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.

**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.

**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.

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**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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**CardiffConnected**

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

- @cardiffuniug
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**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.

Research and Teaching Excellence

The results of the 2016/17 National Student survey (NSS) showed that 96% of our final-year undergraduate students were satisfied with their overall experience at the School of Music, and 96% were satisfied with the learning resources available. These results are testimony to the strong partnership we have with our students, as well as the dedication of our staff, to ensure that students make the most of their time here.

We attribute this success, and the School’s collegiate and supportive atmosphere, to the genuine passion for music shared alike by students and staff.

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 of 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.

Many of our instrumental tutors are members of these organisations. Our close links with them allow students to attend dress rehearsals and obtain reduced price concert tickets, as well as to experience numerous world-class events.

Opening up the World

Cardiff University has a long established tradition of welcoming students from overseas, and of giving home students the opportunity to pursue studies and professional development abroad as part of their degree. More than 6,000 international students representing over 100 countries study at Cardiff, allowing for the development of a thriving international student community that enriches significantly our University culture.

Professor Kenneth Hamilton
Head of Cardiff University School of Music

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/offerterms] 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/music
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.

www.cardiff.ac.uk/music
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.

Don’t just take our word for it . . .
“Cardiff is one of Europe’s youngest capital cities – small enough to be friendly and big enough to offer the best of living in a major city.”
The Complete University Guide 2017

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

“Cardiff seems to have it all: grand civic architecture in a breezy waterside location, super-smart city bars and venues just a short hop from lovely countryside.”
Guardian University Guide 2016
Cardiff 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
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
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, electro-acoustic studios, and a concert hall.
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 such as the National Museum of Wales and Chapter Arts Centre, as well as the Wales Millennium Centre, St David’s Hall and many smaller music and performance venues.

We benefit from collaborative links with many of these organisations, offering our students easy and affordable access to the diverse range of musical activities on offer in Cardiff.

Our student body averages around 285 (undergraduate and postgraduate). As most of our students live within walking distance of the Music Building, our facilities and School community provide a focal point for student life.

Teaching and Studio Facilities
Our Music Building has all the amenities you need to facilitate your studies. 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 studios are fully acoustically treated and equipped to industry standards, including ProTools, Logic Pro, and numerous software instruments, sample banks and plugins. The main studio has an attached live room for multitrack recording, voiceovers, and overdubs.

Music Library
Next door to the Music Building, you will find our dedicated and extensive Music Library, the premier source for music research materials in the Southwest. It houses more than 19,500 items of printed music and scores, 10,000 books and 8,000 recordings, as well as music journals, DVDs and online research resources. The University also has an extensive archive collection of manuscripts and printed music. Our subject librarian and friendly library staff are on hand to assist with specialist training on study skills and research resources.

Computing Facilities
Our computer suite contains Apple Macs and computers running all standard University applications, as well as the latest version of 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.

The Concert Hall is integral to the life and work of the School, acting as the centre of our student performances and concert series. Much of the performance in our Concert Hall 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 University 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, Symphonic Winds, 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, followed by a tour to Germany in 2016 and Xiamen, China in 2017.

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 or 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.

Instruments 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.

Performance Opportunities
One of the attractive features of studying at Cardiff University 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, Symphonic Winds, 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, followed by a tour to Germany in 2016 and Xiamen, China in 2017.

Dr Daniel Bickerton
Director of Undergraduate Studies
“We organise invaluable work placement opportunities and regular international ensemble tours for our students. They proactively engage in a wide variety of music making performance and composition opportunities with support from academic staff. Our Music and Jazz Societies (to name just two) are dynamic and vibrant forces within the student performance culture at the School, giving students opportunities to direct ensembles, organise music and social trips, as well as weekly lunchtime concerts.”
Undergraduate Study

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 University 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 lay the foundations of study, 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 join 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, performance, 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.

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.”
Study Abroad

The majority of our students will have the opportunity to study abroad as part of their undergraduate programme. We currently have links with universities in Berlin, Boston, Brno, Cologne, Freiburg, Heidelberg, Helsinki, Innsbruck, Krakow, Logrono, Lisbon, Ljubljana, Milan, Münster, New Hampshire, Paris, Rhode Island, Rouen, Salamanca, Strasbourg, Thessaloniki, Trondheim, Turku, Venice, and Warsaw.

Opportunities to study overseas include a semester within the standard 3-year BA or BMus degree (usually spring semester in your second year) or a full year if selecting the BA or BMus with a Year of Study Abroad (taken during your third year). Students taking a Joint Honours degree, particularly with a Modern Language or Maths, can also study abroad through our international partnerships.

For full information on which programmes offer opportunities to study abroad, see the table on page 20.

International Visitors

Every year we welcome students from our European partners through the Erasmus scheme, and from the USA, particularly from the University of New Hampshire. 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 practice their language skills. Tables are hosted by Erasmus students and all levels of ability are welcome. It is not a requirement or a class, just a chance to chat, socialise, and enjoy speaking another language. It is also useful for our home students planning to visit a foreign university to ask Erasmus students questions in advance. For our singers, there is also opportunity to run through foreign-language repertoire with native speakers.

Graduate Destinations

Graduates from the School of Music have pursued a wide range of careers in public and private sectors. Graduate destinations include the Florida Orchestra, BBC Radio 3, Royal College of Music, English National Opera, Oxford University Press and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Read more about graduate destinations and employability on page 17.

*This list is subject to change.

Dr Cameron Gardner
International and Socrates-Erasmus Coordinator

“For the student coming to the School of Music, we offer a wide range of places for them to study abroad. Whether in Europe or the United States, our partner institutes welcome Cardiff music students and encourage them to supplement their degrees with modules they teach each year. Participation in a global community of learning also extends to living in a city and country with a rich and diverse cultural history.

With our links to institutes overseas growing each year, it is an exciting time to be a music student!”

Dr Amanda Villepastour
Senior 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, 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.”

Dr Robert Fokkens
Senior Lecturer in Composition

“The UK has a vibrant, flourishing culture of composing and performing new music, with a growing audience. At Cardiff University 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.”
Undergraduate Degree Programmes

BMus Music
If you want to concentrate exclusively on music, then our BMus programme is right for you. Of all our courses it offers the most in-depth study, allowing you to spend all your time specialising in and studying music. This programme also enables you to take the specialist 30-credit options of composition and public recital in third year (options which are not available on BA programmes).

Approximately 78% 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.

Year One
You will lay the foundations for later specialist study, studying a selection of compulsory modules such as Repertoire Studies, Practical Musicianship, and Elements of Tonal Music. You will also have the opportunity to select a number of optional modules which suit your personal interests. Previous modules on offer include Ethnomusicology, Composition, A History of Popular Music and Dramaturgy in Musical Theatre.

Year Two
In this year, you will focus on more specialist topics, encouraging a greater level of concentration on areas of particular interest to you. You will have a wide range of optional modules to choose from, and may opt to spend a semester studying abroad during this year. Work placements are offered to students who select the Business of Music modules, giving an opportunity to better understand different branches of the music profession.

Previous optional modules have covered a wide range of topics including composition, performance, film music, studio techniques, popular music, Baroque music, opera, early music and 20th century British music.

Year Three
In your final year, you will continue to study a range of optional modules, which you can tailor to your own interests, while pursuing one or two of the major projects available: Dissertation, Ethnomusicology, Music Analysis, Composition or Recital.

Study Abroad
This programme can also be taken with a Year of Study Abroad. With this option, you will spend the third year of your degree studying at one of our partner institutes overseas, and will continue your final year of study when you return.
BA Music (Single Hons)

If you would like to combine your music studies with another Humanities subject, you should consider this programme. For the BA Single Honours your primary focus will be on music but you will also have the opportunity to broaden your education through the study of other subjects. Approximately 8% of our students are enrolled on this programme.

Year One
Your first year will lay the foundations of your degree, preparing you for later specialist study. You will be able to choose from modules teaching analysis, harmony and counterpoint, history of music, composition and practical musicianship along with modules from other humanities subjects. A minimum of 80 (out of 120) credits must be taken in music modules.

Year Two
In your second year, you will select music modules from four groups: composition and electroacoustic studies, written and practical musicianship, analytical and critical skills, and historical studies. Work placements are offered to students who select the Business of Music modules, giving an opportunity to better understand different branches of the music profession. A minimum of 100 (out of 120) credits must be taken in music modules.

Year Three
In your final year, you will continue to study a range of optional modules which you can tailor to your own academic interests. BA students do not have the option of a 30-credit composition portfolio or public performance, though you may select a shorter 20-credit composition portfolio and/or an open recital. 100 (out of 120) credits must be taken in music modules.

Study Abroad
This programme can also be taken with a Year of Study Abroad. With this option, you will spend the third year of your degree studying at one of our partner institutes overseas, and will continue your final year of study when you return.

BA Music (Joint Honours)

Students on a Joint Honours programme will have the opportunity to combine Music Studies with another Humanities subject or Maths. Students will typically divide their time between the two subjects equally. Approximately 14% of our current students are enrolled on Joint Honours programmes.

Year One
Your first year will lay the foundations of your degree, preparing you for later specialist study. You will be able to choose from modules teaching analysis, harmony and counterpoint, history of music, composition and practical musicianship as well as modules from your second subject. 60 (out of 120) credits will be taken in music modules.

Year Two
In your second year, you will progress to more advanced topics of study, choosing modules from four groups: composition and electroacoustic studies, written and practical musicianship, analytical and critical skills, and historical studies, as well as modules from your second subject. Work placements are offered to students who select the Business of Music modules, giving an opportunity to better understand different branches of the music profession. 60 (out of 120) credits will be taken in music modules.

Year Three
In your final year, you will continue to study a range of optional modules from both of your subjects. BA students do not have the option of a 30-credit composition portfolio or public performance, though they may select a shorter 20-credit composition portfolio and/or an open recital. 60 (out of 120) credits will be taken in music modules.

Joint Honours

Music can be taken as a Joint Honours with the following: French, German, Italian, Mathematics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Religious Studies, or Welsh. For full details, see the table on page 20.

Study Abroad
On some BA Joint Honours programmes, particularly those including a Modern Language, your third year will be a sandwich year of work and/or study abroad and you will continue your final year of study when you return. For a full list of which programmes offer a year of study abroad, see the table on page 20.
What Do Our Graduates Say?

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 the Welsh National Opera 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!”

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 arrive 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.

Nathan James Dearden
BMus 2013, MMus 2014

“The environment that the School of Music 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, 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 culturally rich 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 a 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.”

Jessica Cale and Nathan James Dearden profile photos (© Ben Tomlin photography)
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 2015/16 95% 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, several universities, Oxford University Press, the National Trust, and London Symphony Orchestra, along with 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 (using technology to create and record music), teamwork (working in orchestras or ensembles), and commercial awareness (managing income from performing or teaching). Music is also a very creative subject and music students can make an impact in the competitive jobseekers 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.

We run an annual series of talks on Careers in Music which offer a great chance to meet professionals active in a range of fields such as performance, music education, music journalism, arts 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, which was awarded a 100% rating of overall satisfaction in 2017, offers the opportunity to specialise further in musicology, ethnomusicology, popular music studies, composition and 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.

**Our Alumni**

- Karl Jenkins (BMus, 1966, composer)
- Mark Thomas (BMus, 1979, Emmy-nominated composer)
- Claire Feazey (BMus, 1989, Vice President IMG Artists, Paris)
- Tim Eggington (MA Performance Studies, 1990, College Librarian, Queen’s College, Cambridge)
- Peter Linnett (BMus, 1990, Head Music Librarian, Royal College of Music)
- Chris Taylor (BMus, 1991, Producer, BBC Radio 3)
- Giselle Allen (BA, 1992, international opera singer)
- Wendy Sadler MBE (BSc, 1994, founder of science made simple)
- Ben Curry (BMus, 1996, Lecturer, Department of Music, Birmingham University)
- Suzanne Hay (BMus, 1998, Head of Partnership and Learning, BBC NOW)
- Erika Hossington (BMus, 1998, TV producer, executive producer Casualty)
- Andrew Matthews-Owen (BMus, 1998, piano accompanist)
- Oliver Condy (MA, 1999, Editor of BBC Music Magazine)
- James Garrett (PhD, 1999, Senior Lecturer in Music and University Organist at the University of Manchester)
- Steven Berryman (BMus, 2003, PhD, 2012, Head of Music, City of London School for Girls)
- Fleur Bray (BMus 2005, professional singer)
- Andrea Haines (BMus, 2008, Member of Voces8, the international award-winning acapella group whose debut album topped the classical charts)
- Catherine Thompson (BMus, 2008, Development Coordinator for the Philharmonia Orchestra)
- Michael Francis (BMus, 2008, Music Director of The Florida Orchestra and Mainly Mozart Festival, San Diego)
- Cathy Alghabra (BMus, 2009, freelance soprano and Programme Manager at London Youth Choir)
- Jessica Cale (BMus, 2014, freelance soprano singing with ensembles including The Sixteen and Monteverdi Choir)
Applications & Further Information

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 relevant programme codes can be found on the following page.

Our student body averages around 285 (undergraduates and postgraduates). Our annual undergraduate intake is around 75-80 across all 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 Honours students to visit the School for a tour and an interview/audition. During this visit you will have the opportunity to speak to staff and current students to ask any questions you may have, whilst also giving us the chance to get to know you better. Students applying for a BA Joint Honours will not be invited for interview, but will be invited to a Humanities Open Day in February or March.

Auditions

During your visit to the School you will have a short audition. The audition will take the format of an individual 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 be asked to inform us of your proposed performance piece beforehand. There will also be opportunities during the day to tour our facilities, attend a talk on our programmes, and participate in workshops.

Offers are made shortly after the interview day. If you are unable to accept the invitation on the date we suggest, an alternative date can usually be arranged.

Auditioning may sound daunting, but it should not put you off applying. A lot of people who come 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.

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

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

Practical exam results (Associated Boards, Trinity College, etc.) will, of course, be taken into account, along with your 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 Music 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/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.

For further information please contact the Disability Adviser:
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4844
Email: disability@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/funding-ug

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
Student Finance Wales: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk
Student Finance England: www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance
Student Loans Company: www.slc.co.uk

Joanna Cooke
BMus second year
“Visiting the School on the day of audition was nerve settling. It made me more determined to do well in my audition as I fell in love with the building and the facilities. It felt like a friendly, calming environment and made me feel far more relaxed for my audition as I felt at home. I’d say to students who are preparing for their audition to not at all be nervous. The staff at the School of Music are incredibly friendly and welcoming, and they know exactly what you’re going through. Even if you don’t perform to the best of your ability on the day, they are skilled enough to hear potential and they know how good you really can be.”
UCAS Codes for Single and BA Joint Honours Programmes

**Single Honours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>UCAS</th>
<th>Semester Abroad</th>
<th>Year Abroad</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BMus Music</td>
<td>W302</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMus Music with a Year of Study Abroad</td>
<td>G85D</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Music</td>
<td>W300</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Music with a Year of Study Abroad</td>
<td>G84D</td>
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**Joint Honours**

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<th>Name</th>
<th>UCAS</th>
<th>Semester Abroad</th>
<th>Year Abroad</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA English Literature and Music</td>
<td>WQ33</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BA French and Music</td>
<td>WR31</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BA German and Music</td>
<td>WR32</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BA History and Music</td>
<td>WV31</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Italian and Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Music and Mathematics</td>
<td>GW13</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Music and Mathematics with a Year Abroad</td>
<td>GW31</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Music and Philosophy</td>
<td>VW53</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Music and Religious Studies</td>
<td>VW63</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Music and Welsh</td>
<td>QW53</td>
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**Typical Entry Requirements**

**A-level**

**BMus and BA Honours**

AAB-BBB (with an A or B in Music and excluding General Studies).

**BA Joint Honours**

AAB-BBB (with an A or B in Music, and excluding General Studies). Please refer to our online Course Finder for specific requirements for each Joint Honours programme.

**Welsh Baccalaureate**

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

**International Baccalaureate**

32 points in total, with 6 at Higher Level Music. Consideration will be given to applicants who are not taking Higher Level Music but have Grade 7 or 8 Theory and Grade 8 Practical.

**BTEC**

Extended Diploma DDM

**GCSE**

English and Maths

**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.

**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. This could be a score of 6.5 in IELTS with a minimum score of 6.0 in each category, or an equivalent qualification.

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**Dr Carlo Cenciarelli**

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

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 4816
Email: musicschool@cardiff.ac.uk

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Cardiff CF10 3EB
UK

Stay in touch
Find us: facebook.com/CUSchoolMusic
Follow us: @cardiffunimusic