School of English, Communication and Philosophy
Undergraduate Degree Programmes
Entry 2018  www.cardiff.ac.uk/english-communication-philosophy
Cardiff University School of English, Communication and Philosophy

WORLD LEADING research

ACADEMIC excellence

HIGH EMPLOYABILITY

Transferable SKILLS

www.cardiff.ac.uk/english-communication-philosophy
Friendly **Supportive** Environment  
**Outstanding** facilities

85% of our graduates were in employment and/or further study six months after graduating

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](http://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.

**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 - 95% of our students were employed or had entered further study within six months of completing their studies.
- You’ll be in demand - Cardiff is among the top 25 universities targeted by employers seeking high calibre graduates.

**who have excellent career prospects.**

Notes

1. Research by NatWest 2017
2. HESA Destination of Leavers Survey 2016
3. High Fliers Research The Graduate Market 2017

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

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Contact us
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[www.cardiff.ac.uk/english-communication-philosophy](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/english-communication-philosophy)
Welcome

Quality, opportunity, creativity, belonging

The School of English, Communication and Philosophy values curiosity, informed debate, critical edge and creative thinking. We believe in quality, creativity, opportunity and belonging, and we foster a vibrant intellectual environment in which both students and staff can reach their full potential.

We trust this brochure will help you to weigh up your options as you make the important choice of what and where to study. Our School is one of the University’s largest academic schools, with over a thousand undergraduate and postgraduate students studying on our portfolio of programmes.

Our community comprises around 60 full-time academic staff, who work alongside a dedicated team of Professional Services colleagues. Our size and shape guarantee heft and visibility; at the same time, we are able to offer students a friendly, supportive and personalised culture – something that is recognised in our excellent results in successive National Student Surveys.

We offer six Single Honours undergraduate programmes: English Language, English Language and Literature, English Language and Linguistics, English Literature, English Literature and Creative Writing and Philosophy, and a suite of Joint Honours combinations with other subjects. Each programme has choice at its heart, and so you have the opportunity to shape your degree to suit your interests and strengths. Our degree programmes are arranged in a way that guarantees helpful progression from year one to year two and on to your final year (and to further study), which means that the choices you make are informed ones. We have also been careful to ensure that the skills necessary for your academic study at each stage, and for your future careers, are meaningfully embedded in our programmes. Our teaching methods include lectures, seminars and workshops, supported by regular Academic Progress Meetings with your Personal Tutor. Our assessment combines traditional modes with innovative new forms, which again ensures that you are prepared for the world of work.

These elements work together to enable you to pursue your interests and develop your potential to the highest level. As befits a member of the prestigious Russell Group, we ensure that our teaching is underpinned by world-leading and internationally excellent research. In each of our disciplines (and across them, too), we combine the highest levels of scholarship with a record of innovation and impact that has helped define our fields and effect change in the world beyond. In the latest national assessment of research, the Research Excellence Framework (REF) of 2014, English Language and Literature was ranked 10th out of 89 institutions for the significance, rigour and originality of its research, and Philosophy was ranked 4th for its impact beyond the academy.

Cardiff University as a whole came in as number 5 nationally – a result of which we are justifiably proud.

As Head of School, I welcome new ideas from undergraduates and postgraduates alike. We are constantly forging new networks and devising ways of embedding your learning experience in the vibrant location of culture that is Cardiff’s dynamic capital city. We look forward to offering you an inspiring undergraduate experience.

Professor Damian Walford Davies
Head of School

Important Legal Information
The contents of this brochure relate to the Entry 2018 admissions cycle and are correct at the time of going to press in September 2017. However, there is a lengthy period of time between printing this brochure and applications being made to, and processed by us, so please check our website [www.cardiff.ac.uk] before making an application in case there are any changes to the course you are interested in or to other facilities and services described here. Where there is a difference between the contents of this brochure and our website, the contents of the website take precedence and represent the basis on which we intend to deliver our services to you.

Any offer of a place to study at Cardiff University is subject to terms and conditions, which can be found on our website [www.cardiff.ac.uk/offers/terms] and which you are advised to read before making an application. The terms and conditions set out, for example, when we might make changes to your chosen course or to student regulations. It is therefore important you read them, and understand them.

If you are not able to access information online please contact us:
Email: enquiry@cardiff.ac.uk
Tel: 029 2087 4455

Your degree: Students admitted to Cardiff University study for a Cardiff University degree.

www.cardiff.ac.uk/english-communication-philosophy
Cardiff: A capital city

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 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 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 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.

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 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

The Wales Millennium Centre is a world-class venue for the arts
Cardiff: A leading university
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 first choice university for many.

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 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 University is among the best in the UK for preparing graduates for the workplace.
Times Higher Education – Global University Employability Ranking 2016

Cardiff offers one of the best student experiences in Wales, according to the latest Times Higher Education UK Student Experience Survey.
Living in Cardiff

www.cardiff.ac.uk/english-communication-philosophy
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 of 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 food court, a bank, a print shop, a hair salon and a bookshop. The Lounge offers IT and Skyping facilities, meeting rooms and a “chill-out” 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.

What the Guides say . . .
“Cardiff is one of the best UK cities for young adults because of its low cost of living, good job opportunities and decent wages.”
The Complete University Guide 2017

“Cardiff is amongst the most affordable/cost effective student destinations in the UK.”
Research by NatWest 2017

“Cardiff has one of the biggest, best and most active students’ unions in the UK and is currently benefitting from a multi-million pound investment.”
The Complete University Guide 2017
Our degree programmes combine the highest levels of traditional scholarship with innovative approaches to our core interests in language, literature, and philosophy.

High-quality students gain from teaching by top-rated researchers who inform their teaching both with a real passion for the subject and the latest knowledge. We encourage you to aim high, offering the means and facilities to succeed in your ambitions. You will be expected to work hard and will find staff work hard with and for you. Student satisfaction rates for the quality of our teaching is consistently in the 90%+ range in the National Student Survey.

Our students achieve a high proportion of First Class or Upper Second degree results. You will acquire skills attractive to employers and develop qualities that help you to adapt, develop and grow in ability well beyond your degree.

The School is located in the John Percival Building right next to the Arts and Social Studies Library and close to the Students’ Union. Both the city centre and the charming Sophia Gardens are a short walk away. We are also within walking distance of the University’s modern residences as well as the Cathays area for student housing.

The Degree Programmes
We offer programmes in three subjects that, each in their own way, are fundamental to the development of career and life skills: English Language, English Literature, and Philosophy, in combination and as joint honours with a wide range of subjects. These subjects have long elicited the satisfaction of students and enjoyed the respect of a wide range of employers. Our students develop the ability to challenge assumptions and to understand, talk and write about complex texts and ideas in an independent, creative, critical and confident manner.

Our degree programmes all involve a deep appreciation of language, its complexity and capacity to convey ideas and feelings and to make worlds in which to live.
While providing robust grounding in the knowledge and skills specific to each discipline, our subjects set a premium on rigour of mind allied to intellectual and imaginative flexibility, an ability to appreciate multiple points of view, to make up your own mind, and to convey your view in a lively, precise and persuasive manner. These are qualities that stay with you, equipping you for a wide range of professional circumstances. Furthermore, be it focused on great works of literature, philosophy, or other media, or on the way people communicate with each other, the experience provides you with rewarding personal capital for so many aspects of life.

Degree Structure
Our programmes offer a high level of choice. In each year you take modules to a total of 120 credits.

Year One
In your first year you will follow a combination of core and optional modules, ensuring an excellent grounding at degree level. In the first year English Language and Philosophy students may take modules within other School subjects alongside your chosen degree subject if you wish.

Years Two and Three
There is complete freedom of choice of modules in the majority of programmes in the second and third year. The exceptions are English Language programmes, each including two core modules in the second year.

Each programme is structured to provide a solid foundation in the subject which enables you to make informed choices about the balance of topics you select from our broad range of options. Second-year modules build on Year One to introduce further key areas of the subject, followed by more specialised modules in Year Three.

While all our teaching is informed by research, the modules you take in your final year are even more closely related to the latest research, reflecting new work pursued by your lecturers.

For students interested in a career in school teaching, we have developed an integrated single honours degree in English Language and Literature.

Studying Joint Honours
In addition to the Single Honours programmes, you may choose a Joint Honours programme, giving you the opportunity to study two subjects in equal measure. A wide range of stimulating Joint Honours offer the opportunity of interdisciplinary learning. You can combine English Literature and Philosophy, or English Language and Philosophy. You can also combine any one of our subjects with a number of subjects taught within the Humanities – see page 13 for a list of the variety of programmes available.
Personal Tutors
On arrival at Cardiff, you will be allocated a Personal Tutor. They will be a key figure in your development. Personal Tutors have two roles. They provide pastoral support for any issues that may arise on which they can either offer advice or direct you to the appropriate advisory service. More routinely, however, they will support you with the general progress of your studies – helping you choose your modules and improve your performance. Personal Tutors offer regular office hours, and, as part of our feedback system, in Years Two and Three you will have two formal Academic Progress Meetings each year to analyse the feedback you received the previous semester and give you advice on how to improve your performance and reach your full academic potential. You will normally retain the same Tutor throughout your degree programme, thus enabling an active role in guiding you through your studies and towards a specific career or postgraduate studies, including writing letters of reference.

Teaching
All the programmes emphasise the importance of student participation, attention to detail, close reading and analysis, evidence-based argument, open, adventurous discussion and respect for each other’s contribution.

Whichever subject and programme you select, you will encounter a variety of methods of teaching and learning. Lectures are designed to stimulate interest in the topic or text under study and to prepare you to engage critically with the reading for the module. Seminars give you the opportunity to discuss specific texts and issues and provide practice in technical subjects and analytic skills. They allow you to question and explore material in more detail. You also gain opportunities to set out your ideas and develop your arguments in a supportive environment.

Learning is further supported through the University’s Virtual Learning Environment, Learning Central, where materials can be posted online and electronic discussion pursued. There are also weekly opportunities for one-to-one contact with tutors. As you progress through the programme, gaining skill and confidence, you will be encouraged to take increasing responsibility for your own learning.

Methods of Assessment
Some modules are assessed by exams, many are assessed by coursework submitted during and at the end of the relevant semester, while others have both coursework and an exam. Some modules offer the opportunity of submitting a blended, creative and critical response for assessment.

Some of our innovative assessment forms, which encourage students to develop broader applied skills are: creating short films, podcasts and online exhibitions, and taking part in mini conferences.

Many of the programmes also give students the opportunity to write an independent research dissertation on the subject of their choice. In Creative Writing, you will work on your writing throughout the semester, supported by small group seminars. At the end of each module, you will submit a portfolio of work for final assessment. A variety of methods of assessment is valuable in developing different skills and is also the approach that is fairest to the largest number of students.

Student-Staff Panels
We greatly value the feedback you give us on our teaching. You will be routinely encouraged to provide anonymous feedback on individual modules and your degree overall. You may opt to participate more fully through our system of student-staff panels. The main purpose of the panel is to build a partnership between students and staff to work on issues of mutual concern, including the content of modules, seminars, teaching methods, assessment methods, and, more generally, any academically-related issues such as staff consultation time, or the dissemination of information. Representatives of the panels also sit on the Board of Studies responsible for the degree.
Funding and Scholarship search
Research your funding options
www.cardiff.ac.uk/scholarships

UCAS Codes

Single Honours
- English Language BA: Q313
- English Language and Literature BA: Q300
- English Language and Linguistics BA: 2H56
- English Literature BA: Q306
- English Literature and Creative Writing BA: QWLL
- Philosophy BA: V500

Joint Honours

English Language and:
- French: QR31
- German: QR32
- Italian: QR33
- Philosophy: QR3K
- Spanish: QO35
- Welsh: QQ35

English Literature and:
- Ancient History: QV31
- Archaeology: QV34
- French: RQ13
- German: RQ23
- History: VQ13
- Italian: RQ33
- Journalism, Media: P053
- Music: WQ33
- Philosophy: VQ53
- Religious Studies: VQ63
- Spanish: QR34
- Welsh: QQ53

Philosophy and:
- Ancient History: VV51
- Archaeology: VV54
- Economics: VL51
- English Language: QV35
- English Literature: VQ53
- French: VR51
- History: VV15
- Italian: VR53
- Music: WW53
- Politics: LV25
- Religious Studies: VV65
- Spanish: RV45
- Welsh: QV55

Our Degree Programmes
This degree builds valuable skills in data collection and systematic analysis. The multidisciplinary nature of English Language as a subject means that it equips students with an excellent combination of social science skills (technical analysis and systematic method) and humanities skills (flexibility, communication, critique).

English Language at Cardiff has a distinctive character. As would be expected of any good English Language programme, you will be provided with a rigorous grounding in the analysis of the English language. You will learn such essential linguistic tools as phonetics, grammar and discourse analysis from those who are helping develop those fields. Since we take a broad approach to language, you will also learn how to analyse the types of multimodal texts that predominate in contemporary and new media (e.g. word, image and sound). Language description and analysis, though, is just the starting point. What makes Cardiff special is our focus on the intersection of language with culture, society, politics and mind. While arming you with technical skills of analysis, we then expect you to grapple with exciting theories that will enable you to take into account the multifarious aspects of the context of language use and interpret the communication in a complex and meaningful way.

We aim to provide a programme that you can personalise to your own requirements. Diverse interests and individual aspirations are accommodated wherever possible. Our carefully-crafted core modules guarantee you a solid base upon which to carve out a programme that best fits your interests and career aspirations. Your Personal Tutor will offer expert advice as you choose your optional modules to tailor a programme to suit. Our programme matches a diverse range of career paths, with clear career coding for many optional modules. You will find choice beneficial for the fields of education, the health service and the criminal justice system, as well as for the media or the voluntary sector. With such information in hand, you and your Personal Tutor can discuss which modules will be particularly useful to you in terms of your interests and intended career or further education path.

In Year Three, your choice of modules reflects the latest developments in the discipline. Modules link directly to innovative research of staff, giving you unique insight into real-time changes within the discipline. In these modules you will gather and analyse your own data. You may be addressing communication disorders, child language acquisition, persuasive communication, language learning and teaching, language and ideology, media communication, phonology or forensic linguistics. Opportunities to undertake research in your chosen area of interest are available, subject to certain preconditions and under the supervision of an expert.
The degree programme in English Language and Literature is broad and wide ranging but also offers plenty of opportunities for specialisation.

You will be encouraged to think about the way in which knowledge of the English language works in relation to literary analysis as well as how literary texts help us to understand the subtle working of language as it has shifted and changed over the centuries. But more than this, insights into such essential aspects as vocabulary and syntax provide new perspectives on the meanings of texts and, indeed, the meanings we read all around us every day in adverts, newspapers, official documents as well as visual texts.

The course itself is carefully organised so that it provides a grounding in the two subjects in year one and then, in the following years, offers further flexibility so that you can pursue your interests as these develop.

Within English Language, you will be provided with a rigorous grounding in the analysis of the English language. You will learn such essential linguistic tools as phonetics, grammar and discourse analysis from those who are helping to develop those fields. Since we take a broad approach to language, you will also learn how to analyse the types of multimodal (e.g. word+image+sound) texts that predominate in contemporary and new media.

Year One modules introduce students to the core elements of language description, analysis and interpretation.

Year Two modules introduce a range of key areas of study in English Language: sociolinguistics, language and culture, history of English, language and gender, and others.

Year Three modules are offered in the subject areas in which staff are currently working: Communication disorders, Persuasive Communication, Language Learning and Teaching, Media Discourse and corpus linguistics. These modules also often require you to gather and analyse your own data.

English Literature offers access to a broad chronological span of English literature, from the Anglo-Saxon period to the twenty-first century. You will be able to study writing in English from England, Wales, Ireland, Scotland, North America, the Caribbean, India. We are intrigued by the connections between literature and film, art, music, history, language, and popular culture, and our teaching reflects these interests.

Current Year One English Literature modules include Drama: Stage and Page, Transgressive Bodies in Medieval Literature, Authoring the Self: Romantics and Victorians, Transforming Visions: Text and Image, and Star Cross’d Lovers: The Politics of Desire.

In Year Two you can select from a range of period and theme-based modules. Typical modules might include Shakespeare’s Tragedies and Histories, Gothic Fiction: The Romantic Age, African American Literature and Literature and Science.

By Year Three you will have gained experience of a variety of literary periods, topics, genres and approaches.

Current topics include: Medieval Romance: Monsters and Magic, Utopia: Suffrage to Cyberpunk, and The American Short Story.

For the latest on module choice, please see our website.
English Language and Linguistics BA

Our new degree combines the systematic study of the human capacity for language in all its expressions across the world with a particular focus on the English language.

You will learn about all aspects of human language, including how linguistic knowledge is acquired, produced and understood in different contexts. You will discover what all languages have in common, what distinguishes them, how they change over time. You will also study what varieties there are within the same language, such as historical changes, accents, distinct social registers, and differences between spoken and written language.

We offer modules in descriptive traditions of language (phonetics, grammar, lexis, and morphology), as well as in critical traditions (discourse, and language and power). You will study not only spoken and written language but also the many multimodal forms of communication – word, image and sound – that predominate in contemporary and digital media.

Studying for a degree in English Language and Linguistics develops abilities to analyse and critique the language that surrounds us but also helps develop strong skills in communicating clearly and effectively. A particularly popular element of our degree is the range of career-focussed modules, designed for entry into the fields most closely linked with the study of language and linguistics: education, the media, health, and the legal process.

You take a mixture of core and optional modules throughout each year of your degree (six 20 credit modules each year).

**Years Two and Three**

As you advance, you will gain experience of a variety of specialist topics, with a greater freedom of choice each year. In Year Two, you take two core modules (Sounds of Speech and Words & Meaning) and choose a further four optional modules in English Language and Linguistics. Optional modules include Language and Gender, Sociolinguistics, and Children, Language & Communication.

In Year Three, you take a minimum of one module designated of particular relevance to the study of linguistics, choosing up to five further optional modules. Topics include Forensic Linguistics, Communication Disorders, and Language Learning & Teaching. For full details of modules please see our website. If you wish, you can study a specific topic in much greater depth as a dissertation in your final year subject to second year marks.

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You take a mixture of core and optional modules throughout each year of your degree (six 20 credit modules each year).

**Year One**

In your foundation year, you take two core modules (How Language Works I & II) and choose a further four optional modules, which may include modules in English Literature and Philosophy.

Optional Language and Linguistics modules typically include:

- Language and the Mind
- Reading and Writing in the Digital Age
- Developing English: History and Society
- Understanding Communication

For full details of modules please see our website. If you wish, you can study a specific topic in much greater depth as a dissertation in your final year subject to second year marks.
Our curriculum spans its coverage the whole chronological reach of English Literature, from the Anglo-Saxon period to the 21st century. We offer modules that study literature written in English from different countries and continents. We are also intrigued by the connections between literature and film, art, music, history, language, and popular culture, and our teaching reflects these interests.

Our modules are designed and taught by leading, cutting-edge researchers keen to share and inspire. The modules help you to engage successfully with new ideas that are shaping the future of the discipline. We aim to help you experience the study of literature in its various contexts as an opportunity to broaden horizons.

There are no compulsory modules in English Literature after Year One. We give you choice – but we also give you the skills and knowledge to make informed choices from a diverse range of options. Modules are grouped into three periods (pre-1700, Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries, Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries) as well as a set of cross-period, thematic or theory-focused modules, which also includes Creative Writing. This arrangement provides a coherently organised structure within which you have the freedom to construct a personalised programme that corresponds with your interests. You are free to follow a traditional programme covering multiple periods and genres or to build a more distinctive mix of modules combining literary study with analysis of other cultural forms.

Central to the experience of an English Literature degree is the opportunity to develop your pleasure in reading and your critical understanding of culture under the guidance of leading researchers in the field. At the same time, building a pathway through the various periods and themes, gaining experience and confidence as you do, will enable you progressively to develop analytical and presentational skills that employers will value.

The focus throughout the degree is on becoming a careful, attentive, and informed critical reader, sensitive to the nuances of language and style and able to articulate your responses to texts orally and in writing which is precise, stylish, and effective. Developing these skills through close engagement with powerful texts from different times, genres and cultural contexts will leave you excellently equipped for the excitingly unpredictable and changing circumstances of the world after university.

The programme is carefully organised to help you explore your subject with success. Year One is a foundation year designed to equip you with the skills for advanced study providing a subject overview that will enable you to make informed choices from the modules available in Years Two and Three.

In your first year you take all your modules (120 credits) in English Literature. Among typical modules in English Literature are Drama: Stage and Page, Star-cross’d lovers: the Politics of Desire, Transgressive Bodies in Medieval Literature, Authoring the Self: Romantics and Victorians and Creative Reading and Creative Writing. In Year Two you can select from a range of period and theme-based modules in which you will build on the foundation year, reading a variety of texts in their historical and cultural contexts. Typical modules include Medieval Romance: Shakespeare’s Tragedies and Histories, Introduction to Romantic Poetry, American Fiction 1920-1940, as well as Literature and Science. We recommend that you use this year not only to pursue authors or periods you might already be familiar with, but to try out something new. Your Personal Tutor will be most happy to talk these options through with you. In all our degrees, you are taught by a combination of lectures and small-group discussion which will guide you and allow you to develop your readings in discussion with tutors and colleagues.

By Year Three you will have gained experience of a variety of literary periods, topics, genres and approaches, developing your critical faculties and your skills in analysing texts and contexts.

You will therefore be in an excellent position to choose between a range of more specialised modules in which you will be able to engage with current issues in research and scholarship in elation to authors and texts both well-known and possibly less well-known to you. Typical modules include Medieval Romance: Monsters and Magic, Gothic Fiction – The Victorians, The Illustrated Book, Literature and the London Blitz, The American Short Story, and Love, Death and Marriage in Renaissance Literature.

There is also the possibility of writing a dissertation on a topic of your choice, with the guidance of a supervisor.

What you learn with us will also equip you well for postgraduate study. At Cardiff we offer Master’s programmes in English Literature, Critical and Cultural Theory, and Creative Writing.
This exciting degree embraces diverse aspects of creative practice, allowing you to take options in poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction, playwriting, and screenwriting. These studies are complemented by a broad range of modules within English Literature, which you will choose to enhance your critical understanding and literary enthusiasms. In this programme, you will hone and develop both critical and creative skills, working to become a reflective, individual, and informed reader and writer.

Our modules are structured to help you make the most of your ambitions: most English literature modules are run in a lecture-seminar format, providing students with the opportunity to engage with leading specialists in the field, and to develop their own independent critical responses. Creative Writing modules in Years 2 and 3 are run as weekly workshops, in which you engage in close analysis and collaborative discussions of your creative work and that of others.

**Degree structure**
In your first year, you will take a mixture of core and optional modules within English Literature and Creative Writing. These core modules will develop your critical and creative skills by encouraging you to read, analyse and produce imaginative work across a wide array of different genres. In subsequent years, you choose from a range of optional modules to continue to develop these skills in relation to your own interests and ambitions.

**Year One**
Our foundation year is designed to equip you with the skills and practice for advanced study. Creative Writing and Creative Reading introduce you to key critical and creative issues in the study of Creative Writing, both through one-hour lectures and two-hour workshop sessions. The English Literature core module, Critical Reading and Critical Writing, similarly introduces you to foundational skills essential to future study and critical writing in English Literature. Your additional three optional modules in English Literature help you to lay down further foundations for your engagement with the discipline.

**Years Two and Three**
As you advance, you will gain further critical and creative experience of a variety of literary periods, topics, genres and approaches. You will build upon and develop your creative interests and talents in Creative Writing by choosing from a variety of modules that includes fiction, poetry, scriptwriting, and writing for children and young adults. In English Literature, you can similarly build your own distinctive programme of study, choosing from a wide range that includes modules on traditional periods and genres of English Literature, critical theory, and interdisciplinary study.

In both years you take 40 credits in specialist Creative Writing Modules, plus 80 credits in English Literature options. For full details of modules please see our website.

**Teaching and assessment**
We pride ourselves on creating a nurturing and supportive environment. Our teaching is an engaging mixture of the traditional and innovative that includes lectures, seminars, and creative writing workshops. These workshops enable you to explore, critique and develop writing styles in a supportive environment.

To help measure your progress, we use a mixture of assessment methods, from essays, presentations, and examinations in English Literature, to a creative writing portfolio (including critical commentary) in Creative Writing.
Philosophy BA

Philosophy is the study of the most fundamental questions about reality, knowledge and ethics. From the ancient Greeks through to modernity, you will have the opportunity to explore both the Anglophone and European traditions in 20th-century philosophy—and to be actively engaged with cutting-edge developments in the field.

Among our peer Russell Group universities, Cardiff’s Philosophy programme is distinctive in two related aspects. Firstly, we offer a particularly rich range of modules in ethics. Secondly, our research and teaching engages directly with both ‘analytic’ and ‘continental’ styles of philosophy, providing a diversity and balance of modules across both traditions.

You can study Philosophy as a BA Joint Honours degree in combination with a wide range of other disciplines, including Languages and a range of other Humanities degrees. See page 28 for all combinations.

Studying philosophy develops your abilities to identify the reasons for people’s claims, to find the assumptions lying behind those reasons, to critically assess both and to communicate all of this clearly and effectively. You will develop these skills through attending lectures, reading philosophical literature, taking part in discussion and writing essays.

Examining some of the most influential writings in Western literature, you will study moral philosophy, including applied ethics, normative ethics and metaethics; political philosophy; aesthetics; the nature of mind, consciousness, thought, language and action; the fundamental character of reality; the nature of knowledge.

Regardless of your experience of the study of Philosophy, your critical understanding and creative philosophical skills are built progressively in our programme which assumes no previous experience of its study. Regular staff contact, small group discussion, and careful feedback on written work are central to our teaching.

Year One

Year One gives you a comprehensive grounding in Philosophy. You will take Mind, Thought and Reality, Moral and Political Philosophy and Critical Thinking. The first introduces core issues concerning the nature and limits of knowledge, the mind and its relation to the world around us, freewill, personal identity, and the existence of God. In the second, you examine socially pressing ethical issues and their theoretical underpinnings, questions about the objectivity of ethical thought, and issues of political authority and legitimacy relevant to contemporary pluralistic societies. The third provides you with crucial philosophical skills enabling you to evaluate views and arguments in a rigorous way, and to communicate your ideas effectively. Single Honours students also take ‘Four Great Works’ exploring four of the most important and influential books in philosophy typically covering ancient Greek and Eastern philosophy, as well as modern and contemporary works.

Year Two

Year Two is designed to build upon this foundation through focused modules that deepen your understanding in particular areas. With no compulsory modules, you have the freedom to pursue your own interests. Among the modules typically on offer in year Two are: Epistemology; Philosophy of Mind; Metaphysics; Philosophy of Language; Contemporary Ethical Theory; What to believe in the age of the internet. In making your choices, you are encouraged to consider what you would like to take in the final year.

Year Three

In Year Three, you again have the freedom to choose from any of the modules available. These modules reflect latest advances in the discipline; they link directly to the innovative research of staff, giving you unique insight into cutting-edge developments and the opportunity to actively engage with current debates. Modules typically available at Year Three include: ‘The Problem of Consciousness’; ‘Metaethics’; Moral Psychology; Nietzsche; Feminist Philosophy; Philosophy and Modern Art; and Philosophy and Literary Theory. There is also the opportunity for independent research in the Dissertation module. This allows you to develop your own views and arguments on a particular issue with careful supervision from a member of staff.

Philosophy graduates are known for their incisive analytical abilities and their ability to construct and communicate clear arguments. Philosophy can be taken as a Single Honours degree or in combination with a wide range of other subjects as a Joint Honours degree. The Honours degree is of course an excellent preparation for postgraduate study. At Cardiff we offer a Master’s programme in Ethics and Social Philosophy.

www.cardiff.ac.uk/english-communication-philosophy
What the students say...

Student feedback is important to us. Find out more about our students and why they chose to study at Cardiff.

Zoe Bridger
English Literature

“I knew that Cardiff had a good academic reputation, but I had also heard so many good things about the University from people who had already been here. The English Literature course really appealed to me because it is very diverse. The list of modules to choose from is vast and there is definitely something for everyone. The teaching is incredibly interesting and informative. The lecturers encourage you to think independently and research your own ideas while providing helpful encouragement and advice. I would like to go on to do a Broadcast Journalism Master’s when I finish my degree. The University’s newspaper, magazine, radio and TV stations are all run by students and are a brilliant way to gain media experience. Cardiff is a brilliant place to study and live - I defy anyone not to enjoy themselves!”

Simon Booth
Philosophy

“If I had to pick one thing about why I think my course has been so great an experience, I would pick the lecturers. They’re inspiring and passionate about their subject and they explain the myriad of issues and ideas dealt with in the subject so well that they’ll stick with me for life. The Philosophy course taught at Cardiff also focuses on both the analytic and Continental traditions which means that we have a large choice of what parts of philosophy we want to specialise in.”

Rebecca Hill
Philosophy

“When I decided I wanted to study Philosophy at University, I knew Cardiff was the place for me. The modules offered are diverse and stimulating, and because none are compulsory (after year one) you are free to study what appeals to you. Whether you are interested in analytic, Continental, political or even experimental philosophy, there will be a module and a lecturer who shares your interest. All the staff are friendly, approachable, and unfailingly supportive – both academically and personally. Lectures are engaging and seminars always enjoyable; we always have a good discussion and frequently have a laugh. Studying Philosophy at Cardiff has been one of the best decisions of my life. Three years just isn’t enough!”

Michael Willett
English Language

“I graduated from English Language Single Honours in July 2009. The degree exceeded my expectations on so many levels - not just the diversity of the courses on offer within the discipline (for instance, studying how people communicate on Facebook and YouTube alongside highly detailed functional grammatical analysis!) - but also how much more I ended up enjoying studying than I thought I would. I can honestly say that my years in Cardiff as an undergrad were some of the best of my life. So much so that I stayed on to pursue further study at Master’s and PhD level. I just can’t get enough, as the saying goes!”

Did you know?
In the National Student Survey the School’s teaching has consistently been rated at 90%+ for student satisfaction.

www.cardiff.ac.uk/english-communication-philosophy
Our graduates are sought by all kinds of employers looking for people with a high level of verbal ability, experience in self-expression, and confidence in writing and analysing the written and spoken word.

All of our programmes seek to develop employability skills through both teaching and assessment.

As we have sought to emphasise, these skills are much valued by employers across a broad range of professional activity precisely because they make you an independent, thoughtful, and articulate individual, capable of applying these high-level skills to a remarkable range of contexts in reliable and creative ways. But these skills do not stop there: like the texts and issues you will have studied, they remain relevant to your life as a cultural agent and citizen in the contemporary world.

You will have shown yourself to have a special ability to solve problems. You will be able to:

- grasp complex issues with confidence
- ask the right questions of complex data and texts
- have an imaginative appreciation of different views and options
- analyse these critically and reflectively
- identify and apply relevant data
- propose imaginative solutions of your own that are rooted in evidence and critical analysis
- do so clearly, concisely and persuasively in writing and speech.

Your successful experience with us will also have demonstrated your ability to work independently. You will have shown yourself able to:

- work to deadlines and priorities, managing a range of tasks at the same time
- articulate well-researched ideas with the right degree of assertiveness
- learn from constructive criticism and incorporate its insights in revising your work and in future work on different topics
- demonstrate enterprise and initiative in researching your topics and developing your point of view.

You will also have learnt to work as part of a team, developing qualities of respect for the ideas and arguments of others and a collaborative approach to inquiry and problem-solving.

Finally, you will have practised and developed a range of communicative skills, including the use of IT programmes and digital media.

Careers and Employability Service

Our careers and employability service is open to students, postgraduate students & graduates up to two years after graduation. To help you get the most out of your degree and your future, the service offers help with career choice; understanding the wide range of options open to you; getting the skills to achieve your goals; plus guidance on getting a job.

Services offered include:

- employability masterclasses - CVs, covering letters, applications and lots more
- one-to-one advice sessions with qualified careers advisers
- careers information
- the Cardiff Award employability scheme
- work experience schemes and advice
- enterprise skills
- careers fairs and employer-led events to enable networking with top graduate employers

www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/student-life/student-support/careers-and-employability

Main image:

Postgraduate students in the School receiving Higher Education Academy-accredited awards for developing teaching skills during their studies
Where we are now

Here, four former students of the School give an insight into what they’ve been up to since graduating, and offer some tips for students looking towards life after their degree.

Rosie Johns
BA English Literature, 2011–2014

The English Literature degree offered a hugely varied mix of modules: I found a passion for translating Old English texts like Beowulf that I wouldn’t have known I had. I dived into the Gothic genre and appreciated Shakespeare’s plays in a new light.

I was one of those awful, pushy students always bothering lecturers – and I’d encourage you to be like that too. Being involved, and interested meant I gained extra insight into what I was studying, and heard about events and opportunities that helped me in the long run.

I always knew I wanted to work in publishing and after graduating I went straight to work for F&W Media International, in Devon. I’ve now moved back to Cardiff working as a Marketing and Communications Officer at independent publishers, Seren.

I get to read all our books before they’re published, which is one of the best job perks, and it’s difficult to get bored when one day you’re planning a book launch in London, and the next you’re crafting the perfect digital campaign.

Now that I have my foot firmly in the door of the publishing industry, I’m aiming to advance my career – and read as many great new books as possible in the process!

Tim Price
BA English Literature and Philosophy, 1998–2001

The philosophy course at Cardiff changed my approach to life in a fundamental way and I continue to draw from it professionally, emotionally and spiritually.

It was Dr Tim Rhys who suggested I keep writing after graduation. It was this conversation that set me on the path which led me to become a professional playwright and screenwriter.

I have since worked on primetime television shows such as Eastenders and Switch while my plays have been staged at the Royal National Theatre, the Royal Court theatre, Traverse theatre, and National Theatre Wales. The two companies I have founded in Wales aim to help emerging playwrights. We take theatre to unconventional spaces such as kebab shops, yurts and forests. I am delighted to be able to make a living out of a creative life and never take a single day working as a writer for granted.

I'd urge anyone who is considering coming to Cardiff to go for it – it is an excellent city to get lost and find yourself in. My time there allowed me to discover writers and ideas that have shaped who I have become.

Salina
BA English Language, 2009–2012

I grew up in a multilingual household so I’ve always been curious about language. The English Language course at Cardiff appealed to me because it covered language in a way that many people take for granted, things like attitudes to accents or what how people with language disorders communicate – I find it all fascinating.

I now work for a small media and design startup company in Vancouver, Canada! My role is studio manager, which involves managing a design team of five, account management and some copywriting/proofreading. It’s a varied job and I enjoy the challenges that come with meeting client deadlines. The best part is that I get to work on exciting creative projects every day!

Language plays a huge role in my job, whether it’s adapting my writing style to different audiences or simply spotting typos when proofreading. I manage a lot of design projects so knowing how visual communication works is paramount – most of that comes from instinct or learning on the job, but my degree gave me a solid base to begin with.

Cardiff struck the right balance for me. It’s a small, yet lively city and it’s full of character.

I was one of those awful, pushy students always bothering lecturers – and I’d encourage you to be like that too.

I’d urge anyone who is considering coming to Cardiff to go for it

Cardiff struck the right balance for me. It’s a small, yet lively city and it’s full of character.
Scott Bowers  
BA English Language and Communication, 2000–2003

Cardiff offered an attractive blend of being widely acclaimed as the UK’s leading institution for my degree subject, a vibrant capital city full of young people and, as a keen rugby player and cricketer, the opportunity to continue these at a high level in South Wales.

After graduating I completed a Master’s in Public and Media relations before moving to London, working at a top 10 PR agency on award-winning communications programmes for global brands. After two years I joined the world’s largest PR agency, Weber Shandwick, working on a combination of blue-chip corporate brands and sports clients. I was headhunted to join The Jockey Club as the youngest director of communications in British sport, at the age of 28.

I am now Group Director of Communications and Corporate Affairs. Mine is a board level executive role to a) help to make strategic decisions that support the long-term health of British Racing, b) oversee the delivery of external and internal communications programmes and c) protect our reputation against a series of issues and challenges. In seven years, no two days have been the same!

Cardiff University has been pivotal to my success. My degree was the foundation of my postgraduate studies which were very vocational, helping me straight into a job at the end.
Applications

To be considered for entry on to 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 on to: www.ucas.ac.uk/apply

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

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

A-level:
Single Honours:
Single Honours: ABB-BBB. Check website for latest details. There are no specific grade or subject requirements except for the degree programmes in English Literature and English Language and Literature, and Language and Creative Writing, for which an A-level pass in English Literature or English Language and Literature or Creative Writing at grade A is normally required.

Joint Honours:
Offers for Joint Honours are normally the same as for Single Honours, except when one subject requires higher grades than the other, in which case the offer will ask for the higher grades. For Joint Honours English Literature an A is required in English Literature or English Language and Literature.

WBQ:
Applicants offering the Welsh Baccalaureate will normally be expected to offer at least two A-levels in addition.

Int Bacc:
Please see individual course pages online for latest information.

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

Specific Subjects
A-level General Studies is excluded. GCSE: No specific requirements other than normally at least a grade C in English Language.

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: encap-admissions@cardiff.ac.uk.

Deferred Entry
Application is made through UCAS in the usual way, although the UCAS application must show the deferred year of entry.

Admissions Contacts
English Language
Tel: (029) 2087 6323
Email: encap-admissions@cardiff.ac.uk

English Literature
Tel: (029) 2087 6323
Email: encap-admissions@cardiff.ac.uk

Philosophy
Tel: (029) 2087 6323
Email: encap-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

Open Day
University-wide Open Days are held throughout the year and provide the opportunity to visit all schools in addition to residences, the Students’ Union and sports facilities. For further information please visit our website at: www.cardiff.ac.uk/opendays
How to find the School

We are located in the John Percival Building, which sits at the heart of the Cathays Park campus, a short walk from the city centre, and next door to the Arts and Social Studies Library. The site is very close to Cathays railway station and is easily accessible from University halls of residence. The School occupies several floors of the John Percival Building.
To find out more about the School of English, Communication and Philosophy, please visit our website:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/english-communication-philosophy

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.

Enquiries
Tel: 029 2087 6049
Email: encap@cardiff.ac.uk

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