



## Cardiff School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies

Pre-registration Undergraduate  
Nursing and Midwifery Programmes



# An Introduction to... Cardiff School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies

## Excellent Teaching

Cardiff School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies has an international reputation for its teaching activities and offers a range of degree programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. You will be taught in a research environment and benefit from interaction with researchers and clinicians who are working at the frontiers of knowledge in their areas of expertise. This, allied with modern study facilities and the latest IT and clinical skills facilities, combine to make Cardiff School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies a stimulating place in which to study. The quality of teaching on most of our Nursing and Midwifery courses has been independently assessed as "Excellent" by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales.

## Outstanding Research

Research within the School stands at the forefront of nursing and midwifery theory, policy and practice. In the latest assessment of research, 80% of the work was considered to be of at least international quality. Collaboration is an important element of research activity. Work is often undertaken in partnership with communities and healthcare professionals.

## Research-led Teaching

With more than 115 teaching and research staff, including three professors, students who study in Cardiff School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies can be sure that they will benefit from the wide range of expertise and experience that exists within the School. The School's dynamic range of research interests serves to complement each degree programme with the latest knowledge of theory and practice from around the world.

## Excellent Career Prospects

Our graduates already occupy key positions in the nursing, midwifery and healthcare arena. The excellence of our degree programmes provides a firm foundation for employment within the rapidly changing nursing and midwifery profession.

## Bursaries

Our pre-registration undergraduate Nursing and Midwifery programmes are exempt from tuition fees. During the degree programme, subject to availability, students currently receive a non-means tested bursary of approx £6,700 per annum.

## Professional Recognition

All of our pre-registration undergraduate degree programmes allow you to complete a Bachelor programme and, where relevant, obtain professional registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council, constituting the academic and clinical stage of training required to become a registered nurse or a midwife. Cardiff School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies also offer Masters and PhD programmes allowing you to complete your nursing and midwifery studies without having to move to another institution.

## Outstanding Study Facilities

Cardiff School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies is based at the University's Heath Park Campus and EastGate House in Cardiff. The School has excellent study facilities – the ethos is to provide high quality education in an environment which is conducive to learning, while also allowing students to enjoy their time in Cardiff.

## First Choice

Cardiff School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies is a culturally distinct, diverse and friendly environment in which to study. Our reputation draws students from throughout Wales and the rest of the UK, as well as around the globe. The vast majority of our students are at their first choice university.

## Student Support

At the start of your studies you will be assigned a Personal Tutor to provide pastoral support and an academic supervisor is allocated to provide academic guidance. This direct link with members of staff enables you to seek advice on a whole range of pastoral and academic issues. You will also be supported whilst in clinical practice by a mentor who is available to provide advice and guidance on a whole range of clinical matters.

## Careers Support

Students at the School benefit from an on-site Careers Consultant, who can advise on career choice, job-hunting strategy and postgraduate options, and can take advantage of a comprehensive career programme and advice provided by the University Careers Centre.

## Friendly Atmosphere

The School is proud of its friendly environment fostered by close interaction between staff and students, and an active Midwifery and Nursing Society.

Cardiff School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies is a dynamic, innovative, and forward looking School, with recognised excellence in learning, teaching and research. Our highly rated pre-registration undergraduate programmes will provide you with the theory and practical experience to register with the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

The School offers pre-registration degree programmes which lead to the Degree of Bachelor of Nursing (Hons) in Adult Nursing, Children's Nursing or Mental Health Nursing and a three-year programme which leads to the degree of Bachelor of Midwifery (Hons).

**Please Note:** All UK nursing programmes are being revised as required by the Nursing and Midwifery Council. The nursing programmes at Cardiff University will reflect these changes and will be implemented for 2012 entry. Details will be placed on the School web pages as they become available: [www.cardiff.ac.uk/nursing](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/nursing)

## Bachelor of Nursing (Hons)

The programme is three years full-time study. It offers you a vocationally relevant programme which includes a well-balanced mixture of practice and theory. Clinical placements are structured to maximise the link between clinical and theoretical learning outcomes, and to ensure you benefit from a broad range of clinical experiences delivered by a variety of service providers.

### Three fields of nursing are available:

- ▶ Adult Nursing
- ▶ Children's Nursing
- ▶ Mental Health Nursing

Applicants will be expected to choose which field they wish to study prior to application.

There will be shared learning between all fields and all three professions. The programme of study is 50% theory and 50% practice integrated into a modular structure. Examples of module content include Nursing Skills, Biosciences, Behavioural and Social Sciences, Health Promotion and Professional Issues. All of the modules are compulsory and credit rated. Successful completion of each module allows for accumulation of credits and the award of a degree to be made and entry onto the Professional Register.

## Adult Nursing

During the adult programme you will acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes you need to meet the standards of proficiency for pre-registration nursing education.

You will develop the essential skills of assessing, planning, implementing and evaluating nursing care, using an evidence-based approach to practice. The theoretical input is related directly to the delivery and management of care for adult clients. These skills will be practised in a wide range of settings, both hospital and community e.g. health centres, specialised hospital wards, accident and emergency departments, operating theatres, intensive care units and the private sector.

These experiences will cover the whole spectrum of adult health needs, from health promotion and education, to caring for adults with long-term conditions. Their requirements will range from being fully independent to totally dependent for their needs.

Analytical and independent nursing skills will be developed to enable graduates to keep abreast of the rapidly changing nature of adult nursing.

**"I would definitely recommend coming to study Adult Nursing at Cardiff University."**

*Chris Mitchell, Adult Nursing Student*

## Children's Nursing

This field is for those students who wish to focus on the maintenance and improvement of child and adolescent health. Children and young people's nursing is practised within a philosophy of family centred care, where children, young people and their carers are actively encouraged and supported to become involved in care decisions and interventions.

Therefore, during the programme, students will develop effective communication and interpersonal skills to enable them to support children and families in a range of community and hospital settings. Community placements will allow students to work alongside school nurses, primary healthcare teams and specialist children's nurses.

Hospital placements will include general children's wards and specialist areas such as neonatal, high dependence units, intensive care and adolescent services.

Many factors influence children's and young people's health and throughout the programme students of children and young people's nursing will develop awareness of how political, social and economic policies impact on health and care delivery. Students will also be exposed to the legal and ethical frameworks that currently guide nursing care.

The programme will offer learning opportunities to students on the issues of health, illness and the healthcare needs of children and families in today's society. The programme aims to prepare students to become knowledgeable and competent children's nurses who are able to deliver effective care to children, young people and their families. Students will have the opportunity to develop their skills in a simulated environment specifically designed for children's nurses. Learning in this setting will be delivered using a variety of methods including scenarios, role play and video analysis.

**"Nursing is a fabulous job, if you've managed to help someone, then it's worthwhile. Working with sick children and families challenges you, but rewards you so much too, giving you enormous job satisfaction."**

*Jennie Hughes, former student now at Great Ormond Street, London*

## Mental Health Nursing

Mental Health care in the UK is an expanding network of multiprofessional and multi-agency care provision. Within this network the mental health nurse is well placed to deliver quality care. Mental health nursing is based on holistic assessment to provide a value based service to all clients. Care delivery is underpinned by philosophies of recovery and social inclusion based on best evidence, ensuring that dignity and integrity are maintained for an often stigmatised and sometimes vulnerable client group.

Throughout the programme you will be supported to develop the necessary knowledge and skills to offer quality care. Theoretical learning will include the use of rehearsal, role play and feedback to enhance therapeutic skill acquisition. A Problem Based Learning approach is a key feature of the programme in addition to traditional learning methods.

In practice you will be supported to work with a variety of clients in mental health services, including children and young people, working age adults and older adults. You will get the opportunity to work in more specialised areas, such as with crisis intervention teams, psychiatric intensive care units, drug and alcohol services, and forensic mental health teams. All students have an individualised support network both from within the School and from their own mentor in clinical practice.

Within this supportive environment students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. Working in professional and multiagency teams, you will learn how the mental health nurse fits into these and also how the nurse works as an autonomous practitioner, contributing uniquely to the benefit of the client. You will be based in a selection of hospitals and community based services.

There is the possibility to request your final placement in Year Three. This final placement is designed for you to bring together the knowledge and skills you have learned to ensure you are fully equipped to begin your professional career as a Registered Mental Health Nurse.

**"I would recommend studying Mental Health Nursing at Cardiff University. I hope to work in areas such as acute mental health in-patient facilities, rehabilitation and the community."**

*Rebecca Farman, Mental Health Nursing Student*

## Bachelor of Midwifery (Hons)

Places are much sought after on this popular degree programme. Students are invariably attracted to the diverse and rewarding career opportunities that are opened up to those with a midwifery qualification.

This degree programme is three years full-time and is designed for applicants with no prior experience in the field of nursing or midwifery. It provides a carefully integrated combination of

theoretical study and practical experience. Learning by observation and supervised practice within the clinical setting will be underpinned by theoretical study.

The programme is 50% theory and 50% practice, integrating these in modular structure throughout the years. All modules are compulsory and credit rated.

Successful completion of each module allows for accumulation of credits leading to the award of degree and entry onto the Professional Register. The programme seeks to recognise the changing nature of midwifery care and practice and acknowledges the need for flexibility and innovation in ensuring appropriate student experiences.

The application of biological, behavioural and social sciences to midwifery theory and practice facilitates the development of knowledge and skills necessary to provide non-judgemental, antidiscriminatory care and service in a variety of health care contexts that is respectful of difference and diversity.

**"Studying Midwifery at Cardiff is challenging. I particularly like the clinical placements which are a chance to put theory into practice."**

*Kath Fischer, Midwifery Student*

## Practical Experience

During the programmes of study, students will be required to undertake duties as part of a clinical team. These practical experiences will be in a variety of settings throughout South East Wales. Whilst on placement, each student will be supervised by a qualified practitioner. Visit the School web pages for further details:

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

## Nursing and Midwifery Council Registration

On successful completion of the Nursing or Midwifery programmes of study, graduates will be eligible to be admitted to the appropriate part of the Nursing and Midwifery Council register.

## Careers in Nursing and Midwifery

The School's close links with employers and professional bodies ensure that students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills required for the modern nursing and midwifery professional.

Cardiff graduates are in demand and consistently achieve employment immediately following qualification.

Current employment levels for nursing and midwifery graduates are very high. Over the past 15 years the majority of graduates have been successful in finding employment both locally and further afield. The latest figures show 99.6% of graduates who qualified gained employment.

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

## Research

Research within the School stands at the forefront of nursing and midwifery theory, policy and practice. In the latest assessment of research, 80% of the work was considered to be of at least international quality levels, with 15% being world leading.

Collaboration is an important element of research activity. Work is often undertaken in partnership with communities and healthcare professionals.

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

## Application

To be considered for entry onto one of our programmes you should apply online via the UCAS website: [www.ucas.ac.uk/apply](http://www.ucas.ac.uk/apply).

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

UCAS will send your application to the University. After we have received and considered it, we may invite you to visit the School for an assessment and interview during the period October to March. Full details are available in the Pre-registration Undergraduate Applicants Guide which can be downloaded from the School website.

## Entry Requirements

### Essential Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSE passes at grade C or above. These must include English or Welsh Language, Mathematics and a Physical Science. In certain circumstances Key Skills level 3 in Communication and Application of number may be accepted in lieu of English/Welsh and Mathematics. Applications will only be considered from those applicants that have already obtained these qualifications.

**A-level:** A typical profile being BBB. General Studies and key skills will not be included. Specific subjects are not required, however health-related courses are beneficial.

**Welsh Baccalaureate:** A minimum of 300 UCAS tariff points to include a pass in the core and two A-level passes at grade B or above.

**BTEC:** The National Diploma in Health Studies should be passed with a minimum of DDM as the final award. BTEC in Early Years should be passed with DDD as the final award. Other relevant BTEC National Diplomas may be considered.

**CACHE Diploma in Childcare and Education:** A minimum of 300 UCAS points - B grade.

**Access Course:** Students must offer a credit based nursing or health based Diploma level course validated by The Open College Network. This should be passed with a minimum of 6 distinctions, 33 merits and 6 passes. Access courses are stand alone programmes, therefore applicants are not required to meet the GCSE requirements. The School does not accept distance learning access programmes.

**International Baccalaureate:** 28 points. English Language, Maths and a Physical Science must be offered at Subsidiary or GCSE Level, if not at Higher Level.

**European Baccalaureate:** Obtain Diploma with an overall score of 60-69%.

**Scottish Higher:** AAAB Plus credit standard grades in English Language, Mathematics and a Physical Science.

**Irish Leaving Certificate:** A1B3C3C3C3C3 at higher level to include a C in English Language, Mathematics and a Physical Science. Four other subjects are also required at ordinary level. Each case is considered individually.

**OU K101:** This should be passed with a minimum of 60 level 1 credits. In addition students must meet the Maths, English Language and Science GCSE requirements. Other relevant OU modules may be considered.

**International Students:** Academic IELTS (International English Language Testing System) with an overall score of 7.0 with not less than 7.0 in listening and reading and not less than 7.0 in writing and speaking.

*(Please note: this applies to overseas students who have pre arranged application arrangements).*

Applicants offering entry requirements over three years old will be required to provide evidence of recent study at an appropriate level.

**Please note:** Deferred entry is not available for the Bachelor of Midwifery programme.

If you are unsure that your qualifications meet the entry requirements please contact:

**Jacqui Rattray**  
Academic Study and AP(E)L Advisor  
Email: [rattray@cf.ac.uk](mailto:rattray@cf.ac.uk)  
Tel: 029 2068 7823

For full details of entry requirements visit the School website:  
[www.cardiff.ac.uk/sonms/entryrequirements](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/sonms/entryrequirements)

## Tuition Fees and Bursaries

Tuition fees and bursaries for Nursing and Midwifery programmes are met by the Welsh Assembly Government (to be confirmed for 2012 entry). Successful applicants, who meet the appropriate criteria, will receive a non-means tested bursary of approximately £6,700 per annum. Regulations apply for eligibility and quotas are applied to each intake. For further information visit National Leadership and Innovation Agency for Healthcare website:  
[www.nliah.wales.nhs.uk](http://www.nliah.wales.nhs.uk)

**"A Cosmopolitan guide describes Cardiff as one of the best places to study."**

*(Cosmo.co.uk 13.5.11)*

## 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. Further details are available at:

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

## Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS)

The Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) at Cardiff provides confidential advice and support for students who are disabled or who have a specific learning difficulty (dyslexia), mental health difficulty or long term medical condition. Our services are aimed at both prospective students and those students who are already enrolled at Cardiff. Members of the team would be happy to deal with your initial enquiry by email: [dyslexia@cf.ac.uk](mailto:dyslexia@cf.ac.uk) or [disability@cf.ac.uk](mailto:disability@cf.ac.uk)

## Information Days

Visits to the School are encouraged. School Information Days offer a full programme of events including information on adult nursing, children's nursing, mental health nursing and the midwifery programme, an opportunity to meet staff and existing students to discuss the admissions process, career opportunities and learn about important aspects of the programme. For details visit:

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

## Contacts

**Lead Admissions Tutor:** Jerry Bray  
**Deputy Senior Admissions Tutor:** Mandy Brimble  
**Adult Nursing:** Beverley Johnson  
**Midwifery:** Fran Magness  
**Children's Nursing:** Sian Bill  
**Mental Health:** Elizabeth Bowring-Lossock  
**Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (AP(E)L Advice):** Jacqui Rattray

Tel: +44 (0)29 2068 7766  
Email: [nurseinfo@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:nurseinfo@cardiff.ac.uk)

For more information about the School:  
[www.cardiff.ac.uk/nursing](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/nursing)

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100 YEARS IN PROGRESS