School of Law and Politics

Law Undergraduate Degree Programmes

www.cardiff.ac.uk/law-politics
Welcome

95% of our graduates are in employment and/or further study six months after graduating.
Source: DLHE 2016/17

Our long standing relationship with Hugh James Solicitors won ‘Best Collaboration between a University and Employer’ award at 2017’s National Undergraduate Employability Awards.

100% of our submitted research was classed as “international standard” with 84% classed as “internationally excellent” or “world-leading”.
Source: REF 2014

The Cardiff University Law Library is described as ‘outstanding’ by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales.

“Cardiff University has thoroughly prepared me for the reality of life as a commercial solicitor.”
Huw Thomas
Practise and develop your employability skills via our **Pro Bono** partnerships with charities, lawyers and voluntary organisations.

“Studying at Cardiff University has given me a platform to develop skills to last a lifetime. The School has allowed me to grow to my full potential, through an array of workshops, networking events and lecture support.”

Natasha Hole
Choose Cardiff

At Cardiff University we ensure that the study of Law is intellectually challenging, academically rigorous and personally rewarding.
Uniquely, we are the only member of the Russell Group, the body that represents the UK’s leading universities, to offer the full range of academic and vocational courses in the field of Law.

This provides our School with unparalleled synergy between our excellence in clinical, professional and research-led education. You will be taught by leaders in their field of study, but you will also have access to resources and facilities that will enhance your education and your skillset to allow you to stand out in the world of work after you leave us.

Many of our teaching staff are award winning, as are a number of our pro bono schemes and employability provisions. We are the first university in the UK whose Law students have helped overturn two wrongful criminal convictions, for murder and sexual assault.

We will help you to acquire and to apply complex legal knowledge and skills. You will reflect upon the ethical and professional values underpinning the Law and learn to communicate coherently and fluently in a range of contexts and forms, you will enhance not just your employability, but also your commercial and social awareness.

Although Law is often seen as being specific to a country, we have a global perspective. While we are proud of being Welsh, British and European, our UK based knowledge is supplemented and enhanced by the perspectives and experiences of our international staff and student body.

By the end of your studies, we aim for you to be well-equipped to address a socio-political, legal, economic, environmental and technological landscape that is rapidly evolving. We aspire for you to advance knowledge and understanding of the Law, to use the Law to promote justice and to effectively communicate the central role that the rule of Law can play in society.

As you will see in this brochure, we offer a diverse range of degrees. You can choose to study Law as a single honours subject or you can combine it; taking Law and Politics together, for example, or Law with French or Welsh. We also offer Law with Criminology or Sociology. Our programme of studies is rich and diverse and enhanced by our study abroad and work placement opportunities which we are confident will appeal to many of you.

I look forward to welcoming you to Cardiff and I am sure that if you decide to study here, your time with us will be educationally, culturally and socially rewarding.

Professor Urfan Khaliq
Head of the School of Law and Politics
Why study Law?

Almost every item on nightly news bulletins has a legal dimension and where would most TV dramas be without the big courtroom scene?
Law students are used to seeing topics they study appear in the media.

This has become even more common following the result of the Referendum on membership of the European Union and whatever form Brexit eventually takes, it will have an important legal dimension requiring the meticulous unpicking of complex overlapping laws.

The study of Law has rarely been more topical or more important. Studying Law always has a real life dimension. Law is extensive; it covers almost every aspect of everyone’s life. The receipt in your pocket and your contract of employment are both everyday examples of Contract Law, for instance.

Moreover, studying Law brings us into contact with the controversial topics of the day. The Law syllabus is constantly being rewritten as a result of the enactment of new laws by Parliament and the decisions of courts and tribunals up and down the land. This also means that Law is diverse: there is something for everyone given the different areas of Law, whether you are more interested in commerce and finance or human rights and the environment.

Studying Law not only allows you to understand what the Law is today but also how it has developed and how it is likely to develop. The study of Law produces better informed citizens and develops a range of important skills such as mastering long and complex documents, the close analysis of texts, questioning the reliability of sources and being able to think on your feet, to name just a few.

A Law degree, therefore, opens doors to a range of careers. In a survey in 2016, 500 employers in the UK were asked what degree they would prefer their employees to have. Law came top of the list with employers rating the ‘aptitude for learning’, communication and leadership skills that Law graduates have.

In an increasingly uncertain job market, having a Law degree clearly makes you stand out. This is especially true of a Law degree from Cardiff University. At Cardiff, we equip you with a range of skills which will help you prosper in a variety of jobs for both legal and non-legal employers.

If you want to understand the society in which you live, the major issues that shape the life of the nation and how this affects everyday life then the study of Law is for you. If you are concerned about injustices and inequalities, the global context in which we live and the way in which we respond to social and political change, then studying Law at Cardiff is for you.

Professor Russell Sandberg
Professor of Law
Beginning your career

The skills developed while studying a Law degree are transferable across a variety of sectors and we support your career goals, whatever they may be, from your first day with us.
A Law degree from Cardiff University is versatile, opening the door to a variety of career options. Our graduates are now working in a diverse range of fields, including the legal sector, banking, healthcare, insurance, teaching, the hospitality industry and the police service.

In the last graduate destinations survey*, over 95% of the School’s graduates were in employment and/or further study within six months of graduation. We are proud of the support we offer you to pursue your career goals.

**Dedicated careers support**

All Law students have access to a dedicated Law Careers Manager, who is based in the School two days a week. This support includes:

- one-to-one sessions by appointment
- workshops on CV writing, application forms, interview preparation and job searching
- career planning sessions including career options for your specific degree
- access to an annual Law Fair which is a flagship event of the careers calendar, attracting 40+ legal recruiters to Cardiff
- professional networking events
- professional guest speakers from a wide range of sectors (e.g. solicitors, barristers, civil service and third sector representatives)
- mock interviews
- information on internships and graduate training programmes
- up-to-date careers information and links to additional graduate careers resources.

You can gain additional support from the University’s Careers and Employability Service which includes:

- access to new online learning module, Your Career Journey, via the Student intranet
- enterprise and entrepreneurial activities
- links to the Global Opportunities Centre (GOC)
- an opportunity to complete an employability award (Cardiff Award)
- work experience and placement advice
- specialist support from Go Wales.

*Graduate destinations statistics are based on information provided by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)
Gain experience before you graduate

We can help you get a head start in your legal career by developing your skills in client care, legal research, writing and public speaking.
Our Pro Bono* Unit gives you the opportunity to work with lawyers and organisations who are helping vulnerable people and members of the community with legal matters, completely free of charge.

Gaining experience via our range of schemes will enhance your CV and increase your employability in a competitive graduate job market.

**Cardiff Innocence Project**

The Cardiff Innocence Project gives students the opportunity to help people with their appeals against a criminal conviction. To date, we are the only university-based Innocence Project in England and Wales to have helped overturn convictions in the Court of Appeal.

In 2014 we helped overturn the conviction of Dwaine George, who was convicted of murder in 1991 at the age of 18 and had served 12 years in prison. Speaking at the time, Dwaine George said, “I have lost a lot of my life that I can’t get back, but I just want to get on with my life now. I hope the Cardiff Innocence Project will get all the recognition it deserves for this. I want to thank all those who helped me.”

Four years later in 2018, we helped overturn the conviction of Gareth Jones who had been in prison for a serious sexual assault but who had always protested his innocence.

We have assisted with the submission of more than 25 applications to the Criminal Cases Review Commission, the miscarriages of justice watchdog empowered to refer cases to the Court of Appeal.

Our casework has highlighted significant flaws with the criminal justice system, and we use these experiences to advocate for reform. We investigate cases, liaising where appropriate and possible with a range of experts in the field, including appeal lawyers, forensic scientists and other relevant experts.

**NHS Continuing Healthcare Pro Bono Scheme**

Our NHS Continuing Healthcare scheme addressed a national problem which affects vulnerable sections of the community: care home fees.

The scheme ran until 2018 and allowed our students to help the families of nursing home residents and sufferers of Alzheimer’s disease to recover care home fees that arguably should have been paid by the NHS.

In total, we recovered more than £100,000 of wrongly paid care home fees. The largest single amount recovered for a client was more than £31,000.

The scheme has now evolved as a work experience opportunity where students visit the offices of Hugh James for training on this specialist area of Law and practice.

**Mencap WISE**

Our Wales Independent Support & Empowerment student advice project (WISE) sees our students work in conjunction with disability charity, Mencap Cymru, and was recognised as the ‘Most Effective Pro Bono Partnership’ at the LawWorks Pro Bono awards in 2018.

The WISE project began after it was identified that specific support was needed for people in Wales who care for/support people with learning disabilities. Following an approach by Mencap Cymru, the School’s Pro Bono unit explored ways for Law students to bridge the gap and offer the support that was desperately needed by family members, support workers and advocates of those living with learning disabilities in Wales.

Students work on devising legal toolkits, which provide easy access guidance on complex areas of Law, including child protection, accessing social and health care services and education. The toolkits are available on the Mencap Cymru website, and are an important mechanism for empowering families struggling to obtain the legal advice they need. Since their launch, the toolkits have been accessed over 1,700 unique times and over 1,400 people have attended workshops provided by the project. Students may also be asked to work on ad hoc pieces of advice to support Mencap’s case workers.

**Cardiff Law and Global Justice Pro Bono Scheme**

Set up in 2015, this scheme is inspired by the work of Kapila and Nirmal Hingorani, the founders of public interest litigation in India. Kapila Hingorani was the first woman from South Asia to graduate from Cardiff University in 1948. This scheme was created with support from the Hingorani Foundation of New Delhi, and is part of our research centre, Centre for Law and Global Justice.

Supervised by Centre for Law and Global Justice, our students have worked with Deighton Pierce Glyn (solicitors, London and Bristol) and Rights and Accountability in Development (NGO, Oxford) in partnership with the Legal and Human Rights Centre (Dar es Salaam) on accountability for alleged human rights abuses in the mining industry in Tanzania. This year the Centre also launched a partnership with the Strategic Litigation Unit at Amnesty International. This saw a group of Cardiff students working (in English and French) on preparations for a major human rights case concerning enforced disappearances in an eastern African jurisdiction.

A number of students from this scheme visited Nairobi and New Delhi, funded by the University’s Global Opportunities Centre.

**Cardiff Environmental Law Foundation Clinic**

The Environmental Law Foundation (ELF) is one of the world’s oldest Pro Bono environmental Law advice and representation charities. It aims to help give a voice to ordinary people and communities to be heard on matters affecting the environment in which they live. It currently operates through a network of university law clinics. Students work alongside national expert practitioners in the field of environmental Law.

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*Pro Bono publico is a Latin phrase for professional work undertaken voluntarily and without payment.*
The Cardiff ELF Clinic’s role is to advise on enquiries referred to it via the central ELF hub in London. Students have previously worked on cases that include a public enquiry into the M4 Newport relief road, a proposal for a hydroelectric power station, and Natural Resources Wales’ failure to regulate waste paint from electricity pylons.

**Bail Observation Project**
The Bail Observation Project (BOP) is a national project that aims to scrutinise Immigration and Asylum Tribunals and helps those who are detained under immigration powers, including migrants and asylum seekers.

The project has published reports based on Immigration Bail hearings that have expressed concerns surrounding access to justice, detention and the fairness of the hearings themselves. Our students have observed bail hearings at the Newport Asylum and Immigration Tribunal and have written reports to add to the work of the national project.

**Asylum Justice**
Asylum Justice is a charity that was set up in 2005 to provide legal advice, assistance and representation to asylum seekers without access to Legal Aid. Our students volunteer with the charity for several areas of its work, including helping at the drop-in advice clinic. Students also conduct research for the legal director or legal advisor for Asylum Justice, usually as background information for a pending asylum appeal at the Tribunal.

Asylum Justice has a 100% success rate in leave to remain cases, 99% success rate in family reunion cases and has been successful in 70% of asylum appeals.

**Personal Support Unit**
The Personal Support Unit (PSU) is a national charity that assists litigants in person at court. It provides free, independent, non-legal support to clients to help them through the process. Our students are trained to assist litigants in person at the Civil Justice Centre in Cardiff.

**Hafal Appropriate Adult Scheme**
Appropriate Adults support vulnerable adults who are detained in custody. Students volunteer with Hafal, the mental health charity, and are trained to become qualified appropriate adults, and to be placed on a rota to be ‘on call’ to attend local police stations if a vulnerable adult is arrested.

**Duncan Lewis Law Clinic**
Duncan Lewis is a national Law firm with an office in Cardiff, that runs a free legal advice clinic offering assistance with family, housing Law and asylum/immigration matters. Students support this clinic by volunteering once a fortnight. They shadow solicitors during the advice sessions, and sometimes attend court with a solicitor.

**Cardiff Employment Law Advice Clinic**
We support the Speakeasy Employment Law Clinic, a specialist clinic based in Cardiff. Our students shadow employment lawyers who provide employment and discrimination legal advice to some of the most vulnerable across the city including the recently dismissed, the unemployed, individuals faced with redundancy or disciplinary action/investigation, employees discriminated against in their workplaces and individuals dealing with non-payment of wages.

**Bridgend Children’s Contact Centre**
Child Contact Centres exist to provide children with the opportunity to spend time with a non-resident parent following a family breakdown. By training and volunteering with Bridgend Children’s Contact Centre, our students provide a listening ear and support to families during contact visits. Through this scheme, students develop skills such as empathy and the importance of being non-judgmental, while assisting families who are going through difficult times.

**Streetlaw in the Tribunal**
This project is a collaboration between Cardiff University, BPP Law School (Bristol), Swansea University and the University of South Wales. Volunteers provide guidance to claimants on employment tribunal procedure. On this scheme, our students are trained to run guidance sessions for unrepresented claimants at Cardiff Employment Tribunal on what to expect at a final employment tribunal hearing.

**Citizens Advice Torfaen**
Established in 1939, Citizens Advice has developed into a unique advice-giving national charity. The charity helps individuals resolve their problems in a variety of legal and non-legal areas including housing, welfare benefits, debt, employment Law, relationship breakdown (including divorce) and consumer rights. Under this scheme, our students become trained advisers at Citizens Advice Torfaen, Cwmbran.

**Community Land Advisory Service**
This scheme is a partnership with the charity Community Land Advisory Service – CLAS Cymru – and Law firm Blake Morgan. A partner in Blake Morgan oversees the scheme and specialist land solicitors give their time Pro Bono to assist our students. Areas of work typically include advising on proposed licences of land by local authorities to community groups.

**The Rugby Club Incorporation Project**
Formerly the free legal advice for clubs project, our students assist amateur clubs who want to become companies limited by guarantee. With clubs incorporating, their officers can achieve increased legal protection in the event of any legal claims. The project is a partnership with the Welsh Rugby Union and Law firm Hugh James.

Meet Eleanor

I have taken the Law in the Community module which has allowed me to carry out pro bono experience at the Personal Support Unit throughout the academic year. This has been a highlight for me as it has given me the chance to truly study ‘Law in the real world’ which was something that appealed to me back when I originally chose Cardiff University to complete my Law degree.

Eleanor Parsons
Law and Criminology LLB
Whilst at university I have been involved with the **Cardiff Award**; an amazing experience which has allowed me to develop key skills such as communication, time management and organisation.

Through this programme I have volunteered as a **Wellbeing Champion**, campaigning for mental health in the university community. This has been a great experience, I have made a lot of friends and have participated in events that campaign against the stigma and prejudice around mental health.

*Marios Hadjinicolau, Law LLB*
Beyond the classroom

Theoretical knowledge is key to starting out in any profession. But, what about experience and skills that set you apart from your peers?

We offer you a range of opportunities that allow you to stand out in a competitive employment market and equip you with the skills you need to succeed.

Award winning paralegal placements
In conjunction with Cardiff-based firm Hugh James, you will have the opportunity to apply for a work placement which will be carried out in the third year of the LLB Law degree.

The full-time, salaried placements will be open to you via a competitive application process which aims to replicate the graduate recruitment processes you will encounter after leaving university.

During your placement, you will undertake legal practice as a paralegal, and will perform graduate level roles. You will develop both key practitioner skills such as case management, legal research and legal writing, in addition to generic employability skills such as time management, team working and commercial awareness.

Our partnership with Hugh James won ‘Best Collaboration between a University and Employer' at the 2017 National Undergraduate Employability Awards.

In addition, you will have the option of sourcing your own placement with a firm of solicitors or a comparable provider of legal services should you wish.

Please note: The paralegal placement is not offered to Law and French students as the placement year takes place at the same time as your year abroad.
Use your legal skills in a political setting

You will have the opportunity to take a module in your third year which allows you to carry out a work placement at an organisation that plays a key role in Welsh governance.

This placement aims to provide you with a theoretically grounded, yet practice-oriented introduction to devolved governance in Wales. By participating in a series of lecture seminars delivered by leading practitioners and academic experts in the fields of Public Law and Politics, you will experience the workings of public administration in Wales at first hand.

You will broaden your empirical knowledge and understanding of the legal and political dimensions of governance in Wales, develop highly valuable transferable skills that will be key to your employability and career development, and forge long-term professional relationships within relevant sectors.

Meet Adam

I went on a placement to the Welsh Government Legal Services Department one day a week for ten weeks. This entailed being placed in a different legal team every week and I was introduced to the real inner-workings of the legal services in Welsh Government. I learnt new skills such as drafting Ministerial Advice and was taught Public Law from experts in their field. In addition to this, my CV has been enhanced significantly from this incredible opportunity.

Adam Khattak
Law and Politics LLB

Study Law in Europe

If you are a student on our LLB Law programme (M100) you can apply to study abroad and spend your third year in a European country. Study will be taught through the medium of English and will take place at one of our partner institutions which currently include Universidad Pontificia Comillas (Madrid), Charles University (Prague) and the University of Warsaw (Warsaw). Should you be successful in your application, your course will be taught across four years instead of the standard three. The year abroad is an opportunity for personal development which will pose intellectual challenges and expose you to a new and exciting culture.

Meet Sophie

I would encourage anyone to undertake a placement year. I am part of the Military Claims Team at Hugh James. We deal with claims against the Ministry of Defence for servicemen and veterans suffering from injuries as a result of service. Much of my day is spent talking to clients, gathering information, arranging expert appointments and ensuring they are up-to-date with the progress of their claim. I get to work very closely not only with our clients, but with solicitors and partners on the team. The placement is an incredible opportunity that puts you in the spotlight above those who have not had such an experience.

Sophie Lane
Law LLB
Studying with us

The School of Law and Politics is a dynamic, diverse and friendly School and we have every confidence that you will be happy studying here.
Choosing to study Law with us will place you at the heart of Wales’ capital city in the civic and legal centre.

Law is a challenging and rewarding subject which equips you with a variety of skills suitable for a range of careers. Our undergraduate courses are designed to enable you to fulfil your academic and vocational potential. To study at Cardiff is to commit to excellence.

We attract students from all over the world and offer a helpful, supportive and culturally diverse environment in which to study. We are currently the only Russell Group University in the UK to offer all the courses currently required to qualify as a solicitor or barrister in England and Wales: the Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL), Legal Practice Course (LPC) and Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC).

Pastoral care and support

You will be assigned a personal tutor for the duration of your degree, who will be a member of academic staff at the School of Law and Politics. If you are studying an integrated/joint honours programme you will have a personal tutor in each School. Personal tutors are there to advise on academic and personal matters in a confidential and informal manner. We aim to help you overcome any problems, however great or small, and as smoothly as possible. Your personal tutor will monitor your academic progress and will also supply references in support of any applications you may make for jobs or postgraduate courses.

In addition to your personal tutor, you can be supported by our Undergraduate Academic Support Tutor whose role is to provide advice on procedures and regulations that affect your studies. If you have a disability our Disability and Specific Needs Tutor can offer you advice and support.

If your first language is not English we offer writing skills support and you can also benefit from the facilities and guidance of the University’s Student Support Centre.

Research

The combination of established researchers and young scholars has created a dynamic and forward-thinking research environment within our School. Our staff are active in a variety of key professional associations and regularly work with practitioners at a variety of levels. They are internationally recognised and embedded in UK, European and global networks, frequently advising local and national government and appearing before Select Committees.

Research quality is measured in the UK by the Government’s Research Excellence Framework (REF). In the last assessment exercise which took place in 2014 our work was ranked 13th in the UK. The majority of our activity was classed as “world-leading” or “internationally excellent” and we were recognised as one of the foremost legal research institutions in the UK. We have a long established reputation for scholarship in the area of socio-legal studies and are home to the Journal of Law and Society, the UK’s leading socio-legal Law journal.

Our centres of legal research are:
• Cardiff Centre for Crime, Law and Justice
• Centre for European Law and Governance
• Centre for Human Rights and Public Law
• Centre for Health and Social Care Law
• Centre for Law and Religion
• Centre for Law and Society
• Law Lab
• Wales Governance Centre

Cardiff Law Library

Cardiff Law Library is one of the largest in the UK and has over 100,000 volumes with subscriptions to over 200 current periodicals and Law reports. It is conveniently located in the Arts and Social Studies Library, which is situated opposite the School of Law and Politics. You can borrow up to 12 books at any one time, with a standard loan period of up to three weeks.

Heavily demanded books, such as recommended texts, may be borrowed for shorter periods. In addition, electronic databases and retrieval systems such as Westlaw UK, Lexis®Library and HeinOnline facilitate access to many other major reports and journals.

Law Library staff are on hand to offer specialist research assistance, including one-to-one and workshop training in information searching and mediated literature searches.

Public Lectures

We regularly attract high profile speakers for a range of lectures and events and we encourage our students to attend where possible.

Previous speakers have included Lady Hale (President of the UK Supreme Court), Lord Neuberger (former President of the UK Supreme Court), Sir Keir Starmer QC (former Director of Public Prosecutions), Lady Justice Arden DBE (Head of International Judicial Relations for England and Wales), Lord Justice Thomas (now Lord Chief Justice) and Lord Justice Scott Baker (of the Court of Appeal).
Our degree programmes

Our structured curriculum enables you to develop knowledge and legal skills in each year of study. We support you to become an independent learner, able to undertake and understand new legal challenges and to respond to them effectively.

Our wide range of qualifying Law degrees are offered within a friendly, diverse and supportive environment with the added benefits of a capital city location and close links with the legal profession and judiciary.

Changes to solicitor qualification route

The Solicitors’ Regulation Authority (SRA), the body which regulates the profession, is changing the recognised route to qualification. Under the planned SQE, students will need to hold a degree or equivalent qualification or experience but will no longer need to study for a Law degree. The SRA will no longer specify the academic content of Law degrees as they have in the past. As we understand, the planned SQE will require students to demonstrate knowledge of subjects that are expected to relate closely to those included within the current Law degree.

Alongside all other UK-based Law schools, we are awaiting the results of a consultative process which outlines how the SRA will transition from one regime to the other. For further updates on the SQE please consult the Solicitors’ Regulation Authority website at www.sra.org.uk
The areas of Law which currently form a qualifying Law degree are: Criminal Law, Public Law, Contract Law, Tort Law, Land Law, EU Law, and Equity and Trusts.

Our flagship LLB Law programme is a full time, three year course that is both challenging and stimulating.

Study foundation modules (which constitute the academic stage of training that is currently necessary to become a solicitor or barrister in England and Wales*) together with a wide selection of exciting, optional modules that include Environmental Law, Human Rights Law, Media Law and Family Law. We also offer a number of our modules through the medium of Welsh.

In addition to the broad-based academic training we provide, studying Law at Cardiff will offer you unique opportunities to see Law in action in a social context.

We work in partnership with lawyers, charities and voluntary organisations to give you the opportunity to practise and extend your skills through a variety of pro bono schemes.

We are committed to providing an outstanding teaching and learning experience that is underpinned by excellent research activity.

We are the only Russell Group University to offer both courses currently required to qualify as a barrister or solicitor – the Bar Professional Training Course and the Legal Practice Course – which means that you have the option to stay with us in Cardiff to complete your entire legal education.

Distinctive features

• Apply to study abroad through the medium of English at one of our European partner institutions in Madrid, Prague or Warsaw
• Apply for a legal work placement which will be carried out in the third year of your degree. You will also have the opportunity to apply for a module which allows you to carry out a work placement at an organisation that plays a key role in Welsh governance
• Enhance your studies by carrying out voluntary legal work via our pro bono unit (find out more on pages 9-10), take part in annual mooting competitions to present legal issues before a judge and participate in client interviewing and negotiation competitions to assess your interpersonal skills and ability to handle legal problems.
I chose to study Law and Politics after becoming fascinated by the structure and development of the society we all share. This fascination exposed me to a multitude of practice areas such as criminal justice, international relations and market regulation.

In my first year I took part in an internal negotiation competition. This was an amazing opportunity for me. The competition was robust, with an exciting training period before a professional and well regulated competition overseen by two highly skilled judges. The experience was truly enlightening and had a vast impact on my confidence and personal development.  

Robert Wells, Law and Politics LLB
Unquestionably, the relationship between Law and Politics is an interdependent one.

Both subjects have a huge impact on all our lives regardless of age, ethnicity and social background. This programme allows you to combine these fascinating topics within the interdisciplinary environment of our School. You will gain a comprehensive grounding in Law by studying the areas covered by a qualifying Law degree, spaced out across the three years of your programme. Alongside your Law modules you will study Politics modules that explore how parliaments and governments function and evaluate political ideas such as power, freedom, democracy, conflict, legitimacy and accountability.

We have excellent academic links with the National Assembly for Wales and long-established relationships with national and international organisations such as the Westminster parliament, European Union and NATO, giving you the opportunity to supplement your learning by engaging with political decision makers.

Distinctive features

- Interested in Welsh politics? We offer a range of Welsh modules including Y Da, Drwg a’r Gwleidyddol: The Good, the Bad and the Political and Datganoli yng Nghymru. We also offer a number of our modules through the medium of Welsh
- Apply for a legal work placement which will be carried out in the third year of your degree. You will also have the opportunity to apply for a module which allows you to carry out a work placement at an organisation that plays a key role in Welsh governance
- Enhance your studies by carrying out voluntary legal work via our pro bono unit (find out more on pages 9-10), take part in annual mooting competitions to present legal issues before a judge and participate in client interviewing and negotiation competitions to assess your interpersonal skills and ability to handle legal problems.
I have thoroughly enjoyed studying the Welsh Devolution module. I gained an understanding of the legal nature as well as the powers and responsibilities of the Welsh Government and of the National Assembly for Wales.

Outside of class I’m an active member of Y Gym Gym (The Welsh Society) and had the pleasure of being Vice President last year. I’m also a member of Aelwyd y Waun Ddyfal which is a choir society in Cathays that regularly compete in the Eisteddfod and perform in concerts. These societies have allowed me to settle in well in the city!  

Gwenllian Jones, Law LLB
Law and French LLB
UCAS Code: RM11

In our globalised world, legal practice increasingly takes place across countries and continents.

Our LLB programme in Law and French aims to produce lawyers not only competent in the Law of England and Wales, but also fluent in French and the legal system of France.

This programme is taught in collaboration with the School of Modern Languages and is studied across four years. As with all our Law programmes, you will gain a comprehensive grounding in English and Welsh Law by studying the areas covered by a qualifying Law degree but, in addition, you will develop high-level language skills and gain an in-depth intercultural understanding that encompasses a specific knowledge of the French legal system, its political institutions and general culture.

You will develop strong communication and critical-thinking skills, and foster resilience and independence through time spent in France at a Law faculty of a university (currently Amiens, Nantes, Rennes or Toulouse). This period will allow you to build upon your linguistic and national legal skills and take full advantage of the benefits of studying in a foreign university environment.

Distinctive features
• Benefit from language teaching delivered by native speakers via blended learning and digital technologies
• Immerse yourself in a vibrant programme of extra-curricular activities to support your language learning. This includes optional conversation classes and the student French society
• Study the French legal system at a French university during your third year.

Law and Welsh LLB
UCAS Code: MQ15

The establishment of a devolved Welsh Government and the introduction of the Welsh Language Act 1993 has meant that the ability to work professionally through the medium of Welsh has become an increasingly sought-after skill in contemporary Wales.

This programme is taught collaboratively with the School of Welsh and offers you the opportunity to study Law through the medium of Welsh. This provides you with the balance for in-depth study in both languages, with the ultimate goal of producing graduates qualified to employ legal knowledge through the medium of Welsh and English.

As with all our Law programmes, you will gain a comprehensive grounding in English and Welsh Law by studying the areas covered by a qualifying Law degree but, in addition, you will gain 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.

Distinctive features
• Apply for a range of scholarships through Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol*. This is open to students studying at least 66% of their course, i.e. 80 credits a year, through the medium of Welsh
• Find inspiration and fulfilment in the study of the Welsh language and its culture
• Enhance your studies by carrying out voluntary legal work via our pro bono unit (find out more on pages 9-10), take part in annual mooting competitions to present legal issues before a judge and participate in client interviewing and negotiation competitions to assess your interpersonal skills and ability to handle legal problems.

*Find out more about Welsh scholarship opportunities on the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol website www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/
The main highlight of my course has been gaining an understanding of how Law plays such an integral role in everyday life. I have wanted to be a solicitor since the age of 15 and the course has been instrumental in helping me to develop the skills needed to achieve my goals.

Although the course has been intellectually challenging, I have enjoyed seeing personal growth and an increase in my self-confidence.  

Chloe Daley, Law LLB
Law and Sociology LLB
UCAS Code: ML13

Sociology is an incredibly vibrant and relevant discipline focusing on life found in groups, institutions and societies.

It provides 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. This makes Sociology an ideal subject to study together with Law.

This programme is taught collaboratively with the School of Social Sciences and provides you with the opportunity for in-depth study in both disciplines.

As with all our Law programmes, you will gain a comprehensive grounding in English and Welsh Law by studying the areas covered by a qualifying Law degree but, in addition, you will study a range of sociological areas such as education, work and globalisation; urban and everyday life; social media, culture and consumption; health; migration and ethnic relations.

Distinctive features
• Enhance your studies by carrying out voluntary legal work via our pro bono unit (find out more on pages 9-10), take part in annual mooting competitions to present legal issues before a judge and participate in client interviewing and negotiating competitions to assess your interpersonal skills and ability to handle legal problems
• Explore a range of sociological and socio-legal perspectives upon the Law, legal institutions and legal cultures in our specialised Sociology of Law module which is available in your second year
• Benefit from a School ranked 3rd in the UK for research quality in Sociology in the 2014 Research Excellent Framework (REF).

Law and Criminology LLB
UCAS Code: M190

Whereas Law examines the system of rules used by a country or state to regulate its inhabitants, Criminology focuses on criminalisation, victimisation, and social responses to crime and disorder.

This makes both topics an ideal pairing for study as part of a joint honours programme.

The programme is taught in collaboration with the School of Social Sciences and provides you with the opportunity for in-depth study in both disciplines.

As with all our Law programmes, you will gain a comprehensive grounding in English and Welsh Law by studying the areas covered by a qualifying Law degree but, in addition, you will examine how to approach problems of crime, justice and control as a social scientist before applying your new research-driven skills to real world issues and debates.

Distinctive features
• Enhance your studies by carrying out voluntary legal work via our pro bono unit (find out more on pages 9-10), take part in annual mooting competitions to present legal issues before a judge and participate in client interviewing and negotiating competitions to assess your interpersonal skills and ability to handle legal problems
• Benefit from significant academic expertise in criminal justice and study specialised modules on Crime, Law and Society or Miscarriages of Justice
• Benefit from a School ranked 3rd in the UK for research quality in Sociology in the 2014 Research Excellent Framework (REF).
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.

“With an exhilarating mix of heavyweight cultural sights, exciting regeneration projects – not least the revitalised Cardiff Bay – world-class sport, a prolific music scene and some seriously banging nightlife, it’s easy to see why Cardiff now ranks alongside London and Edinburgh as one of the UK’s most compelling destinations.”

The Complete University Guide, 2017
A leading university

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.

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

The Telegraph, 2018

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 rates 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.

“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, 2019

**Find out more . . .**

**Accommodation**
For further information please visit our website: [www.cardiff.ac.uk/residences](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/residences)

You can also watch our residences film online at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxzX-dYLfB8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxzX-dYLfB8)

**Students’ Union**
[facebook.com/cardiffstudents](http://facebook.com/cardiffstudents)
[snapchat.com/add/cardiffstudents](http://snapchat.com/add/cardiffstudents)
[instagram.com/cardiffstudents](http://instagram.com/cardiffstudents)
[@cardiffstudents](http://twitter.com/@cardiffstudents)
[www.youtube.com/cardiffstudents](http://www.youtube.com/cardiffstudents)
Applications

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

Entry requirements
These typical requirements are for guidance. Please check our website for the latest information at: www.cardiff.ac.uk/law-politics

A-level: AAB - ABB. Applicants need to have demonstrated significant essay writing skills as part of their level 3 qualifications (i.e. A-Levels) which is typically demonstrated through a humanities and social science subject. Applicants who have taken all science based level 3 qualifications will be considered on a case by case basis.

Please note, General Studies, Citizenship Studies and Critical Thinking will not be accepted. It is not necessary to have A-level Law and we do not require students to sit the LNAT test.

Extended Project Qualification: Applicants with grade A in the EPQ will typically receive an offer one grade lower than the standard A level offer. Please note that any subject specific requirements must still be met.

WBA: The Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate will be accepted in lieu of one A-Level (at the grades listed above), excluding any specified subjects.

IB: 35 points overall, or 666 at Higher Level.

Other: International students must have an overall IELTS score of at least 6.5 with a 6.5 or above in writing and a minimum of 6.0 in all other sub-scores, or comparable evidence of 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 Open 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
  - Email: disability@cardiff.ac.uk
  - Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4844
  - Email: dyslexia@cardiff.ac.uk
  - Tel: +44(0) 29 2087 4844

- Counselling and Wellbeing Guidance
  - Email: wellbeingandcounselling@cardiff.ac.uk
  - Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4966

- International Student Support
  - Email: iss@cardiff.ac.uk
  - Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 6009

- 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 Law 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 Law and Politics
- University and NHS buildings
- Student residences

Important Legal Information
The contents of this brochure relate to the Entry 2020 admissions cycle and are correct at the time of going to press in June 2019. 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.

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

Cardiff University is a registered charity, no. 1136855
To find out more about the School of Law and Politics, please visit our website:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/law-politics

Contact us
Tel: 029 2087 4455
Email: enquiry@cardiff.ac.uk
School of Law and Politics
Cardiff University
Law Building, Museum Avenue
Cardiff CF10 3AX

Stay in touch
Facebook: Cardifflawschool
Twitter: @CardiffLaw

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.