School of Social Sciences

Undergraduate Degree Programmes

www.cardiff.ac.uk/social-sciences
Welcome

Top 100
in the world for
Social Policy and
Administration.
Source: QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022

Extend your study to four years by spending a year on professional placement or studying abroad.

95% of our graduates were in employment and/or further study, due to start a new job or course, or doing other activities such as travelling, 15 months after the end of their course.

“The university is amazing. The staff are creative, innovative and so supportive.”
Megan Smith
Education (BSc 2021)

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA), Graduate Outcomes Survey 2018/19*
“The school feels like a community. There is not a single member of staff that would not help you when needed.”

Mollie Lewis
Criminology and Sociology (BSc 2022)

3rd in the UK for Education research.

Source: Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021

“I’ve loved how passionate the lecturers and seminar leaders have been. It’s definitely sparked more of a passion in me.”

Poppy Dall’Occo
Education (BSc 2023)

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* HESA data: Copyright Higher Education Statistics Agency Limited 2021. The Higher Education Statistics Agency Limited cannot accept responsibility for any inferences or conclusions derived by third parties from its data. Data is from 2017/18 and 2018/19 Graduate Outcomes surveys, which have been combined to calculate the statistic for postgraduate taught while the undergraduate statistic is derived from the 2018/19 results. www.cardiff.ac.uk/social-sciences/about-us/employability
Choose Cardiff

Study in the dynamic, interdisciplinary and innovative School of Social Sciences.
It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Cardiff University and the School of Social Sciences.

We take great pride in our student community and are committed, as a school, to ensuring that all our students enjoy a rewarding learning experience.

Programmes of study in the school enable an academic and applied understanding of social life, and provide the intellectual tools - knowledge, analysis, argument, judgement - with which to engage with current social and public debate.

We offer undergraduate degrees in sociology, criminology, education, social analytics, human and social sciences, social policy, and social science. Our programmes are led and supported by leading academics, all of whom are experts in their fields of study.

Our research is recognised as world-leading, and as having a direct impact on policy and practice. Many of our staff act as advisers to international organisations, Westminster and European parliaments, and the Welsh Government, as well as to public and private sector organisations. This means that our students have the opportunity to learn from scholars who are contributing to policy debates at international, national and local levels.

Teaching in the school is informed and underpinned by the most recent academic research and scholarship. Our students also benefit from our many academic collaborations with universities in Europe, the USA, Canada, and South East Asia, as well as opportunities for placements and work experience in the UK and overseas.

I look forward to welcoming you to Cardiff University and to supporting you throughout your time here with us.

Professor Tom Hall
Head of School, pictured
Beginning your career

On my placement in the DVLA I worked in several different departments. It was so exciting and gave me the opportunity to research and understand different aspects of the business and to see how the theories I studied work in the real world.

Tiffany Collins, BScEcon Sociology
Turning theory into practical application and providing experience in the working world are important aspects of what we offer.

We encourage our students to think about life beyond university from day one, offering modules and support to give you a competitive advantage on graduating. Studying a degree in social sciences will help develop skills such as intellectual self-reliance, the ability to process information and make considered judgements, constructive criticism and a willingness to seek solutions. This will enable you to develop transferable skills in communication, team working, problem solving, time management, and information and communication technologies.

Our students have an excellent reputation for finding employment after they graduate. The most recent data shows that 95% of our graduates were in employment and/or further study, due to start a new job or course, or doing other activities such as travelling, 15 months after the end of their course*.

Graduates from the School of Social Sciences choose a variety of career paths including the police service, social work, welfare and housing services, youth work, teaching, community development, counselling and advocacy work.

Careers and employability service
We offer advice and guidance to our students at every stage of their undergraduate and postgraduate study, and up to two years after graduation. Our school’s dedicated careers advisor and the university’s careers and employability service (Student Futures) deliver a tailored range of careers-related events throughout the year and can help you meet your career ambitions through a range of focused activities including:

- one-to-one careers guidance appointments
- careers workshops including CV writing, applications, social networking and interviews
- professional networking events and careers fairs with top graduate employers
- professional guest speakers
- work experience placements and advice
- jobs board including graduate vacancies, internships and placements

www.cardiff.ac.uk/careers

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www.cardiff.ac.uk/social-sciences/about-us/employability
Why study social sciences?

To study the social sciences is to study society itself.
In an increasingly globalised and fast-changing world, it has never been more important to understand the behaviours, attitudes and motivations of people and how opportunity and success is shaped by our interactions with the institutions and structures that surround us.

At its heart, social science is concerned with understanding the relationships and interactions between individuals, groups, institutions and structures. Why do women typically earn less than men? What are the causes of crime? What is the role of the state in providing welfare? Are the social inequalities we observe replicated in our online interactions? Why does educational attainment differ between demographic groups? The social sciences ask the big questions about what is happening in our society.

The School of Social Sciences teaches the disciplines of criminology, sociology, education, human and social sciences, social analytics, and social policy. But the reality is that many of the questions we wish to ask are interdisciplinary.

For example, to understand the causes of crime we must understand how inequality manifests in society through educational attainment. How poverty and deprivation are alleviated (or not) through social policy. How the life chances of an individual are related to their background (family, community) and their individual characteristics (race, ethnicity, social class).

This is why the degree programmes we offer allow you to choose modules from across the school in order to explore these questions from different perspectives. Some of our programmes are designed with interdisciplinarity in mind, such as Social Science (BSc) and Social Analytics (BSc).

In addition to describing the social world, studying in the social sciences is also about observing and understanding change. My own research concerns how society manifests in the online world. This includes the extent to which we can use social media and other new forms of data to understand attitudes, beliefs and behaviours.

Alongside this we might ask ourselves questions about the use of social media itself. Such as how the rise of platforms such as Facebook and Instagram have changed the way in which we interact and communicate. Have a look now at the profile pictures of your friends online – do you notice how masculinity and femininity are performed through the images people choose to represent themselves?

In countless ways the social sciences are essential for making sense of the world around us. Which is why a degree from the School of Social Sciences will equip you for a career in a wide range of organisations including the police service, social work, welfare and housing services, youth work, teaching, community development, counselling and advocacy work.

As social scientists we spend our life trying to make sense of a complex, fascinating and ever-changing society. We would be delighted if you joined us on this journey.

Dr Luke Sloan
Director of Learning and Teaching

www.cardiff.ac.uk/social-sciences
Studying with us

What you study with us will relate directly to current events happening in the world today, and will enable you to understand and contribute to contemporary debates in an informed way.
We are an interdisciplinary school with a strong reputation for academic excellence, ranking 3rd and 10th in the UK for our research in Education and Sociology respectively in the most recent UK Research Excellence Framework (REF 2021) assessment.

All of our degree programmes are designed to teach the foundations of their respective disciplines alongside the theoretical and methodological principles that underpin the social sciences. Many of our programmes provide students with opportunities to tailor their studies by selecting modules related to their academic or professional interests, and to study across the multiple disciplines taught in the school.

The school offers single honours degree programmes in criminology, education and sociology, as well as interdisciplinary single honours programmes in social science, social analytics, and human and social sciences. We also offer a range of joint honours degrees, giving you the opportunity to combine subjects within the School of Social Sciences and from other academic schools.

Many of our programmes offer the opportunity for you to extend your degree to four years, spending the third year on a professional placement or studying abroad.

Research quality

Our school is an influential centre of research, with specialised centres and groups contributing to a lively research environment. We regularly host research seminars, talks and conferences.

The school’s areas of research are:
- science, technology and risk
- crime, security and justice
- education and education policy
- health and social care
- inequality, labour and the future of work
- people, place and policy

Student experience

Ensuring our students have the best possible experience is at the heart of what we do. All students are assigned a personal tutor who will be your main contact for any academic and pastoral support. You will meet with your personal tutor regularly to discuss your academic progress, receive feedback and advice, and make future plans. We also have an active Student Staff Panel who are integral to the student experience in the school.
Location and facilities

The School of Social Sciences is located in the historic Grade I listed Glamorgan Building in the heart of Cardiff’s Civic Centre, a short distance from the main university buildings and our Students’ Union.

Our magnificent building houses teaching and learning facilities, including modern lecture theatres with the latest audio-visual technology, ICT suites, seminar rooms, a student support hub, and a friendly and informal café where students and staff can meet and relax.

The Glamorgan Building is a lively, vibrant space in the centre of Cardiff, holding regular talks and conferences as well as being a popular filming location for BBC series, including Doctor Who.

The Bute Library, housed next door to the school in the Bute Building, has an extensive collection of social sciences books available for our students and a dedicated subject librarian to help with all your study and research needs.

We have a dedicated undergraduate common room in the Glamorgan Building with study space.
Many of our programmes offer the opportunity to enhance your degree by spending a year abroad, immersing yourself in a new culture, or to undertake a professional placement year to develop your skills in the workplace.

**Spend time abroad**

Studying, working or volunteering abroad is a fantastic opportunity to immerse yourself in a different culture, make new friends, embrace a new language and enhance your career prospects. Spending time abroad will help you to develop a wide range of transferable skills prized by employers including independence and responsibility, organisation and time management, problem solving, communication skills, and adaptability and resilience.

The majority of our programmes offer the opportunity to extend your study to four years, spending your third year studying abroad. Our students can also undertake research projects, work and volunteer in institutions around the world.

**Professional placement**

Many of our programmes can be extended to four years, with the third year spent on professional placement. Students who undertake a professional placement develop their employability skills, gain insight into an organisation and a career, and begin to develop a network of professional contacts.

Our students have secured year-long placements at a range of organisations through Government Social Research (GSR) including Department for International Trade, Department for Work and Pensions, the Home Office and Welsh Government.

If available on your chosen programme, you can apply to extend your study to four years in your second year.
Our degree programmes

Social Science BSc
UCAS Code: L301

This interdisciplinary degree allows you to combine the theories and methods of different disciplines to increase knowledge and understanding.

This flexible and highly customisable programme allows you to study across the social science spectrum, encompassing sociology, criminology, education, social analytics, social policy and psychology. The unique flexibility of this programme means that you can sample a broad mix of topics from across the wide range of available options, or you can organise your studies thematically and gain multiple perspectives of the same topic, such as gender, ethnicity and inequality.

Distinctive features
- A minimal number of core modules after year one, allowing you to mix modules from across the school’s disciplines
- Opportunity to study a credit-bearing placement module
- Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad

Don’t just take our word for it . . .

This course allowed me to study a range of aspects within sociology and offered me flexible job prospects. I enjoyed how I was able to study a broad range of subjects within the social sciences such as psychology and education.

Alexandra Moore, Social Science (BSc 2018)
Criminology **BSc**  
UCAS Code: **L370**

We provide an opportunity to study criminology as an interdisciplinary degree, combining the theories and methods of multiple disciplines to increase knowledge and understanding of crime and control.

The study of criminology investigates how social groups or behaviours are defined as ‘criminal’ or ‘anti-social’, how different approaches to criminal justice policy balance protection, rehabilitation and control, and how victims are affected by their experiences.

Our programme draws on a range of social science disciplines including sociology, social policy, law, political science, history, and anthropology. Study focuses on developing the ‘criminological imagination’ within the social sciences, beginning by examining how to approach problems of crime, justice and control as a social scientist before applying these research-driven disciplinary skills to reveal real world issues and debates.

During the course you will develop a specialised appreciation of criminological research and the operation of criminal justice and crime control processes.

**Distinctive features**

- Taught by leading criminologists with strong links to police, probation and prisons
- Opportunity to study a credit-bearing placement module
- Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad

**Joint Honours**

- Criminology and Social Policy  
  UCAS Code: **8D46**  
  (see page 19)
- Criminology and Sociology  
  UCAS Code: **8F46**  
  (see page 19)
- Law and Criminology  
  UCAS Code: **M190**  
  (see page 21)

Don’t just take our word for it . . .

*The thing I liked most about the School of Social Sciences is the open-mindedness. In seminars I felt that students’ voices were valued and the discussions and debates we had with tutors greatly aided our learning.*

Ellen Rochester,  
Criminology and Sociology (BSc 2018)
This programme is designed for students who are looking for the opportunity to study the subject in a broad social science context.

Education is a stimulating and challenging social science subject that explores and questions the social, psychological, political and economic foundations of education. Teaching on this programme is informed by our research in education and the latest developments in policy and practice, encompassing aspects of culture and identity, childhood and youth, gender and ethnicity, and social justice and inclusion.

Students benefit from our close links with policy makers as well as local schools, colleges, and other education and training organisations. On this programme you will have opportunities to engage with educators and practice to develop your own experience, and to apply theory and practice to real life situations.

The core modules of this programme are aimed at developing a deep understanding of the social, historical, political, economic, and developmental contexts of education in Wales, the UK and internationally, allowing you to consider education in a global context.

**Distinctive features**
- Close links with policy makers, schools, colleges and other education and training organisations
- Opportunity to study a credit-bearing placement module
- Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad

**Joint Honours**
- Sociology and Education Ucas Code: **8J46** (see page 20)
- Welsh and Education Ucas Code: **QX53** (see page 22)

**Don’t just take our word for it...**

During my degree I enjoyed the range of perspectives we studied, the fact that our lecturers and seminar leaders are active in their research, and that we were learning from researchers at the top of their field.

Emily Raj, Education (BSc 2022)
Social Policy **BSc** (as a joint honours programme only)

UCAS Codes: see Joint Honours box below

Social policy is the study of how societies respond to human need and seek to promote the wellbeing of their members.

The study of social policy provides a critical understanding of the challenges of responding to human need, and managing the provision of social services. You will study debates about the goals of policy: how we decide what human needs are, whose responsibility it is to meet human needs, and what we mean by 'social justice'.

Our programme examines policies in a wide variety of areas, including social security, education, health, housing and personal social services, as well as policies seeking to address new challenges such as tackling global warming and promoting environmental sustainability.

A degree with social policy provides you with a thorough grounding in key debates and theories regarding the state, society and wellbeing. You will learn how to evaluate and interpret evidence, apply theories and examine policies in an objective fashion.

**Social Policy is available only as a joint honours programme with another discipline.**

**Joint Honours**

- Criminology and Social Policy
  UCAS Code: **8D46** (see page 19)
- Sociology and Social Policy
  UCAS Code: **8K46** (see page 20)

**Distinctive features**

- Teaching reflects current areas of staff research
- Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad
- Explore the historical, sociological and political dimensions of social policy

**Don’t just take our word for it**

What I have most enjoyed about my degree is the vast range of areas that can be explored. As my degree is so broad it enabled me to research and study areas that interest me and expand my knowledge.

Sophia Fearnley, Criminology and Social Policy (BSc 2020)
Pursue one of the oldest and most prestigious social science disciplines in one of the UK’s largest and most successful centres of social science.

Sociology is dedicated to the study of social life as found in groups, institutions and societies. A degree in sociology provides critical tools for handling the analysis of all aspects of social conduct, from the intricacies of face-to-face interaction to the ways in which individual actions and beliefs shape, and are shaped by, the social world around them.

Our programme is characterised by rigorous theoretically-informed empirical research. Expertise amongst our staff includes childhood, youth and ageing, the study of sexuality, health and the body, the construction and reconstruction of identities, the rise of consumer culture, and the profound transformations to social, culture and private life which economic and technological globalisation have delivered.

Distinctive features
- Study in a school ranked 10th in the UK for research quality in Sociology
- Opportunity to study a credit-bearing placement module
- Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad

Joint Honours
- Criminology and Sociology UCAS Code: 8F46 (see page 19)
- Sociology and Education UCAS Code: 8J46 (see page 20)
- Sociology and Social Policy UCAS Code: 8K46 (see page 20)
- Journalism, Media and Sociology UCAS Code: LP35 (see page 21)
- Politics and Sociology UCAS Code: LL32 (see page 22)

Don’t just take our word for it...

I chose sociology because I have always been interested in human behaviour and socio-political issues around race, gender and class. I enjoyed learning how to think critically and beyond common sense perspectives. The course taught me a great deal and gave me a different perspective on all aspects of human life, as well as giving me opportunities to go on placements abroad. The best thing about the School of Social Sciences was the staff. They were always friendly and incredibly helpful and felt like friends by the end of the three years.

Janak Howard, Sociology (BSc 2018)
Human and Social Sciences **BSc**
UCAS Code: **58H2**

Human and social sciences is a unique opportunity to study psychology alongside modules from other disciplines across the school.

Accredited by the British Psychological Society as the basis for graduate membership of the society, this course provides an integrated perspective on psychology, which emphasises its social, conceptual and historical aspects, along with a core of social research methods.

The only course of its kind currently on offer in the United Kingdom, this programme will allow you to build up a range of skills and knowledge whilst developing a critical understanding of psychology as a social science in a range of issues such as social change, gender, class and ethnicity.

In addition to core modules in psychology and social research methods, you will be able to study a wide range of modules in education, sociology, social policy, and social analytics.

The flexibility of this programme allows you to tailor your optional modules to a particular pathway if you have a specific career in mind. Alternatively, you are able to pursue an interdisciplinary approach by studying a range of topics and debates from across the social sciences.

**Distinctive features**
- Accredited by the British Psychological Society
- Opportunity to study a credit-bearing placement module
- Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad

**Don’t just take our word for it . . .**

The highlight of my degree has been conducting my dissertation, as I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to go to New Zealand for a placement over the summer of my second year, based at the University of Auckland and carrying out research in schools.

Megan Whiteley,
Human and Social Sciences (BSc 2019)
Every day we read news headlines quoting figures relating to everything from Brexit and migration to teenage pregnancy and sexual health.

In a world saturated with data, figures and statistics, social analytics is concerned with making sense of the social world that we live in by critically evaluating the knowledge claims being made.

This programme offers a unique opportunity to investigate our society through quantitative research via a range of disciplines including sociology, criminology, human and social sciences, social policy and education. Social analytics is an interdisciplinary degree suitable for students interested in themes that cut across the social sciences such as inequality, health, deviance, gender and ethnicity.

This is the only programme in the school with a guaranteed work placement. Recent placement organisations include the Welsh Government, Agored Cymru, Welsh Blood Service, Chwarae Teg and the Wales Wheelchair Basketball Association.

Distinctive features
• Designed to meet growing demands from employers for social scientists trained in quantitative research methods
• A credit-bearing compulsory work placement in the second year
• Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad

Don’t just take our word for it…

Studying BSc social analytics was the best decision I ever made! The guaranteed work placement in my second year was something I was particularly drawn to. The teaching staff are very supportive and the course taught me a lot of skills that I can transfer into my later studies and future career.

Jodie Luker,
Social Analytics (BSc 2018)
Criminology and Social Policy BSc
UCAS Code: **8D46**

This degree is an opportunity to study both criminology and social policy within an interdisciplinary social sciences context.

You will learn how to evaluate and interpret evidence, apply theories and examine policies in an objective fashion. Criminology modules will focus on criminalisation, victimisation and social responses to crime and disorder. Social policy modules study how societies respond to human need and seek to promote the wellbeing of their members.

This course gives you the opportunity to learn from leading criminologists with strong links to police, probation and prisons, as well as local authorities, and Welsh and UK government institutions.

Distinctive features
- Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad
- Research-active staff are involved in teaching this programme
- Learn how to evaluate and interpret evidence, apply theories and examine policies in an objective fashion

Criminology and Sociology BSc
UCAS Code: **8F46**

This programme offers the opportunity to combine the study of crime, deviance and victimisation with the study of wider society and the social processes within it.

Criminology modules focus on criminalisation, victimisation and social responses to crime and disorder. Sociology modules are dedicated to the study of social life as found in groups, institutions and societies. They will provide the critical tools for handling the analysis of all aspects of social conduct, from face-to-face interactions to how economic forces shape and are shaped by global society.

You will learn from leading criminologists with strong links to police, probation and prisons, as well as local authorities, and Welsh and UK government institutions.

Distinctive features
- Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad
- Study in a school ranked 10th in the UK for research quality in Sociology
- Learn the methods and ideas needed to make your own contribution to understanding and improving society
This joint honours programme uses a wide range of approaches to help you learn the methods and tools needed to develop a deep understanding of the social, historical, political, economic and developmental contexts of education.

Our education teaching is informed by our research in education and the latest developments in policy and practice, encompassing aspects of culture and identity, childhood and youth, gender and ethnicity, and social justice and inclusion.

Sociology modules focus on the study of social life as found in groups, institutions and societies. It provides the critical tools for handling the analysis of all aspects of social conduct.

Distinctive features
- A chance to study wider debates around education, laying the foundation for a wide variety of careers
- Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad
- Modules on offer reflect staff research, including work and globalisation; urban and everyday life; and social media, culture and consumption

This joint honours programme teaches you how to evaluate and interpret evidence, apply theories and examine policies.

Teaching draws upon a wide range of data and methods to investigate a range of social issues and help you make your own contribution to understanding and improving society.

Social policy modules study how societies respond to human need and seek to promote the wellbeing of their members. Sociology modules will focus on social life as found in groups, institutions and societies. You will study the critical tools needed for handling the analysis of all aspects of social conduct, from face-to-face interactions to how economic forces shape and are shaped by global society.

Distinctive features
- Study in a school ranked 10th in the UK for research quality in Sociology
- Extend your study to four years, spending your third year on a professional placement or studying abroad
- Research-active staff are involved in teaching this programme
Law and Criminology **LLB**
**UCAS Code: M190**

Gain hands on experience of law in the real world.

This challenging and stimulating programme enables you to build the skills required for a career in law, or a wide range of professions. Criminology modules will focus on criminalisation, victimisation and social responses to crime and disorder.

Law modules will offer a comprehensive grounding in English and Welsh Law with a range of foundation modules (important for progression to becoming a solicitor or barrister in England and Wales) but you will also examine how to approach problems of crime, justice and control as a social scientist and apply your new research-driven skills to real world issues and debates.

*The route to qualifying as a solicitor changed in 2021 with the introduction of Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE). For further information on the changes related to SQE please visit the Solicitors Regulation Authority website.*

**Distinctive features**
- The opportunity to learn from leading criminologists with strong links to police, probation and prisons, as well as local authorities, and Welsh and UK government institutions
- Enhance your studies by carrying out voluntary legal work via our pro bono unit

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Journalism, Media and Sociology **BA**
**UCAS Code: LP35**

This degree is delivered in partnership with the School of Journalism, Media and Culture and offers an opportunity to explore current debates in sociological concepts and methods, communications and media studies.

Your sociology studies will help you to make sense of the social and cultural contexts in which journalism is rooted and to which media debates respond – such as the changing nature of media networks, and shifts in the nature of work, leisure and family life.

Journalism and media modules will introduce many of the key themes, concepts, frameworks and skills necessary to begin your critical analysis of the media, your study of journalism and your understanding of mass communications.

**Distinctive features**
- Study in a school ranked 10th in the UK for research quality in Sociology
- Research-active staff are involved in teaching this programme
- Compare scholarly and professional approaches to understanding the evolving nature of news in light of recent trends and developments
Politics and Sociology  
**BSc Econ**  
UCAS Code: **LL32**

This degree aims to provide you with an excellent understanding of politics and government while also equipping you with associated intellectual and communications skills that will be of value whether you work in government or in the private or voluntary sectors.

Politics modules are varied, allowing you to explore how politics works in Britain and further afield as well as investigating how public policy is made. Sociology modules are dedicated to the study of social life as found in groups, institutions and societies.

This course uses a wide range of approaches to help you learn the methods and tools needed to make your own contribution to understanding and improving society.

**Distinctive features**
- Academic links with the Senedd Cymru and long-established relationships with national and international organisations such as Westminster parliament, European Union and NATO
- Study a school ranked 10th in the UK for research quality in Sociology

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Welsh and Education  
**BA**  
UCAS Code: **QX53**

This joint honours course gives first-language Welsh students the opportunity to combine study of Welsh with educational policy and development theory.

Modules taught by the School of Welsh aim to produce graduates with a thorough academic and practical understanding of the Welsh language, its literature and culture, a high level of skill in written and spoken Welsh and well-developed employability and creative skills relevant to modern Wales.

Education modules taught by the School of Social Sciences are aimed at developing a deep understanding of the social, historical, political, economic and developmental contexts of education in Wales, the UK and internationally.

**Distinctive features**
- Study in a school ranked 3rd in the UK for research quality in Education
- Study a core module focusing on employability skills and offering a period of work experience
- Close links with policy makers, as well as local schools, colleges and other education/training organisations, provide opportunities for you to actively engage with educators and practice

A capital city

Cardiff is a compact city with an enormous character. Nestled between the rugged coastline and breathtaking mountainous scenery of Wales, the country’s capital is a cornucopia of culture, marrying historical delights with cosmopolitan amenities.

Providing an endless array of activities, one stroll through its cobbled streets can see you learn about the rich tapestry of Cardiff’s past at Cardiff Castle before soaking in the atmosphere as the crowds spill from the Principality Stadium after one of the many sporting events it holds year round.

The vibrant and independent culinary scene is the heartbeat of the city. With something to please every palate, you can enjoy fine dining, plant-based treats and exotic cuisines from almost every corner of the globe, without forgetting Welsh cakes for dessert!

Wales is the land of song, and Cardiff certainly contributes heftily to this legacy. This city is built with music running through its veins, from the oldest record store in the world Spillers Records, which is tucked away in Morgan Arcade, to more contemporary and intimate venues which host some of the world’s most exciting new musical talent.

Though your Cardiff bucket list may be bursting at the seams, be sure to make a little room for our National Museum which is a place of true wonder, while the iconic Wales Millennium Centre in the idyllic setting of Cardiff Bay is simply not to be missed.

Bustling with personality, Cardiff is a city made for students, offering an endless string of entertainment opportunities while remaining inexpensive and easy to navigate. The modern shopping centres, aesthetic arcades, luscious green parks and thriving nightlife are a huge draw for living in Cardiff, though you’ll always find your way back to our Students’ Union, which is the true home of the student scene in the city.

“The official capital of Wales only since 1955, the buoyant city of Cardiff (Caerdydd) has, since the turn of the millennium, witnessed a remarkable evolution from a large town to a truly international city, with massive developments in the centre as well as on the rejuvenated waterfront. With a reputation as a party town, allied to lots of top-class sport and a cultural attractions, it is one of the UK’s most enticing destinations.”

Rough Guide 2020
A capital city

A leading university

“Cardiff University is highly rated on a local and global scale.”
The Telegraph

Our students learn from leading researchers in over 300 courses across the university. As Wales’ only Russell Group institution, we have gained an international reputation for excellence in teaching and research, which is built from our history of achievement since 1883.

Cardiff University becomes home for approximately 5,500 new undergraduate students every year. While competition for places is strong, we pride ourselves on being an inclusive university, welcoming applications from everyone who wishes to study with us.

We are a global university with over 7,500 international students from more than 100 countries and open our doors to all applications, irrespective of background.

Facilities and development
Committed to investing in our services, Cardiff University is home to new and well-equipped laboratories, lecture theatres, libraries and computing facilities to name a few, with more exciting developments continuously underway.

We take our environmental, safety and security responsibilities seriously, embracing our comprehensive Energy, Water and Waste Policy, which is already making great savings in energy consumption and helping us to do our bit to tackle climate change.

Global Opportunities
We are partnered with over 200 leading institutions across the world, and our Global Opportunities team will help you to gain valuable international experience, through study, work or volunteering.

Supporting you
Our student support and wellbeing centres deliver a substantial range of services available to all students that are free, impartial, non-judgemental and confidential, aimed to help you make the most of student life and support you during your study.

We are also rated as one of the best universities for supporting LGBT+ students and are proud to be ranked highly in the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index.

Virtual campus tour
Discover more about the University and the city of Cardiff through our interactive online tour at:
virtualtour.cardiff.ac.uk
Living in Cardiff

Cardiff is the perfect place to be a student. It mirrors the hive of activity a big city offers, but in an intimate and compact setting with endless character. Drink in the atmosphere, soak up the culture and get stuck into the host of activities available in our city; your new home.

A guarantee of accommodation
If you accept your offer of a place at Cardiff on a firm basis, you are guaranteed a single occupancy place in university accommodation during your first year, living with other first year undergraduate students.

The residential dates for your particular accommodation will be confirmed in your Offer of Residence.

Residence Life
While staying in Cardiff student accommodation, you will have access to the incredible service provided by the Residence Life Team who work tirelessly to enhance your student experience.

Working in partnership with Student Support and Wellbeing, the Residences Office and the Students’ Union, Residence Life will welcome you to Cardiff and help you to make a smooth transition into university.

They also help foster a strong sense of community through social events and cultural activities, as well as practical support too.

Students’ Union
Our Students’ Union is at the heart of the Cardiff student experience. It’s a student-led and independent part of the university, dedicated to making your time with us the best it can be.

Built on the foundation of inclusion, diversity, personal development and friendship, the Students’ Union runs a range of activities and services to help enhance your Cardiff University experience. These include advice, training, skills development, entertainment, volunteering opportunities and employment throughout your time at Cardiff and to prepare you for a career after university too.

“No Cardiff has one of the biggest, best and most active students’ unions in the UK, with high quality facilities including Y Plas, a 2,150 capacity nightclub; and the Great Hall, a major concert venue.”

Complete University Guide, 2020

Find out more . . .

Accommodation
For further information please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/residences
You can also watch our residences film online at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxzX-dYlfB8

Students’ Union
facebook.com/cardiffstudents
snapchat.com/add/cardiffstudents
instagram.com/cardiffstudents
@cardiffstudents
www.youtube.com/cardiffstudents
Applications

To be considered for entry onto any of the undergraduate courses offered in the School of Social Sciences you should apply through UCAS:
UCAS, Rosehill, New Barn Lane, Cheltenham, Glos, GL52 3LZ, UK
www.ucas.com

Entry requirements

A Levels: The school usually requires three A Levels (or their equivalent) in subjects other than General Studies. Our current standard A Level entry requirements range from AAB-BBB depending on degree programme. AS level subjects will not be accepted as contributing to the entry requirements.

GCSE: English at Grade C or its equivalent is required and maths is desirable.

IB: 17-18 points in three Higher Level subjects.

Other: Applications are welcomed from mature-age applicants and those offering qualifications other than A levels, e.g. Welsh Baccalaureate, BTEC, accredited Access courses.

Each application is examined on its merits, but demonstration of active and formal study within the last two years is desirable.

International students should have achieved an overall IELTS score of 6.5, with a minimum of 5.5 in each sub-score, or evidence of equivalent English Language proficiency.

Equality and diversity

We are committed to supporting, developing and promoting equality and diversity in all our practices and activities.

We aim to establish an inclusive culture free from discrimination and based upon the values of dignity, courtesy and respect. We recognise the right of every person to be treated in accordance with these values.

We are committed to advancing equality on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief (including lack of belief), sex and sexual orientation and to fostering good relations between different groups.

For further information, please visit: www.cardiff.ac.uk/public-information/equality-and-diversity
Open Days
The university runs Open Days throughout the year giving anyone considering applying to Cardiff the chance to find out more about life at university and see what we offer.
If you apply and are offered a place, you will be invited to meet us at our specially-devised school Offer Holder Days. When making that important decision, we strongly encourage you to join us. Not only will you have the opportunity to hear more about our degrees, you will also meet staff, have the chance to talk to current students and to get the feel for our cosmopolitan capital city.

Student support
Whether or not you use student support services it’s reassuring to know that they are available to you should you need them. Every student is assigned a personal tutor but should you need extra support we have a range of services available to you. Such as;
• Disability and Dyslexia support
• Counselling and Wellbeing Guidance
• International Student Support
Email: studentsupportcentre@cardiff.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4844
• Student Mentor Scheme
www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/student-life/student-support

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 applicants not currently registered. Please note charges for accommodation in University Residences are additional.

Tuition fees
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
How to find the school
We are located in the Glamorgan Building, which sits at 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.

Key
- School of Social Sciences
- University and NHS buildings
- Student residences

Important Legal Information
The contents of this brochure relate to the Entry 2023 admissions cycle and are correct at the time of going to press in June 2022. 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 at: 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.

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

This brochure is printed on paper obtained from well managed sources using vegetable-based inks. Both the paper used in the production of this prospectus and the manufacturing process are FSC® certified. The printers are also accredited to ISO14001, the internationally recognised environmental standard.

When you have finished with this brochure it can be recycled, but please consider passing on to a friend or leaving it in your careers library for others to use.

Thank you.

Cardiff University is a registered charity, no. 1136855

This prospectus can be made available in alternative formats, including large print (text), Braille and on audio tape/CD.

To request an alternative format please contact Laura Roberts:
Tel: 029 2087 4455
Email: RobertsL9@cardiff.ac.uk

www.cardiff.ac.uk/social-sciences
To find out more about the School of Social Sciences please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/social-sciences

Contact us
Tel: 029 2087 4208
Email: socialscienceadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk

School of Social Sciences
Cardiff University
Glamorgan Building
King Edward VII Avenue
Cardiff CF10 2WT

Stay in touch
Facebook: cardiffsocsi
Twitter: @CUSocSci

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

Want to know more about life at Cardiff University? Our student bloggers are recording their experiences and are happy to answer your questions. Our student bloggers are real students studying on a range of courses. They are here to answer any questions you have about life at Cardiff University. What's a typical day like? What clubs and societies are there? Is Cardiff’s music scene any good? It can be almost anything.