Welcome from a leading university...

Top 100 for Geography in the 2019 QS World University Rankings by Subject

97% of master’s degree graduates were in employment or further study within six months of graduating (HESA 2016/17)

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www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
We are a leading international centre for teaching and research in spatial planning, urban design and human geography. We apply critical thinking and practical knowledge to help address some of the grand challenges – social, environmental, political and economic – faced by human societies and places today.

Join our community to benefit from:

- Socially, economically and culturally relevant research which is transforming policy debates and influencing international agendas.
- Our research reputation and impact, where world-leading academics translate their pioneering research into class-based scholarship and teaching.
- Professionally-accredited degree programmes which help you meet certain educational requirements for membership to fast-track your career and build your professional profile.
- Interactive and engaging talks, seminars, workshops and public lectures with leading policymakers, academics and practitioners.

During your time with us, you’ll be encouraged to challenge your own thinking, develop your intellectual insight and embrace provocative discussion to enhance your academic experience and equip you with the skills, critical capacity and confidence to succeed in your chosen area.

We are a supportive, vibrant and diverse community of staff and students and take pride in having created an atmosphere and environment where everyone can succeed.

I have no doubt we’re the right choice for you and hope to be able to welcome you to Cardiff very soon.

Professor Paul Milbourne
Head of the School of Geography and Planning

Don’t just take our word for it...

I have found the School very friendly and welcoming, which was great as I was new to Cardiff. There were several useful induction events, including a trip to Cardiff Bay which offered an opportunity to meet and mix with lots of new people.

Duncan Lawrence – MSc Transport and Planning
Challenge-led and future-focused – our approach

We’ve built our reputation across the boundaries of urban planning and human geography, with an emphasis on the built and natural environments, and the impacts of economic, social, political and cultural change.

While geography provides the theoretical and analytical skills to understand both the nature of change and its impacts, planning translates this understanding into action to ensure a better quality of environment for present and future generations.

Our aim is to help solve some of the most stubborn contemporary challenges facing human society and transform people, places and systems around the world. Will you join us?
Driven by research
We have an outstanding record of academic achievement and have been consistently ranked as one of the top planning and human geography schools in the UK, and are recognised for teaching and research excellence. We are also one of the largest schools of our kind in the UK, with over 70 teaching, research and support staff.

With such favourable staff-student numbers, you will benefit from first-class support services and have access to the considerable, and varied, expertise of our academic faculty allowing you to pursue your specialist interests.

They will bring their most recent agenda-setting research into the lecture theatre and will challenge you to be curious and creative, analytical and ambitious. You’ll be encouraged to examine your existing knowledge, opinions and understanding and to think expansively, critically and independently.

It’s a dynamic and invigorating environment in which to pursue your academic and professional development.

Quality assured
We have long-standing and strong relationships with academic, policy and industry communities, working collectively to share knowledge, create opportunities and achieve our common aims.

Our postgraduate programmes are internationally respected with several recognised for their quality and specialist nature by the major UK professional bodies including the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI), the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (CIHT).

Accreditation can offer routes to membership depending on eligibility and completion of specific requirements. Further information about accreditations and what they mean for you is available on the programme information pages of our website.

Equipped for success
As a leading research centre, we are especially well resourced ensuring you have access to the facilities and equipment necessary to succeed in your degree programme.

We are based in the iconic, Grade 1-listed Glamorgan Building and much of our teaching is delivered here. Yet, while our home is historic, our facilities are fit for the 21st century with a wide range of modern lecture theatres, seminar rooms, design studios, and computer laboratory.

The computer teaching facilities are fully supported by technical staff and offer a range of packages including database management, computer-aided design, GIS and statistical and graphical software.

Photocopying, plan printing, report binding and related facilities, are all available in the School while the University’s libraries hold nearly one million books and subscriptions to more than 4,000 periodicals.

We also maintain an extensive School-based collection of the latest electronic resources, books and journals published worldwide in the planning and geography subject areas. There is a special collection of the most popular books, ensuring easy access and many resources are available electronically for access off-site.

Strengthened by diversity
We live in an increasingly interconnected and global world. Understanding and appreciating different perspectives, cultures and customs is important and enhances our work and our lives.

When you join us in Cardiff, you’ll become part of a truly global community, with staff and students from almost 30 countries including Australia, China, Iran, Pakistan and the USA. This international and diverse outlook strengthens your learning experience and gives you the chance to explore and debate programme themes with peers who are drawing on different contexts, backgrounds and cultural considerations.

Focused on your future
97% of master’s degree graduates were in employment and/or further study six months after graduation. (HESA 2016/17)

Our programmes address contemporary policy and research issues relevant to a range of different career pathways.

We also recognise the value of professional experience in today’s competitive job market and how these opportunities can help you fast-track your career after graduation. This is why our programmes are designed with your employability in mind. They each have a strong identity and are designed to build knowledge that leads to the development of critical skills, academic insight and professional judgement.

You’ll have access to a wide range of study skills training and employability workshops. There are also opportunities to engage with high-profile speakers from academia, policy and business via our Impact and Engagement programme of events and seminars. This is a great way to develop your industry and specialised knowledge while building your professional profile and network.

Recent graduates have secured roles in the following sectors:
- National government
- Local government
- National and international planning consultancies
- Environmental planning organisations
- Urban design companies
- Transport planning and civil engineering organisations
- Third Sector/Charities/NGOs
- Academia
For the first time in human history there are now more people living in towns and cities than in rural areas, with United Nations estimates indicating that more than 60% of the world’s population, some 4.9bn people, will be living in urban areas by 2030.

It’s evident that the scale of urban areas is increasing, fueled by the advent of new megacities (with populations in excess of 10 million) such as Beijing, Mexico City, Mumbai, Shanghai and Tokyo. It is also clear that the geography of urbanisation has shifted from the developed world of Western Europe and North America to the developing world of Asia, Africa and South America.

It is within this context that we explore both the critical theory, and actual practices and processes, of low carbon eco-city development and how they relate to the implementation and application of sustainable development policies worldwide. Study with us and you will acquire the knowledge and skills of green and low carbon development alongside the innovative planning approaches for sustainable (ecological) city development.

Our programme
Divided into two parts, part one involves the teaching of core and optional modules. Part two is when you’ll tackle your individual dissertation – based on your interests and selected in consultation with our expert staff.

During the teaching component of the programme, you’ll follow a number of core modules and choose from a diverse selection of optional modules which enable you to follow specialisms in line with your academic and professional ambitions.

The latest modules are available on our website. Recent areas of study have included:

- Debates in Eco-City Planning and Development
- Governance of the Eco-City Development Process
- Environmental Management
- Environmental Policy and Climate Change
- Planning for Sustainability

Field Study Visits
As part of the Live Project for Eco-City Development, you will have the option to undertake an international field study visit to explore approaches and challenges for sustainable planning and development on location in a global city.
MSc Environment and Development

Explore and respond to the mounting environmental challenges posed by contemporary global socio-economic demands.

Environmental challenges and development concerns are high on the international policy agenda.

Our programme encourages you to consider the politicised interconnections between socio-economic demands (the search for growth) and environmental degradation, as well as the prevailing tensions between the state and society’s outlooks.

You will have the opportunity to cover a wide range of environment and development challenges or to focus on certain substantive fields (such as economic sectors, natural resources, public services, governance issues, environmental management or urban and rural regions). We will help you to develop your critical thinking skills and the ability to examine the justification, trends and limitations of conventional responses to prevailing tensions and mounting challenges. We will also enable and support you to explore a range of alternative policies and management systems.

You will consider the lived experience of development and socio-ecological change at different levels – local, regional, national and global – and across different time periods. With a focus on the Global North and the Global South, you will study past legacies and socio-cultural influences, the allocation of resources, and the challenges to contain environmental degradation and foster environmental justice.

The programme allows you to: understand the ideological positions that influence development policies and the failures of environmental management; review tendencies to convert nature into resources and private property; the formulation and implementation of environmental regulation; the commitments and failures of the apparatus of the state; the interaction between socio-economic sectors, groups and communities; the social and cultural basis of development and environmental change; and, the political reactions, grassroots mobilisation and alliances across different geographical scales, countries and locations.

Consideration is also given to why and how the development appeal continues to influence governments, social groups and international relations while generating uneven, short-term gains and long-lasting impacts. The limitations of policies influenced by environmentalism and narrow sustainability agendas, which commonly fail to address wider social, political and economic expectations, will be a key component of this discussion.

Our programme

Divided into two parts, part one involves the teaching of core and optional modules. Part two is when you’ll tackle your individual dissertation – based on your interests and selected in consultation with our expert staff.

You may choose to base your dissertation around workplace activities – for example, it could be developed in consultancy organisations, public authorities or international development agencies. This is an optional element and the placement would need to be self-sourced.

During the teaching component of the programme, you’ll follow a number of core modules and choose from a diverse selection of optional modules which enable you to follow specialisms in line with your academic and professional ambitions.

The latest modules are available on our website. Recent areas of study have included:

- Development and Urbanisation Processes
- Environmental Policy and Climate Change
- Researching Contemporary Environment and Development Issues: Field Study Visit
- Debates in Eco-City Planning and Development
- Sustainable Food Systems

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
MSc International Planning and Development

Tackle the impact of urbanisation on the well-being of people and communities around the world.

More than half of the world’s population is living in cities. While they are crucibles of culture, knowledge and innovation they also harbour poverty and exclusion. Coupled with the challenges presented by globalisation, environmental pollution, and climate change, the well-being of urban residents, and the opportunities available to them, are under threat.

Spanning the disciplines of spatial planning and development studies, this RTPI and RICS accredited programme will equip you with the knowledge and critical awareness to make significant contributions to the future design and management of cities. You will also be ready to actively contribute to the global agenda of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (11), namely, to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Our focus is on issues of development and underdevelopment, city futures in a globalising world, and the creation of space and place within different political, cultural, economic and environmental contexts.

Our programme

Divided into two parts, part one involves the teaching of core and optional modules. Part two is when you’ll tackle your individual dissertation – based on your interests and selected in consultation with our expert staff.

During the teaching component of the programme, you’ll follow a number of core modules and choose from a diverse selection of optional modules which enable you to follow specialisms in line with your academic and professional ambitions.

The latest modules are available on our website. Recent areas of study have included:

- Development and Urbanisation Processes
- Planning City Futures
- Researching Spatial Planning and International Development
- Space and Place: International Planning Practice
- Planning for Sustainability

Field Study Visits

You’ll have the option to undertake a field study visit away from the University to explore approaches and challenges to planning and development on location.
MSc International Planning and Urban Design

Address the complex challenges facing global cities and help improve the urban experience.

We live in a rapidly urbanising world where cities are now home to more than 50% of the world’s population. The United Nations predicts that this number will rise to two thirds by 2050.

The extraordinary effects of this urban growth and change are now deeply interconnected with many of the greatest challenges facing humanity. Cities around the world recognise that they can no longer ignore the scale of the political, socio-economic, and environmental problems which often define the urban experience. These impacts, such as over-crowding, congestion, pollution and environmental damage, poor and failing infrastructure, sharpening inequalities in wealth, health and well-being, are pervasive.

Today, the unprecedented speed and scope of urbanisation is forcing planners and urban designers to confront an immeasurable challenge: how can planning and urban design help to create cities that are responsive to the needs of citizens today whilst ensuring the sustainability of our collective global future? In response, national governments, municipal authorities, and communities alike are turning to practitioners of planning and urban design to help understand, tackle and address these major challenges.

Our programme

Divided into two parts, part one involves the teaching of core and optional modules. Part two is when you’ll tackle your individual dissertation – based on your interests and selected in consultation with our expert staff.

You may choose to base your dissertation around workplace activities – for example, it could be developed in consultancy organisations, public authorities or international development agencies. This is an optional element and the placement would need to be self-sourced.

During the teaching component of the programme, you’ll follow a number of core modules and choose from a diverse selection of optional modules which enable you to follow specialisms in line with your academic and professional ambitions.

The latest modules are available on our website. Recent areas of study have included:

- Site Planning, Design and Development
- Planning City Futures
- Designing Cities
- Space and Place: International Planning Practice
- Governance of the Eco-City Development Process

Address the complex challenges facing global cities and help improve the urban experience.
MSc Spatial Planning and Development

Create stronger, liveable and prosperous places for all.

Our programme is the ideal starting point for your career as a planner and will develop and strengthen your core planning skills, relevant and applicable to a range of spatial scales. It will provide you with the theoretical knowledge, critical insight and practical skills to achieve your ambitions and positively contribute to the practices and policies of planning, in the UK and beyond.

Planning is often undertaken in diverse, and sometimes unequal or unjust societies and can be the subject of debate and struggle. This is why, while acquiring the specialist skills you will need to succeed, we’ll also help you nurture your professional judgement and be sensitive to wider ethical, political and environmental challenges. We’ll empower you to question the status quo and challenge your own thinking to form and articulate independent conclusions.

Our focus is on planning in developed capitalist societies, especially the UK and Europe, but the programme’s exploration of planning is comparative, and the skills taught are applicable in many planning contexts.

Our programme
Divided into two parts, part one involves the teaching of core and optional modules. Part two is when you’ll tackle your individual dissertation – based on your interests and selected in consultation with our expert staff.

During the teaching component of the programme, you’ll follow a number of core modules and choose from a diverse selection of optional modules which enable you to follow specialisms in line with your academic and professional ambitions.

*Available as a one-year full-time or two-year part-time programme. Detail on the structure of the part-time route can be found on our website.

The latest modules are available on our website. Recent areas of study have included:

- Planning and Real Estate
- Planning: Nature, Purpose and Instruments
- Site Planning, Design and Development
- Development and Urbanisation Processes
- Housing in a Globalising World

Live Project
Working in groups you will identify a substantive planning problem in association with your clients (a planning authority or agency) and produce, and present, a report with recommendations. This is an excellent opportunity to apply your learning and deploy your skills in problem-definition and problem-solving; draw upon, and develop, knowledge of procedures and practice within a substantive planning topic; engage in appropriate reflection of values and ethics-related issues; and, appreciate the operational context within which the report will be delivered.
MSc Sustainability, Planning and Environmental Policy

Transform planning policy and help solve contemporary – and future – environmental and sustainability challenges.

Develop your knowledge and understanding of sustainability theory, principles and practice and be empowered to influence and progress policy and planning solutions for the environmental challenges faced by government, business and regulatory bodies.

You’ll benefit from teaching which links together theoretical debates about sustainability at different spatial scales, informed by the latest social science research around environmental problems, with the practical dimensions of policy formulation and implementation. The planning system is given particular attention because it provides one of the most sophisticated contemporary mechanisms for regulating environmental change.

Our programme, accredited by the RTPI and RICS, addresses three key dimensions that will provide you with the skills and knowledge to contribute to future policy development and help tackle sensitive environmental and sustainability issues. We will consider:

- Principles and process - asking how policies may, or may not, achieve more sustainable development.
- Resource sector studies – comparative and in-depth analysis of sustainability issues in key economic sectors (including food, transport, renewable energy and housing).
- Research training – helping you to develop sustainability-relevant research skills ideal for academic progression, and professional practice.

**Our programme**

Divided into two parts, part one involves the teaching of core and optional modules. Part two is when you’ll tackle your individual dissertation – based on your interests and selected in consultation with our expert staff.

During the teaching component of the programme, you’ll follow a number of core modules and choose from a diverse selection of optional modules which enable you to follow specialisms in line with your academic and professional ambitions.

*Available as a one-year full-time or two-year part-time programme. Detail on the structure of the part-time route can be found on our website.

**The latest modules are available on our website. Recent areas of study have included:**

- Principle and Practices of Environmental Governance
- Debates in Eco-City Planning and Development
- Environmental Policy and Climate Change
- Planning for Sustainability
- Renewable Energy Development and Planning

[www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning)
Transport touches almost every aspect of our day-to-day lives. Our programme encourages you to address the challenges ahead for developing the transport systems of tomorrow.

Our RTPI and CIHT accredited programme is ideal if you wish to develop a career in a practice or policy environment (public or private). You’ll graduate well equipped to work on transport problems and solutions in the local, regional, and national contexts.

Spanning the disciplines of transport analysis, economics and policy, you will acquire the knowledge and critical understanding to make a significant contribution to the development, analysis and management of transport and urban systems.

After graduation, you’ll be well-placed to make your mark in the industry and help transform and innovate transport planning, improving the economic, social, health and environmental well-being of people and places.

You’ll receive a broad education with a focus on enabling you to:

- Explain and demonstrate the principles and practice of transport scheme appraisal and evaluation.
- Collect, retrieve, analyse and interpret data to better understand travel behaviour and aid in the development and assessment of transport policies.
- Grasp the principles and key characteristics of transport models and related analysis techniques used in the development, design and assessment of transport policies, plans and schemes.
- Comprehend the key aspects of sustainable travel options and their promotion to individual transport users to improve economic, social and environment sustainability.
- Explore the policy and administrative framework within which transport schemes are developed, assessed, financed, monitored and reviewed.
- Examine the legal and regulatory frameworks within which transport planners work.

Our programme

Divided into two parts, part one involves the teaching of core and optional modules. Part two is when you’ll tackle your individual research dissertation – based on your interests and selected in consultation with our expert staff.

During the teaching component of the programme, you’ll follow a number of core modules which provide the necessary analytical, economic and planning background. You will then choose from a diverse selection of optional modules which allow you to study aspects of transport and related topics in depth, in line with your academic and professional ambitions.
MA Urban Design

Transform places and spaces through critical thinking and creative practice.

Urban design is inherently transdisciplinary. It straddles professional fields such as architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning and public policy, and is influenced by social, cultural, political and economic factors.

This programme, accredited by the RTPI and RICS, is jointly delivered with the Welsh School of Architecture. It embraces transdisciplinarity and will develop and enhance your understanding of these influences while equipping you with the professional skills, intellect, and ambition to transform where and how we live.

It will provide you with the opportunity to recognise and respond to complex and often contradictory community aspirations and develop better policy and control practices to improve places and ensure they flourish.

Practically-oriented, the programme will help you to conceptualise and draw development proposals at different scales, from the territorial to the block scale; recognise and add quality in all development situations; test developments for their sustainability, economic viability and constituency; and, understand how to approach implementation through inter-professional and inter-agency collaboration and consensus building.

You will learn from highly accomplished, research-active staff who are engaged with urban design scholarship and development in Wales, the UK and around the world. Through our design studio teaching, you will also engage with, and benefit from, the input and expertise of leading practitioners. The studio teaching focuses on developing critically informed as well as creative and practical proposals for real sites, addressing important contemporary issues of design and urbanism. This offers you the opportunity to develop your practical knowledge and understanding while building your professional skills, profile and network.

Our programme

Divided into two parts, part one involves the teaching of core and optional modules. Part two comprises of the research-based Design Project, where you will prepare a design relating to a chosen site, demonstrating an understanding of aspects of urban design based on theory and design.

During the teaching component of the programme, you’ll follow a set of core modules.

The latest modules are available on our website. Recent areas of study have included:

- Urban Design Foundation
- Urban Design Thinkers
- Development Management
- Research Methods and Techniques
- Studio (autumn/spring)

Field Study Visits

You’ll have the option to undertake a field study visit away from the University to explore approaches and challenges to urban design on location. This is funded within the advertised fees.

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
MSc Urban and Regional Development

The economic development of cities and regions is becoming increasingly important in a global economy. This RTPI and RICS accredited programme will equip you with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking to meet the challenge of developing competitive, sustainable and inclusive economies.

Our focus is on enabling you to develop your knowledge and understanding about the nature and source of this socio-economic change and recognise its uneven impact on different social groups, communities and countries.

Drawing on topical theoretical debates about uneven spatial development and the challenges this presents at particular spatial scales, this programme will provide you with the key skills – data analysis, research and problem-solving – required to shape local and regional development through policy and practice innovation.

We also focus on network and consensus building by looking at structures and frameworks for engaging and working across different industries, sectors and organisations – including public, private, third sector and social enterprises.

You’ll gain the critical skills and robust policy understanding to address the practical challenge of designing strategies which will help cities and regions to become more innovative and resilient places in which to live and work.

Our programme

Divided into two parts, part one involves the teaching of core and optional modules. Part two is when you’ll tackle your individual dissertation – based on your interests and selected in consultation with our expert staff.

During the teaching component of the programme, you’ll follow a number of core modules and choose from a diverse selection of optional modules which enable you to follow specialisms in line with your academic and professional ambitions.

*Available as a one-year full-time or two-year part-time programme. Detail on the structure of the part-time route can be found on our website.

The latest modules are available on our website. Recent areas of study have included:

- Urban and Regional Dynamics
- Governing Economies
- Designing Cities
- Urban and Regional Development in Practice
- Housing in a Globalising World

Create stronger and more resilient places by influencing development policy and practice.

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
Pg Cert
Planning Practice

Develop your planning knowledge and accelerate your career.

If you already have a specialised master’s degree, this part-time programme will provide you with the opportunity to ‘top up’ your planning skills and knowledge while satisfying the educational requirements for professional membership of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI).

You will be taught alongside others taking a professional ‘conversion’ degree and receive bespoke support and guidance to help you manage your work and maximise your results. Engaging with both theory and practice during the programme, you will have the opportunity to critically review and assess current planning policies and strategies before undertaking a practical project where you will identify solutions to a substantive planning issue.

We also ensure there is an opportunity to reflect and consider the kind of practitioner you are or will be, developing a robust understanding and appreciation of your core strengths and behaviours.

The latest modules are available on our website. Recent areas of study have included:

- Planning and Real Estate
- Planning: Nature, Purpose and Instruments
- Site Planning, Design and Development

Live Project

Working in groups you will identify a substantive planning problem in association with your clients (a planning authority or agency) and produce, and present, a report with recommendations. This is an excellent opportunity to apply your learning and deploy your skills in problem-definition and problem-solving; draw upon, and develop, knowledge of procedures and practice within a substantive planning topic; engage in appropriate reflection of values and ethics-related issues; and, appreciate the operational context within which the report will be delivered.

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
Generating debate and influencing policy – our research

We have been consistently rated one of the top geography and planning schools in the UK in terms of our research environment and world-leading research output (Research Excellence Framework 2014).

While many projects focus on the UK, staff have carried out research, consultancy and teaching in Europe, the USA, Canada, Australia, India, China, Malaysia, Japan, South Africa, the Middle East and elsewhere. We are also defined by our commitment to engage with the wide range of actors involved in the planning, governance and development of cities, regions and rural spaces.

This research activity feeds directly and indirectly into your postgraduate experience. You benefit from the most up-to-date information and teaching as a result of staff involvement in research, a factor that contributes to the high employment rate of our graduates.

We have research strengths in human geography and planning in the following areas:

The Environment Research Group is a large cluster of human geographers and planners interested in understanding and resolving contemporary global environmental challenges. Key concerns for the group include: climate change and food security, renewable energy and green infrastructure, rural development, biosecurity and sustainable food systems and community growing.

The Group considers diverse empirical topics including: breastfeeding, gentrification, housing and homelessness, drugs and alcohol, cycling, food banks, Fairtrade, religion and spirituality, surfing, fashion, music, humour, dance, animal-human interactions, allotments and community gardens.

The Spatial Planning and Analysis in City Environments (SPACE) Research Group specialises in theoretical and applied research that actively engages with external audiences in the public, private and third sectors in the UK and internationally. Research activity covers a wide range of topics including: housing and land markets, valuing built environment and infrastructure externalities, active travel and transport, spatial variations in social and health inequalities, accessibility and health outcomes, social capital and service provision. The group is interested in public participation, engagement and social justice in planning processes, urban design responses to social and natural problems, flood and wildfire risk and disaster planning, and urbanisation and urban poverty reduction in the developing world.

The Urban and Regional Governance Research Group (URG) specialises in the study of the nature of urban, regional and city-regional spaces, and how they are shaped and transformed by various social, political, economic and environmental actors and processes. A key concern for the group is the governance of urban, regional and city-regional areas as particular geographical spaces. This recognises that governance is an element of the political, economic and social ‘worlds’ of urban, regional and city-regional areas, with heterogeneous actors and practices constituting such governing arenas.

PhD progression
Our postgraduate master’s programmes are the ideal springboard for PhD study, where you can further develop your academic and scholarly interests.

We offer several research programmes for those wishing to join our dynamic research community and are committed to providing the facilities and supervisory guidance to ensure you can flourish intellectually and work productively. PhD students are also able to acquire teaching experience with us, and our unique Learning to Teach programme is accredited by the Higher Education Academy. To learn more about our research programmes, please visit our website.
Cardiff: a capital city

Dynamic.
Friendly.
Affordable.

Cardiff is a thriving and attractive city which is widely recognised as an outstanding place in which to live, work and study. Cardiff caters for all tastes, offering everything from the excitement of the city to the peace and tranquillity of the nearby coast and countryside.

Contemporary, welcoming and easy to get around, the Welsh capital is a city with character, heritage and ambition. Cardiff combines all the advantages of a compact, friendly and inexpensive location with the cultural and recreational facilities of a modern capital city.

With an exhilarating mix of heavyweight cultural sights, exciting regeneration projects, 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.

Rough Guides, 2018
Why Cardiff University?

World-leading research
Cardiff is in the top tier of Britain’s research universities and is a member of the prestigious Russell Group. We are ranked second nationally for research impact, and in the top 5 universities for research excellence in the UK.

An international community
Cardiff is a friendly, globally diverse university. With over 8,500 international students from more than 140 countries, you’ll be part of a vibrant community that celebrates its diverse culture.

A beautiful city centre campus
Cardiff is recognised as one of the 10 most beautiful universities in the UK (Times Higher Education 2018). The city centre is our campus, and the School of Geography and Planning is centrally located in the iconic Glamorgan Building.

First-class facilities
We’re undertaking our biggest campus upgrade for a generation by investing £600m to improve and develop our facilities and infrastructure. With more than 2,500 study spaces spread across the University – including dedicated areas for postgraduate students – you’re never far from somewhere comfortable to get your work done. We have a number of open access IT rooms across the campus and an extensive library network boasting more than 1.3m printed books.

Teaching excellence
We have a long history of providing outstanding research-led teaching, and we’re ranked among the top 40 universities in Europe for teaching excellence (Times Higher Education Europe Teaching Rankings, 2018). We’ve been awarded seven Queen’s Anniversary Prizes, which recognise world-class excellence in UK higher education. We’re also home to a huge cohort of distinguished staff, including two Nobel Prize winners and 13 Royal Society Fellows.

One of the biggest, best and most active Students’ Unions in the UK
Our Students’ Union has been voted among the top 4 in the UK (Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey 2018). The Union offers many spaces to eat, relax and study, as well as being home to more than 200 societies and 60 sports clubs. The Students’ Union also provides a range of courses to develop your skills, opportunities to volunteer in the community, and the chance to gain work experience while you study.

Outstanding student support
We’re here to support you every step of the way. From impartial money advice and well-being support to specialist English language programmes and award-winning childcare, we can help you make the most of your experience as a postgraduate student. Our Doctoral Academy also provides a central source for research students to access a comprehensive range of support.
Whether you choose to live in a University residence or private accommodation, we want you to feel at home here.

University residences
Dedicated postgraduate flats are available in University residences, allowing you the opportunity to meet, live and work alongside like-minded people who understand the demands of postgraduate study. International postgraduate students are guaranteed a single-occupancy place in University residences for the full duration of their studies, and EU students for the first year of their studies. If you’re a UK student, University accommodation is not guaranteed but may still be available: see cardiff.ac.uk/accommodation for more information.

Options to suit everyone
We offer a range of high quality student residences to suit individual preferences and budgets, including:
- Single or mixed gender accommodation
- Private or shared bathrooms
- Self-catered, part-catered or fully catered
- A variety of social and sporting facilities
- A limited supply of residences suitable for couples or families (please note that this cannot be guaranteed).

Affordable
Cardiff is the second most affordable city for students in the UK*, and this is reflected in our inexpensive University accommodation. A self-catered residence costs between £111 and £156 per week, whilst a room in part-catered residences typically costs £153 per week (2019/20 prices for single occupancy residences).

Private accommodation
There is a plentiful supply of accommodation available from private landlords in Cardiff. We run a residential house search event in August, allowing you to meet other postgraduates and look for private rented accommodation as an individual, or as part of a group. Our Students’ Union also operates its own professional letting agency, Cardiff Student Letting, which provides student houses suitable for a range of budgets and does not charge agency fees.

* NatWest Student Living Index 2018
As an international student, you can benefit from a range of specialist support services designed to make your move to Cardiff as straightforward as possible:

**Application guidance**
Our international team provides a dedicated advice service to help guide you through the process of applying to study at Cardiff. You can contact our international team at any point before, during and after the application process, and they’ll help with any questions you may have.

**A warm welcome**
We offer a free airport collection service from both Cardiff and Heathrow airports before the academic year starts. Once you arrive in Cardiff, we will provide you with a comprehensive induction programme and arrange activities to help you settle into your new home.

**Guaranteed accommodation**
Cardiff is one of only a small number of universities that guarantees high quality, conveniently located accommodation for single international students.* See page 17 to find out more about our wide range of student accommodation. (*Conditions apply.)

**Expert advice**
Alongside the support provided by your academic school, our international student advisers are on hand to assist you on issues including visas, immigration and finance.

**English language support**
Our English language teaching centre offers a variety of courses which cater for most language levels and abilities. Our students come from all over the world to improve their English language skills before starting university. Classes are taught on campus by our experienced, fully qualified English language tutors. There is also an IELTS Test Centre at Cardiff University offering regular test dates throughout the year.

- **Summer Pre-sessional Programmes:** 8, 10, 12 or 20-week intensive courses are available for international students holding conditional offers.
- **English for University Study Programme:** an academic year programme with entry in September, January and April.
- **In-sessional Student Support:** we provide assistance with academic writing, exam techniques, listening and speaking, pronunciation, notetaking and seminar skills.

cardiff.ac.uk/international
E: international@cardiff.ac.uk
T: +44 (0)29 2087 4432
youtube.com/cardiffinternational
Funding your postgraduate study

We understand that advancing your education to postgraduate level is a significant financial commitment. That’s why, if you’re considering a postgraduate degree, it’s a good idea to consider your funding options as soon as possible.

Master’s Excellence Scholarships
Our competitive Master’s Excellence Scholarship scheme has been designed to support high calibre UK students in funding your postgraduate study. We are investing up to a total of £500,000 in the scheme for entry in September 2020, with each scholarship awarded in the form of a £3,000 tuition fee discount. Conditions apply; please see our website for details.

International scholarships
We run a range of highly prestigious scholarship programmes to support exceptional international students, including our Vice-Chancellor’s International Scholarship scheme. Awards from £2,000 are available to international students across a wide range of subject areas and, in many cases, you will automatically be considered without having to submit a separate application form.

UK Government Postgraduate Funding for Master’s Study
Postgraduate loans from the UK government are available to support UK and EU students who fulfil the eligibility criteria. Different loans apply depending on where you are domiciled in the UK – please see our website for details.

UK Government Doctoral Loans
Doctoral loans from the UK government are also available to support UK and EU students who fulfil the relevant eligibility criteria. As with the UK Government funding for Master’s study, different loans apply depending on where you are domiciled in the UK – please see our website for details.

Additional funding sources
- The UK’s seven Research Councils fund UK and EU research students on a competitive basis through our doctoral training programmes.
- Throughout the year, we advertise a range of funded PhD projects on our website.
- If you’re an international student, make sure you investigate funding opportunities offered within your home country via the British Council and other external funding providers.
- Our Unistaff Jobshop can help you secure part-time, casual or regular employment within both the University and external organisations.
- Numerous charities, trusts and foundations offer a wealth of funding for postgraduate study.

What does my course cost?
Tuition fees vary depending on the course you choose and whether you’re a home (UK/EU) or international student. You can find full details of the tuition fees for individual programmes on the course pages of our website: cardiff.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/funding
You can apply for most of our taught and research postgraduate programmes directly through our website. Once you have identified your area of interest and programme of study, use our step-by-step guide to help navigate through the process.

Before you apply:
STEP 1: Identify your programme of study on our CourseFinder pages. Check whether there is an application deadline, when the programme starts and make sure you meet all entry requirements listed.
STEP 2: Investigate your funding options.

Applying:
STEP 3: Submit an application. You can apply directly using our online application service, which allows you to save your progress and return at a later time. You will receive an automatic acknowledgement of your application in our online applicant portal. You will also receive an email containing the details of your offer. Most applicants will receive an offer within four weeks, although some may take longer. Your offer could be:

Conditional: You need to submit additional evidence. In most cases this will mean providing copies of your qualification certificates when they become available.

Unconditional: You have been offered a place – congratulations!

UK/EU students: In most cases, all you will need to do to secure it is to accept your offer.

International students: You will need to accept your offer and pay a deposit to secure your place.

Further Information:
School of Geography and Planning Postgraduate Admissions
E: gandpenquiries@cardiff.ac.uk
T: +44(0)29 2087 4022

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
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 July 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.

How to find us

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.
To find out more about the School of Geography and Planning please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning

Contact us
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Stay in touch
/ovalgeog
@CUGeogPlan

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.