMus; BA Hons) or third year (BA Joint Hons involving a modern language).

We’ve also had, for the first time, two students travelling to the USA in 2015 for an exchange with the University of New Hampshire.

International Visitors
As part of the EU ERASMUS scheme, we also welcome a number of international students from European universities every year. These students come to spend a semester or a year of study at the School, with some even returning here to pursue postgraduate studies.

We hold weekly Language Tables at the School for students and staff to practise their language skills. Tables are hosted by Erasmus students and all levels of ability are welcome. It’s not a requirement or a class, just a chance to chat, socialize and enjoy speaking another language. It’s also a useful opportunity for singers to run through foreign-language repertoire with native speakers.

Dr Arlene Sierra
Senior Lecturer in Composition

“For a professional composer, national borders can be blurry: I am from New York and I teach composition at Cardiff, as well as regularly travelling to rehearsals and performances of my work around the UK and abroad.

“Much of my teaching at Cardiff involves helping students to compose pieces for workshops with professional musicians. Many students who come here to study composition at undergraduate level continue to progress through to MA and PhD. It’s immensely rewarding to be able to offer these opportunities and help students to discover their own creativity.”

Dr Keith Chapin
Director of Learning and Teaching

“At Cardiff our students are fully immersed into our active musical and academic community. No student remains anonymous, and staff take an active role in guiding students’ development, whether as teachers, personal tutors offering academic and career advice, or in friendly conversations at concerts and in the hallways.”
I grew up in California and moved to Cardiff in 1997 for postgraduate study. It was here at the School of Music that I began to study popular music and popular culture. Popular music is a huge field of study, and in my modules I teach the history of popular music, and also look at the cultural and social factors that have shaped popular music since World War II. After all, there’s always a new way of hearing familiar music.

Dr Robert Fokkens
Lecturer in Composition

"The UK has a vibrant, flourishing culture of composing and performing new music, with a growing audience. At Cardiff we work with our energetic student community to nurture and support that culture within the School by giving composition students opportunities to have their work performed (by both professional ensembles and fellow students) and performance students opportunities to explore the rich, exciting world of new music. With our composition teaching, we help our students to develop imaginatively – but also ensure that they have the technical skills to allow them to express that imagination."

Dr Amanda Villepastour
Lecturer in Ethnomusicology

"After relocating from Australia to the UK in 1987 as a popular music keyboardist, London’s vibrant African and Caribbean subculture inspired me to train as an ethnomusicologist and pursue research in Nigeria and Cuba. Ethnomusicologists study music in cultural context through musical experience and analysis and ethnographic fieldwork. The School of Music’s ethnomusicology modules and Guinean and Javanese ensembles introduce our students to diverse cultural traditions and musical systems, providing a disciplinary framework that can be applied to the music one loves most, be it rock, art music, folkloric tradition or digital music."

Dr Sarah Hill
Senior Lecturer in Popular Music

"I grew up in California and moved to Cardiff in 1997 for postgraduate study. It was here at the School of Music that I began to study popular music and popular culture. Popular music is a huge field of study, and in my modules I teach the history of popular music, and also look at the cultural and social factors that have shaped popular music since World War II. After all, there’s always a new way of hearing familiar music."
Undergraduate Degree Programmes

**BMus**

If you want to concentrate exclusively on music, then our BMus programme is right for you. It also enables you to take the specialist 30-credit options of composition and/or public recital in third year (options which are not available on BA programmes).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>UCAS code: W302</th>
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<tr>
<td>Degree programme: BMus Hons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1-3 – Number of music credits: 120 credits per year</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Approximately 70% of our current students are enrolled on the BMus programme.

Our undergraduate curriculum is strong in traditional skills, but also reflects contemporary developments in music and musicology. During your time here, you will explore aspects of music that you might not have had the chance to study before, including ethnomusicology, music aesthetics, film music, and the history of popular music.

Your first year is essentially a foundation year preparing you to take advantage of the creative and intellectual benefits of higher education. The second and final year courses are more advanced and you will focus on more specialist topics.

There are a number of compulsory modules that BMus students must complete in years 1 and 2 of the programme. For the 2015/16 academic year these were: Practical Musicianship I, Repertoire Studies, Elements of Tonal Music I, and Elements of Tonal Music II.

Optional modules running in the 2015/16 academic year covered a wide range of topics, including composition, performance, world music, music and media, orchestration, formal functions, studio techniques, popular music, jazz, Baroque music, opera, French music, early music, modernism, and 20th century British music.

The modules we offer are subject to change each academic year as we continue to refine our programme.

**BA Music**

**(Single Hons/Joint Hons)**

If you would like to combine your music studies with another humanities subject (including maths), you should consider this programme. For the **BA Single Hons** option, your primary focus will be on music but you also get to broaden your education through the study of other subjects. Approximately 7% of our current students are enrolled on this programme.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UCAS code: W300</th>
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<tr>
<td>Degree programme: BA Single Hons (Music)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1 – Number of music credits: Minimum 80 credits (out of 120)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2 and 3 – Number of music credits: Minimum 100 credits (out of 120)</td>
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Students on a **BA Joint Hons** course specialise in two university subjects. Approximately 20% of our current students are enrolled on Joint Hons programmes.

| UCAS code: Depends on subjects chosen, see list on pg 19 |
| Degree programme: BA Joint Hons |
| Years 1-3 – Number of music credits: 60 credits (out of 120 each year) |

Although our 30-credit composition or public recital modules are not open to BA students, you can still specialize in composition or performance with 20-credit modules. The specialist 30-credit projects in musicology, ethnomusicology and analysis are open to all students.

Music can be combined with another option from the following: English Literature, French, German, History, Italian, Maths, Philosophy, Religious Studies, or Welsh.

Studying two subject areas does not mean doubling the workload. Joint Honours students study the same number of modules as Single Honours students and they also pay the same tuition fees.
Jessica Cale  
BMus 2014  
“Cardiff University had always appealed to me as a research-led university. Professors and students alike are able to work alongside each other in their mutual love for their subject and this was an atmosphere that I really wanted to be immersed in. Although not a campus university, the city of Cardiff is such a welcoming place to be as a student. I was also able to take advantage of the great performance venues – St David’s Hall, the Wales Millennium Centre and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama – and attend incredible performances by WNO and the National Orchestra of Wales (students were offered very cheap or even free tickets - something I really took advantage of!). Cardiff is full of culture and is a wonderful place to be as a music student. I was given so many great opportunities to perform in Cardiff. I also had my first experience of opera with the Cardiff University Operatic Society – the chance to become Elizabeth Bennet in Pride and Prejudice: The Opera by Guy Withers (a fellow School of Music graduate) was an experience I’ll never forget!”

Nathan James Dearden  
BMus 2013, MMus 2014  
“The environment that Cardiff provides cultivates healthy professional relationships, whether that’s in a space for music making or in one of Cardiff’s great bars. The relationships I have taken from my time there will hopefully last for the remainder of my working career, relationships that have already become successful working partnerships. As a seventeen to eighteen year old from the South Wales Valleys, much like anybody who plans on going to university, I wanted to go as far away from home as possible. Being my ‘home’ city, Cardiff was not initially on my radar for a prospective place to study. However after receiving a warm welcome at an Open Day and learning of the great esteem that the School of Music is held in, there wasn’t another university that I wanted to go to. I embraced everything that Cardiff had on offer, both at the University and throughout the city. My advice would be to embrace the community at the School of Music. An academic community that is so inclusive and so culturally rich that it has definitely benefitted my working career.”

Kate Willetts  
BA Music 2015  
“My main strengths are in performance and music history (with a particular interest in opera), both of which I have progressed in thanks to the outstanding teaching available at Cardiff, but I’ve also tried my hand at other subjects, including music technology, music and philosophy, harmony and counterpoint, and history of popular music. All of these modules were subjects I’d never considered learning about, but have really benefitted from, since studying something completely new to me has helped to broaden my general understanding of music. The support and encouragement available in all areas of the Music course is something I have hugely appreciated throughout my time at Cardiff, and the university (and its students) are extremely lucky to have such wonderful staff with such a wide range of knowledge, expertise, and international recognition within their fields. The main thing I’ve learned as a student at Cardiff is that if you throw yourself into as much as you possibly can, you will have the best time imaginable. Participating is key, especially in a highly active department that is able to showcase the talents of both students and staff; the community feel of Cardiff is something I enjoyed from the moment I started as an undergraduate, and I think it is a fairly unique factor that sets this department apart from others.”

Kieran Jones  
BMus 2015  
“Cardiff University School of Music opens doors to a variety of experiences that are each met with different sets of skills and disciplines. Having the ability to be involved in many practical experiences, as well as academic work, taught me to discipline myself with goals and targets, deadlines and timekeeping. These disciplines are now embedded in my work ethos and have been an extreme advantage to my working life. One of the most appealing aspects of the department is the welcome as you arrived and as a student at the School of Music I instantly became part of that supportive community. I feel immensely privileged to have been a part, and still remain part, of Cardiff University School of Music’s family and I am an extremely proud alumnus of the department. Although it is a cliché, it must be said - I loved my time at Cardiff University. I have made friends for life, and had a wealth of experiences that will stay with me forever.”
Not only is studying music immensely rewarding and fulfilling in itself, but also the transferable skills developed within a music degree help our students to progress to a wide range of careers, both within and beyond the music professions.

In 2013/14, 98% of our graduates who were available for work reported they were in employment and/or further study within six months of graduation.

Graduates have gone on to careers with the BBC, Arts Councils, Glyndebourne Opera, English National Opera, universities, Oxford University Press, the National Trust, and London Symphony Orchestra, among a range of other industrial, educational, commercial, and charitable organisations.

**Employability**

Employability skills are embedded in modules at the School of Music so that you will learn both music-specific and academic skills that are transferable to other domains, especially the workplace.

Music students are often able to demonstrate skills and attributes that help them to stand out from the crowd when job-hunting. For instance, self-discipline (think about the hours and hours of practice), performing under pressure (overcoming nerves to perform well on stage and at auditions), technical skills (from using technology to create and record music), teamwork (working in orchestras or ensembles) and commercial awareness (managing income from performing or teaching). It’s also a very creative subject and music students can make an impact in the competitive job seekers market by presenting themselves as creative learners with the ability to meet and overcome problems and challenges.

In collaboration with the University’s Careers Service, we promote work experience and internship opportunities, and are able to connect students with professional mentors in their area of interest for specialist guidance and advice.

Our second-year modules on the Business of Music are designed to help you better understand different branches of the music profession and provide an opportunity to undertake a short placement in a music or arts-related area. Our annual series of talks on Careers in Music offer a great chance to meet professionals active in a range of fields such as performance, music education, music journalism, arts and artist management, production and licensing, and composing for media.

**Higher degrees**

A number of our students choose to embark on postgraduate study at Cardiff each year. Our MA in Music offers the opportunity to specialise further in musicology, ethnomusicology, popular music studies, composition or performance. Past graduates have also continued on their career paths by obtaining postgraduate qualifications from other institutions, such as Cambridge University, Oxford University and the Royal Academy of Music.

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**Our Alumni**

- **Giselle Allen** (BA, 1992, international opera singer)
- **Oliver Condy** (MA, 1999, Editor of BBC Music Magazine)
- **Andy Farquharson** (BMus, 2007, Operations & Logistics Manager for BBC National Orchestra of Wales)
- **James Garrett** (PhD, 1999, Senior Lecturer in Music and University Organist at the University of Manchester)
- **Andrea Haines** (BMus, 2008, Member of Voces8, the international award-winning a capella group whose debut album topped the classical charts)
- **Karl Jenkins** (BMus, 1966, composer)
- **Peter Linnett** (BMus, 1990, Head Music Librarian, Royal College of Music)
- **Chris Taylor** (BMus, 1991, Producer, BBC Radio 3)
- **Katie Thomas** (BMus, 2005, member of world-renowned Monteverdi Choir)
- **Mark Thomas** (BMus, 1979, Emmy-nominated composer)
- **Jessica Cale** (BMus, 2014, freelance soprano singing with ensembles including The Sixteen and Monteverdi Choir)
- **Edward Parks** (BMus, 2014, Marketing Assistant with Albion Media, a London-based agency specialising in classical music)
- **Cathy Al-Ghabra** (BMus, 2009, Programme Coordinator at Wigmore Hall Learning)
- **Catherine Thompson** (BMus, 2008, Development Coordinator for the Philharmonia Orchestra)
- **Michael Francis** (BMus, 2008, Chief Conductor, Norrköping Symphony Orchestra, and Music Director Designate, Florida Orchestra)
Applications & Further Information

We are looking for intellectually-curious, creative students who are keen to explore music in all its aspects.

To be considered for a place on one of our degree programmes, you should apply through the UCAS scheme, details of which can be found at www.ucas.com. The UCAS code and number for Cardiff University is CARDF C15 and the relevant scheme codes can be found in this brochure.

Our total student body averages around 275 (undergraduates and postgraduates). Our annual undergraduate intake is around 75-80 across the degree programmes.

Visiting the School of Music
Once we have received an application, if it meets our basic entry requirements, we invite BMus and BA Single Hons students to visit the School. Discussions with members of staff and current students will enable you to ask any questions you may have, whilst also giving us the chance to get to know you better. Students applying for BA Joint Honours will not be invited for interview, but will be invited to a Humanities Open Day in February or March.

Auditions
If you are unable to accept the invitation on the date we suggest, an alternative date can usually be arranged. The audition will take the format of an individual c.15-minute meeting with a member of staff, during which you will perform a short piece unaccompanied (unless you are a singer) on your principal instrument/voice. You will have been asked to tell us your proposed piece when responding to the interview invitation. There will also be opportunities on the day to tour our facilities, attend a talk on the courses, and participate in one or more workshops.

Offers are made shortly after the interview day. Auditioning may sound daunting, but it should not put you off applying. A lot of people who come here for interview say how much they enjoyed the experience and it allows us to have a fuller picture of you than a UCAS form provides.

Practical grades
Practical exam results (Associated Boards, Trinity College, etc) will, of course, be taken into account, as is your general participation in extra-curricular ensembles such as choirs and orchestras. At the time of application we would anticipate at least one grade 8 (or, typically, evidence that you are working towards grade 8) in voice or an instrument. Although not a requirement, theory exams are very useful, especially if you are not doing Harmony as part of your A-Level. We would recommend at least grade 7/8 capability even if you have not taken the examination. Keyboard experience (to grade 5) is preferred.

Applicants with Disabilities/Equal Opportunities
Every application is considered on an individual basis. We welcome applications from students with disabilities. Applicants with special requirements that relate to a disability or medical condition are encouraged to contact our disability adviser, Dr Amanda Villepastour, to discuss individual needs or concerns: musicschool@cardiff.ac.uk

Open Day
University-wide Open Days are held each year and provide the opportunity to visit all schools, in additions to residences, the Students’ Union, and sports facilities. For more information: www.cardiff.ac.uk/opendays.

Notes for International Students
International applicants must apply through www.ucas.com. You will be able to obtain information on how to apply and on the suitability of your qualifications from either:
- Your local British Council
- Your school/college
- The University’s local education advisers

Cardiff University International Educational Advisers
The University’s International Office works in cooperation with educational providers in a range of countries. These can provide you with a local source of assistance when applying to study here. Full details are available at www.cardiff.ac.uk/international.

Notes for Welsh Language Applicants
Every effort will be made to allocate you a Welsh-speaking personal tutor. If you wish, you can also submit your assessed work and take your examinations through the medium of Welsh, regardless of the language of tuition you are following. A language table is held weekly at which Welsh speakers of all levels (from fluent native speakers to learners) meet to chat and socialize. Some of the accommodation at Senghenydd Court and Talybont student residences has been allocated for Welsh speakers and learners who wish to be grouped together. If you would like to take advantage of this, please make a note of it on your accommodation form.
For detailed entry requirements and latest typical offers please see: www.cardiff.ac.uk/ugcourses

**Typical Entry Requirements**

**A-level:**
BMus and BA Honours:
AAB-BBB (with an A or a B in music, and excluding General Studies).

BA Joint Honours:
AAB-BBB (with an A or a B in music, and excluding General Studies). Please refer to Cardiff University’s online course finder for the specific requirements for each joint honours programmes.

**WBQ:**
WBQ core will be accepted in lieu of one A-level (at the grades specified above), excluding music.

**IB:**
32 points, with 6 at Higher Level Music. Consideration will be given to applicants who are not taking Higher Level Music but have Grade 8 Theory and Grade 8 Practical.

**BTEC:**
Extended Diploma DDM

**Other:**
Applications from those offering alternative equivalent/overseas qualifications are welcome, as are those who may have other relevant work/life experience.

**Specific requirements:**
All applicants are expected to have gained or shown evidence of working towards Grade 8 in one instrument, or voice, at the time of application.

**GCSE:** English and Maths

**English as a foreign language:**
For those applicants whose first language is not English or who have not had a substantial part of their education taught in the English language, evidence of ability in English is required. For example, a score of 6.5 in IELTS with a minimum score of 6.0 in each category or an equivalent qualification.

**Applications information:**
Typical intake: 70
Typical number of applications: 350

**UCAS Codes**
W302 BMus Honours
W300 BA Single Honours (Music)

**UCAS Codes for BA Joint Honours programmes**
Music in conjunction with the following:
WQ33 English Literature
WR31 French
WR32 German
WV31 History
WR33 Italian
GW13 Pure Mathematics
VW53 Philosophy
VW63 Religious Studies
QW53 Welsh

Dr Carlo Cenciarelli
Admissions Tutor
Tel: (029) 2087 0313
Email: musicschool@cardiff.ac.uk

Admissions decisions at Cardiff are based on a holistic look at your musical, academic, and extra-curricular background. When writing your personal statement, discuss how these activities (including choral / chamber / ensemble / orchestra playing / singing) have prepared you for university study in music. If your application meets entry requirements, you will be invited to audition and interview. You will also have the opportunity to discuss your musical development and plans one-to-one with a staff member at this time. Offers are made in line with the information from your UCAS form, your interview and your audition.
**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](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/fees)

**Scholarships and Bursaries**

For more information please visit the following website: [www.cardiff.ac.uk/scholarships](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/scholarships)

Entrance Scholarships are also available from the School of Music. For more information, please visit: [www.cardiff.ac.uk/music](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/music)

**International Students**

Tuition fees are reviewed annually and are usually released in February/March. Details will be published on the following website: [www.cardiff.ac.uk/international](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/international)

Alternatively you may contact the International Office, Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4432 for more information.

**Useful websites for information about tuition fees and financial assistance:**

- Cardiff University website [www.cardiff.ac.uk/fees](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/fees)
- Student Support Centre website [www.cardiff.ac.uk/financialsupport/index.html](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/financialsupport/index.html)
- DfES Student Support web pages: [www.dfes.gov.uk/studentsupport/](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/studentsupport/)
- Welsh Assembly Student Finance web pages: [www.studentfinancewales.co.uk](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk)
- Student Finance England: [www.studentfinanceengland.co.uk](http://www.studentfinanceengland.co.uk)
- Student Loans Company [www.slc.co.uk](http://www.slc.co.uk)

**Applications & Further Information**

Cardiff University is a registered charity, no. 1136855

This document can also be made available in large print (text), Braille and on audio tape/CD. To request an alternative format, please contact Laura Roberts:

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

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Thank you.
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.

To find out more about the School of Music, please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/music

Enquiries
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