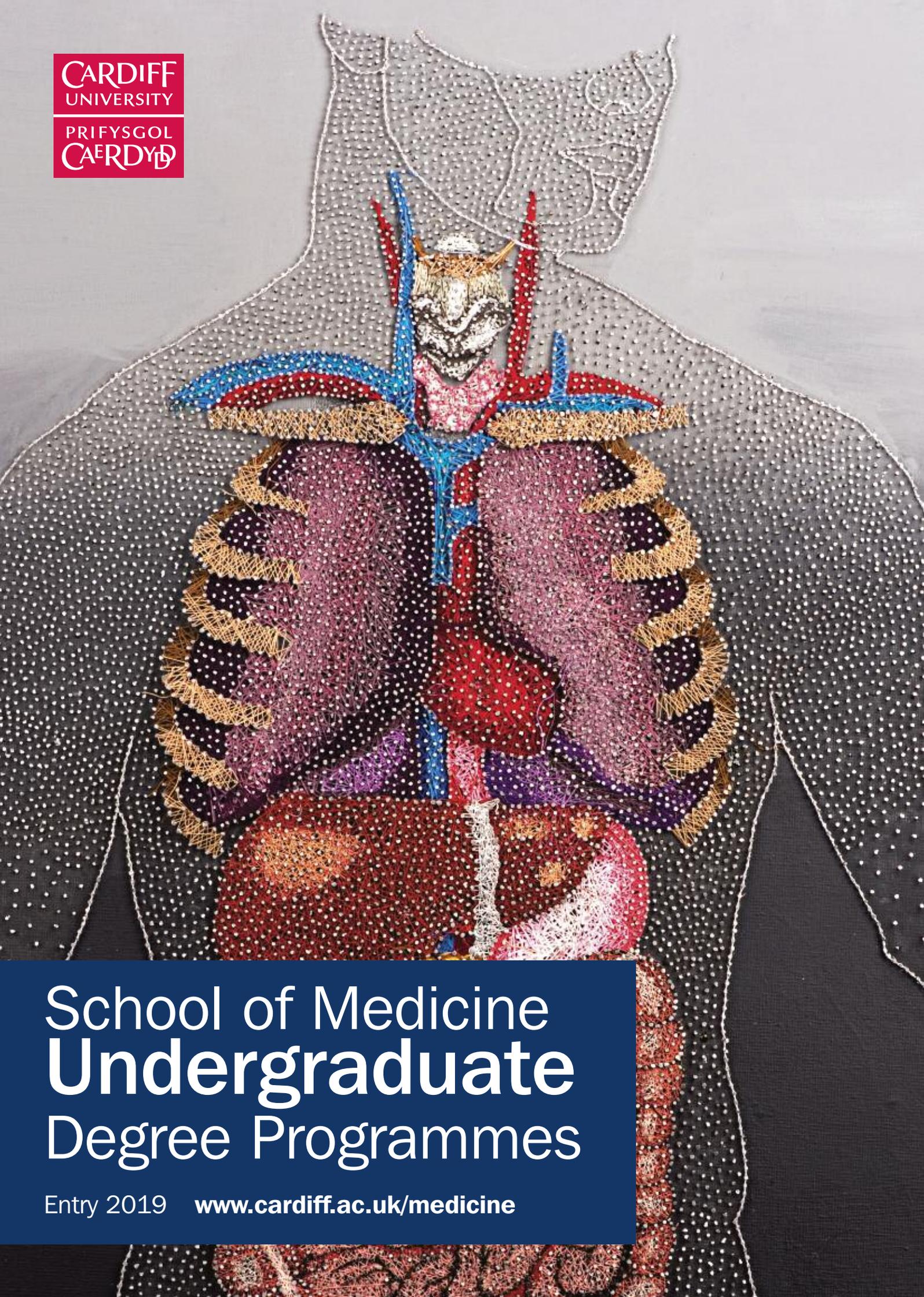


CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD



School of Medicine Undergraduate Degree Programmes

Entry 2019 www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine

Our Five-year MBBCh Programme

- ▶ Cardiff has a fantastic, modern course with excellent facilities and patient contact from your very first year
- ▶ Everything you learn prepares you for the challenges ahead. We're particularly proud of our Case Based Learning, Spiral Curriculum and Harmonisation Year
- ▶ Award-winning teachers deliver high quality teaching in partnership with the Schools of Biosciences, Psychology and Social Sciences, using state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge techniques
- ▶ Clinical placements are across Wales in hospitals, community medical centres and general practices. You'll get to learn first-hand about medicine in tiny villages, deprived inner cities and everything in between
- ▶ You'll have plenty of opportunities to tailor your course towards your own interests
- ▶ We'll encourage you to travel abroad as part of your studies (although it's not compulsory)
- ▶ Typical Offer: AAA at A-level
- ▶ Frequent Open Days throughout the year.

For more info go to: www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine/courses/undergraduate

Can't find your answer in this brochure? Email: medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk

Front Cover Picture - Perseverance (Dr Laura Mills - Cardiff graduate)

The piece is called 'Perseverance'. It seemed a fitting title since it took a lot of perseverance on my part to complete!

The entire image has been created using thousands of nails and coloured thread. I decided to do a portrait of the human body as anatomy is one of the first modules taught in Medicine, and in Cardiff University we are very fortunate to have the opportunity to learn it through dissection.

Want to know more about being a Cardiff student? Come and take a look . . .

As well as frequent University Open Days, we have Medicine-specific Open Days with extensive programmes for both students and parents: meet admissions staff, chat to current students and see for yourself what Cardiff has to offer.

A Cardiff University Open Day allows you to take a look at the University (e.g. residences, Students' Union) as well as the School of Medicine, while a Medicine-specific Open Day lets you try out your clinical skills under supervision and explore our facilities and programme in greater depth.

Keep an eye on www.cardiff.ac.uk for University Open Day dates and on www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine/courses/undergraduate/open-days for Medicine-specific Open Days.



“ The community spirit in Wales is like no other and you really get a feel for that on placement.

Rachel Price, medical student



Welcome



Welcome to the School of Medicine, Cardiff University

Our students tell us that our course delivers what you want in a medical school:

- ▶ You have early patient contact, working with patients from Year 1.
- ▶ Experience the challenges and rewards of practising medicine in both urban and rural communities. Our unparalleled range of clinical opportunities and placements will help you to make the very best choice when you apply for your first job as a junior doctor.
- ▶ Up to 15% of your course can be tailored to your interests.
- ▶ Your final (Harmonisation) year prepares you for a smooth transition to junior doctor and our graduates report feeling well-prepared for practice.

Wales provides a rare balance between the fun of vibrant city living and accessible, beautiful countryside. It is a great place to study and you can live life to the full with all that Cardiff University has to offer.

We look forward to meeting with you at one of our Open Days soon.

Dr Stephen Riley
Dean of Medical Education



Dr Stephen Riley

Admissions Enquiries
School of Medicine
Cardiff University
Neuadd Meirionnydd
Cardiff CF14 4YS
UK
Tel: +44 (0)29 2068 8113
+44 (0)29 2068 8073
Email: medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk

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Important information. Please read carefully.

The University offers the information contained in this brochure as a guide only. It does not constitute a contract and is not binding on prospective students, students or the University. While the University makes every effort to check the accuracy of the factual content at the time of publication, some changes will inevitably occur in the interval between publication and the academic year in which you apply. Good degree programmes will change in line with professional body requirements and student demand, as well as research development. You should not therefore rely solely on this brochure and should visit the School of Medicine website (www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine) for up-to-date information concerning course content, accreditation and entry requirements for the relevant academic year when considering applying to the University. We are also happy to answer any questions you may ask by post, telephone or email, or when you come to Cardiff for an Open Day.

If you are not able to access information online please contact us:

Email: enquiry@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: 029 2087 4455

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

12000MEDIC1017



Cardiff: the University

Cardiff University has an international reputation for excellence in teaching and research, built on a history of service and achievement since 1883, and recognised by our membership of the Russell Group of leading research-led universities.

We celebrate our heritage but look to the future. Our state-of-the-art facilities include £200 million of investment across the University, including our Cathays Park Campus, Heath Park campus and Maindy Campus, refurbishment of the libraries and renovation of the Students' Union. We have a beautiful central campus, modern facilities spread across the city, excellent accommodation, Wifi enabled libraries and one of the best Students' Unions in the UK.

Home to over 30,000 students, with more than 5,000 from outside the EU, we are an inclusive university, with a good record for widening access, increasing participation and welcoming applications irrespective of background.

With an impressive array of resources, supportive student environment, tradition of academic excellence and extensive selection of degree programmes, Cardiff is widely acknowledged as Wales' foremost university.

“ Cardiff is a lovely and easy-going city. The School of Medicine gives all international students great opportunities.

Giuseppe Masciopinto, medical student,
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore,
Sede di Roma.

”





Cardiff: the City



Cardiff, one of Europe's youngest capital cities, is vibrant and friendly, making it an exciting place to live and study.

Cardiff's attractive, compact nature allows students, who make up 10% of Cardiff's population, to enjoy unique attractions, fantastic entertainment and quality shopping, all within easy walking distance. As a Cardiff student, you have easy access to amazing sports facilities and entertainment to suit all tastes - from international cricket at Sophia Gardens and rugby at the Principality Stadium, to Welsh National Opera performances, listening to local bands on St Mary Street or a night out in the Students' Union.

Cardiff has the buzz and energy of a capital city and is in a fantastic location.

“ The city centre is known for its nightlife and nothing beats the atmosphere when Wales are playing rugby at home in the Principality Stadium. However, within little more than an hour you could be hiking in the Brecon Beacons, surfing in the Gower or meeting friends in other cities like Bristol or Swansea.

Dr Simon Thebault, Cardiff graduate ”

“

Cardiff is the UK's most affordable student city.

Of the 35 cities surveyed, the average cost of living was lowest in Cardiff.

Source:
NatWest Student Living Index 2017

”

“Cardiff is a young, vibrant city. A blend of beautiful old architecture and new, cutting-edge developments. Cosmopolitan with a large student population.”

Daily Telegraph Guide to UK Universities



Cardiff is one of the UK's most successful retail centres

“

What I appreciate most about Cardiff city, compared to other student cities, is how affordable it is. Great housing is located close to the campuses, as well as the centre of the city. Having the opportunity to live in student-predominant areas means that we have the opportunity to eat out in student-priced restaurants and go to bars with fair prices!

Berenice Cunningham-Walker,
medical student

”

“

Walking along the River Taff I often forget I'm in a city.

Tom Liddell-Lowe, medical student

”

Cardiff University School of Medicine



“ The course has a large practical element so you get to learn the really cool stuff from the very beginning. It also allows you to perfect your skills throughout the course and be confident on the job once you graduate as a doctor.
Dr Julimar Abreu, Cardiff graduate ”

We are proud of Cardiff’s long tradition of medical education. Since 1893 we have trained the very best doctors and today we focus on providing a 21st century education to our students.

We combine progressive healthcare education and patient care with world-class research and outstanding teaching facilities, in order to help you to become the very best doctor you can be.

The Heath Park Campus, located at the University Hospital of Wales, is well-resourced with a lot to offer students. You will learn in our purpose built teaching facilities and state-of-the-art Clinical Skills and Simulation Centres, study in our well-equipped interprofessional library and socialise at the Student Union Hub (dubbed The IV Lounge by our students).



“ The Students’ Union at the Heath Park Campus is here to enhance your life whilst at Cardiff University. It is the student voice; we represent you on all matters from academic issues to social spaces, to sports teams and societies. There are specific healthcare societies and sports teams for you to join on top of all the activities and services every student is entitled to. We also run special events aimed at Heath students throughout the year including; Heath Freshers’ events, Medics Varsity against Bristol Healthcare students and Student Family Days. Your time at Cardiff and at the Heath will stay with you long after you leave University so let’s make it incredible!
Kirsty Hepburn – Vice President Heath Park 2017-18, Cardiff University Students’ Union ”



The MBCh Programme

What programmes are there to study Medicine?

► 5 year undergraduate programme

UCAS A100, requiring the appropriate science A-levels or equivalent. There are approximately 250 places for Home and EU students and around 20 for Overseas students.

► 6 year programme

UCAS A104, up to 16 places for applicants with limited or no science background, where we'll bring you up to speed with a Foundation Year.

► 4 year graduate entry programme

UCAS A101, for up to 10 graduates of each of our recognised feeder courses only: BSc in Medical Pharmacology; Biomedical Science (Cardiff University) and Medical Sciences (University of South Wales & Bangor University). You can apply to join Year 2 of the A100 programme.

What will I learn?

Foundation Programme Year (UCAS A104)

In your preliminary year you will study in a university environment and you can join in many of the activities run by medical student societies.

All students will take core chemistry and biosciences modules and, additionally, an Introduction to Medical Sciences module to help introduce you to the world of medicine. You will also be required to take mathematics modules if you do not have this subject at A-level. These modules will ensure that you can join Year 1 on an equal footing with other medical students. You will also have some optional choices and you can choose from a range of science, language and humanities modules.



What's Case Based Learning (CBL)?

The first thing you need to know is that CBL is a far more structured and supportive learning style than Problem Based Learning. CBL is designed to give all students equal learning opportunities and the very best teaching. Everything you learn will be what we see as useful and relevant, taught at the most appropriate points in your programme, using the most appropriate facilities. This learning is facilitated best in small group teaching.

You'll be presented with a case, around which your teaching for the following week or so will be based. For example, let's say the case involved a patient with a sporting injury to his knee: in lectures you will learn about the mechanisms of inflammation and anti-inflammatory medications; in the anatomy centre you'll be examining the relevant area; on placement you may be in a physiotherapy clinic dealing with sporting injuries, and in the clinical skills labs you'll learn how to examine a knee.

What's a spiral curriculum?

We have a spiral curriculum, which means each year you will revisit common clinical problems and build on what you have learned already. This means that the new information is easier to remember and to apply in a clinical context when you see patients.



What Will I Learn on the 5 Year MBBCh Curriculum?

PHASE 1: Core Science and Clinical Practice - Years 1 & 2

What is it all about?

In Years 1 & 2 you will learn basic and clinical science via the theme of 'the Chronological Life Course.' You will explore the normal workings of the human body and start to recognise disease, combining what you learn in our in-depth basic science teaching sessions with what you see on clinical placements. You will use cases discussed in small groups ('Case Based Learning' – see Page 7) to study common clinical conditions that affect patients of different ages.



What will I do?

- ▶ Basic clinical sciences, such as anatomy, biochemistry, physiology and immunology are taught in a range of formats including workshops, lectures, practicals and cadaveric dissection.
- ▶ Communication skills, learning how to take focused histories and explain diseases and treatment
- ▶ Clinical skills, learning a range of physical examinations, basic life support and practical skills
- ▶ Behavioural and social sciences, such as psychology and sociology, are integrated into teaching throughout the programme
- ▶ Professionalism and Personal Development workshops - doctors have important roles as leaders and respected members of society, and we help you to learn about professionalism in practice and develop as an individual.

“ Case Based Learning, with its clinical placements, really prepares you for the daily reality of life on the wards.

Sarah Morgan, medical student ”

Where will I be learning?

- ▶ You will study in the most appropriate facility for the type of learning required, meaning that your time will be split between the Clinical Heath Park Campus and the Science laboratories in Cathays
- ▶ You will also have regular NHS placements. These clinical experience days will allow you to see patients with conditions that you are exploring in your Case Based Learning groups, as well as meeting staff in a multidisciplinary environment.



PHASE 2: Learning to Care - Years 3 & 4

What is it all about?

This part of your course concentrates on patient experiences of illness and healthcare. It is designed to give you an excellent learning experience in clinical settings, to make you the best doctor you can be.



What will I do?

- ▶ You will learn the fundamentals of excellent clinical care, such as clinical assessment, diagnosis, management and treatment of common diseases
- ▶ Year 3 focuses on common diseases in acute and chronic settings
- ▶ Year 4's emphasis is on specialties and you will spend time with a range of specialists such as obstetricians, paediatricians, geriatricians and psychiatrists
- ▶ You will have teaching blocks at the start and finish of each clinical placement, where the fundamentals of good medical practice are covered, as well as the pathology, therapeutics, social sciences and ethics relevant to your placement
- ▶ As part of your Student Selected options programme, you will also be able to pursue a non-core topic that interests you in greater detail.

Where will I be learning?

- ▶ Most of your time will be spent on NHS and GP clinical placements across Wales
- ▶ You will be in hospitals, GP practices and community clinics
- ▶ Your teaching block weeks are in University, preparing you for your clinical placement at the start and consolidating your learning at the end
- ▶ Through the Erasmus scheme, some Year 4 students spend time on clinical placement at one of our partner institutions in Europe.

“ Being on 'away' placements means you make friends you otherwise might not have come into contact with, so by the end of the course everyone knows everyone, which makes it a really friendly environment to be in.

Dr Zoe Candlish, Cardiff graduate ”

HARMONISATION: Preparing for Practice - Year 5

What is it all about?

Your final year as a Cardiff University medical student is designed to help you to make a smooth transition into your role as a Foundation Doctor. Harmonisation has four 7-8 week clinical placements separated by three shorter study blocks, all designed to build your confidence, to allow you to practise clinical and prescribing skills and to enhance your ability to work as part of a team. During this time you will use the Undergraduate Foundation (UMeP) ePortfolio to record your learning.

As the year progresses you will learn to assume increasing responsibility for patient care.



“ The Senior Student Assistantship alleviated many of the anxieties and fears that a new graduate faces. It isn't always our medical knowledge but rather ward 'know-how' that matters. ”
Dr Yousef Ibrahim, Cardiff graduate

What will I do?

- ▶ Preparing for Practice addresses those practical aspects of medicine that are necessary to become a great doctor, e.g. communication, medical documentation and emergency patient management

You will also undertake the following:

- ▶ Junior Student Assistantship (clinical placement with a Consultant)
- ▶ Changing Practice (study block)
- ▶ Primary Care Attachment (clinical placement with a GP)
- ▶ Your elective lets you experience medicine in different cultural situations around the world
- ▶ In your Science and Practice module you'll revisit some of the basic science that underpins clinical medicine. You will explore the uncertainties of medicine, learn how to deal with stress and learn more about what being a Foundation Doctor involves
- ▶ Your Senior Student Assistantship placement has you shadowing the FY1 whose shoes you will fill after graduation, if you choose to stay in Wales for your first job. This helps you become comfortable with the people and environment before you even start your first day as a Foundation Doctor here in Wales. This will help make that daunting transition from student to doctor both safer and more enjoyable.



Where will I be learning?

- ▶ Your Junior Student Assistantship and Primary Care Attachment placements are in Wales
- ▶ Your elective can be in the UK or abroad - it is your choice
- ▶ Your Senior Student Assistantship placement will usually be in the hospital where you will start your career as a doctor. If this is outside Wales we will fit you in to a suitable placement in Wales and encourage you to spend time shadowing the outgoing FY1 over the summer
- ▶ Your study blocks will be at the Heath Park Campus.



Placement locations across Wales:

Red – Hospital Hubs
Green – General Practices

“ I am having a great time as an F1. It's very busy but I am enjoying doing what I always wanted to do. ”
Mustafa Abdimalik, Cardiff graduate

Support Network

Medicine can sometimes be demanding physically, mentally and emotionally and we want to be there to help you through these moments. We will support you both academically and pastorally throughout your training at Cardiff.

As a medical student you will not only have access to the University Student Support Centre but there is also specific support

available through the School of Medicine. You will be allocated a personal tutor who will be a great source of knowledge and support to help you with your learning. They will meet you regularly and be able to signpost you to specific support if you should need it. Support for more personal issues is provided through our medic support service.

This provides support for those with personal and health concerns and links with the wider University support services. We also ensure

you are well looked after when you are away on placement, with support staff based at each district general hospital in Wales. We try to ensure you have access to support and advice whenever you feel you might need it.

“ Medic Support kept everything confidential and they tailored the support to suit my needs. ”
Jamie Plumb, medical student

Learning and Teaching Methods

Cardiff students are encouraged to interact, participate, ask questions and reflect, because we believe that doctors who are inquisitive and curious problem-solvers give their patients the highest standard of care.

Our Case Based Learning approach keeps the patient at the centre of your studies. Through small group learning, co-ordinated lectures, clinical placements, clinical skills training and self-directed study we combine a variety of disciplines in order to integrate science, social science and clinical practice. Our focus is on you and your learning: we will support you as you take increasing responsibility for your own learning and encourage you as you use your own initiative to seize opportunities and experiences that will be available to you as a student and, later, as a doctor.

Communication skills are at the heart of good medical practice and are one of the first things patients notice. Our highly-rated workshops will help you to gather information, explain diseases and treatments, provide support when patients are distressed and deal with more complex skills like breaking bad news. You will attend workshops throughout the course, consulting with actors trained to behave as patients, receiving feedback and sometimes being filmed in order to review your own performance. We are encouraging patients to be your teachers too.

PAL (Peer-Assisted Learning) is a highly successful initiative which trains Year 5 medical students to peer-tutor junior years in clinical procedural skills. The PAL Scheme has been a great success, helping seniors to gain experience in the teaching environment, while juniors develop their skills and knowledge from more experienced colleagues who still recall what it feels like to be tackling new skills.



Where will I go and what will I do?

Wales offers you a breathtaking variety of clinical experiences that adds value to your medical career. You'll be on clinical placement in hospitals, GP practices and community clinics from your first year, gradually going further afield for longer placements, with increasing responsibility as part of a medical team. By your final year you will be spending more time with your patients than your books and will have experienced, first-hand, what it means to provide medical care across the spectrum - from GP practices in farming communities or small hospitals in popular seaside resorts and post-industrial towns, through to tertiary specialties in large, urban teaching hospitals.

The School of Medicine is continually looking to enhance the student experience. Some Year 3 students will have the opportunity to spend a whole year embedded in a more rural community in Aberystwyth or Bangor. This will facilitate learning within a clinical team fully supported by Cardiff University and a local clinical educational supervisor. In addition we will be looking to place some students for a whole year in North Wales in Year 3, 4, or 5. Students studying within the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board in North Wales consistently report an excellent student experience and this programme will seek to build on this.

How will I be assessed?

Assessments at Cardiff are designed to be fair and to support you as you learn. We'll assess you at the most appropriate time, in the most relevant place, using actual clinical examples. Our 'single best answer' multiple choice-style question papers will test your knowledge and our Integrated Structured Clinical Examinations (ISCEs) will test your clinical skills, using real patients with real physical signs, as well as role players to assess your ability to communicate with patients.

Throughout your course we will award prizes for the best academic performance and, at the end, you will be awarded the final degree of MBBCh (with Honours or Commendation for high achievers).

Rural Health Day

Rural Health Day gives all Year 2 students the opportunity to experience the excitement and unique challenges rural practitioners face on a daily basis. The Welsh Ambulance Service simulates a serious road traffic accident in an isolated area, providing students with valuable experience in the challenges emergency services face in rural communities. A variety of clinical and communication skills are practised during the stimulating day. This taster provides a rewarding glimpse into yet another option available for you in clinical practice.



Our Facilities

Clinical Skills Centre

Full of specialist equipment and models, the Clinical Skills and Simulation Centre provides a safe facility for you to learn clinical skills and gain valuable experience.

Our teaching centres on mastering the 32 key practical skills set out by the GMC and a range of physical examination skills so that you are ready for that first day as a junior doctor.

- ▶ We have a variety of versatile teaching rooms, with audiovisual and computerised facilities that allow us to deliver everything from communication skills to basic life support, using realistic, anatomically-correct models to enable you to learn and practise a wide range of procedural clinical skills
- ▶ Our staff have developed e-learning modules to provide you with helpful theoretical knowledge prior to a clinical skills session
- ▶ After timetabled sessions are over, you can practise the skills in our fully-equipped Self Directed Learning area, gaining experience and confidence in your abilities in a safe, protected environment.
- ▶ Most Wednesdays, during term time, one of the Clinical Skills Teaching team is available in the Self Directed Learning Room. They are there to assist you with the procedural skills that can take a little bit longer to master.



Simulation Centre

Assessing an acutely unwell patient, monitoring vital signs, making and implementing management decisions; this is all part of life as a junior doctor. The Simulation Centre provides a safe, supported environment to enact out clinical scenarios. The hospital sites throughout Wales also have simulation facilities which enables simulation teaching to occur wherever you are based for your final year clinical placements. We want you to feel prepared for your first day as a junior doctor and to know how to safely and calmly handle situations that arise.

Our facility has four simulation rooms and four teaching rooms. Simulation rooms contain adult patient manikins in what looks, and feels, like a real clinical setting.

Strategically-placed cameras allow live play and video playback, enabling you and your peers to learn as both participants and observers. Peer learning in small group teaching is a key aspect of teaching at the Centre. Participants and observers will come together at the end of a scenario and a Tutor facilitates a debriefing session. We apply a structured approach which highlights each performer's good clinical practice. We take time to discuss how individuals can improve their performance next time and potential alternative approaches, all of which will help you to be a better doctor.



Biosciences

The School of Biosciences, close to the Students' Union and the city centre, provides a welcoming environment for students. Inside the modern building, with its distinctive coloured hexagonal glass-front, there has been a large investment into the refurbishment of facilities. This refurbishment includes numerous teaching areas, as well as physiology and AV equipment. There is also ample study space and a café.

Anatomy Centre

Ask around and you'll discover that anatomy is a widely popular subject amongst our students, often one of the highlights of their medical school career. As a Cardiff student, you will be studying anatomy in our impressive Cathays Campus Anatomy Centre, laying the foundation for an exciting and successful future in Medicine.

Anatomy is a key part of our Phase 1 medical curriculum and we specialise in small group teaching led by clinical anatomists, academics and clinical demonstrators from the School of Biosciences. Our range of teaching methods, including dissection, prosection, body painting, e-learning and video tutorials are designed to ensure that your anatomy learning complements each case or system as you explore it in your lectures, tutorials and placements.



Elective

The final year elective is often a highlight of a medical student's time at university. You design an experience that focuses on a topic area that interests you at a location almost anywhere from Australia to Vietnam. We have links with universities in Asia that can help to ensure a unique experience. You will fund your own trip but we have staff to help, well-organised programmes and financial bursaries.

"Can you do an appendix?"

One of the first comments I was greeted with at the Juba Teaching Hospital, South Sudan.

My shake of the head was greeted with enthusiastic nods. "Ok no problem. I show you this one and you do the next one." Fortunately the next one didn't arrive until I had departed the surgery team.

I wasn't quite sure what to expect of an elective in the world's newest country, only recently torn apart by years of famine and war. Needless to say, conditions were challenging and I was forced to use all the skills and knowledge acquired at Cardiff in managing a wide variety of patients.

My time at Juba was enjoyable, interesting and demanding. I have had a unique insight into healthcare in a post-conflict nation and the experience I have gained I'm sure will be invaluable for my working life in the UK.

Dr Richard Thomas, Cardiff graduate

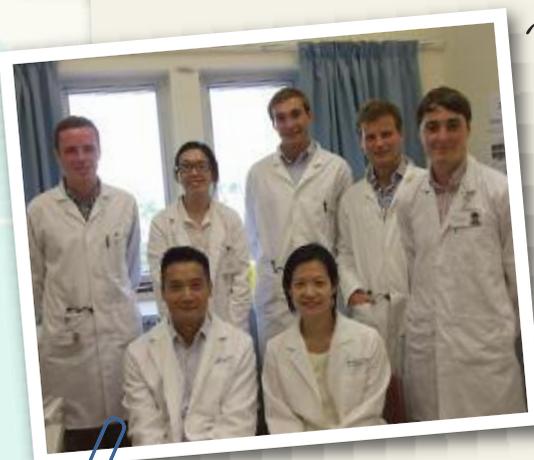




I was always interested in paediatrics . . .

. . . and always wanted to visit Australia so an elective in Sydney was ideal for me. My experience in the Children's Hospital gave me the opportunity to become more confident in dealing with common paediatric presentations. This helped prepare me for my F1 rotation in paediatrics and also reaffirmed my belief that I would find a career in paediatrics fulfilling. Being in Australia also meant I was lucky enough to have amazing adventures such as climbing Sydney Harbour Bridge and skydiving in Cairns. Overall, it was a fantastic experience.

Dr Rachel Debono, Cardiff graduate



Why did I go on elective in China?

Cardiff has an excellent partnership elective programme with the Chinese University of Hong Kong, I have relatives there so I could save on food and accommodation and on top of all this the University offered me a bursary to go.

What did you learn about China's healthcare system? Patients have to pay for their healthcare and the system is split between government and private healthcare. The patients "doctor shop" which causes inconsistency in their care. It really made me appreciate how fortunate we are to have the NHS.

Placement was great, and I didn't struggle as the staff were very friendly and willing to translate. This meant I got stuck into life as a student doctor there and didn't get left standing in the background twiddling my thumbs. No elective is complete without experiencing the culture; Hong Kong is a vibrant city packed full of Chinese culture, from visiting temples to attending the Bun Fight Festival, sightseeing and sampling local foods, I had the opportunity to experience it all. I worked hard and played hard!

Dr Jess Law, Cardiff graduate



A Flexible Curriculum

Expand your career prospects and explore an area that intrigues you

Intercalated degrees

- ▶ Spend a year on an academic course before returning to Medicine
- ▶ Study something a bit different in a medically-related field you enjoy
- ▶ Expand your career prospects through additional qualifications
- ▶ Choose from a selection of degrees
- ▶ Approximately 100 students a year intercalate between Years 3 and 4, or 4 and 5, subject to academic performance
- ▶ Wide range of BScs offered within Cardiff University (Pharmacology/ Emergency, Pre-hospital and Immediate Care/Psychology/ Medical Education and many more)
- ▶ Option to transfer to other universities in the UK to undertake an intercalated degree
- ▶ Opportunity to research a subject in depth and develop the intellectual and practical tools that every successful researcher needs
- ▶ Enhances skills in evidence-based practice.

To find out more about eligibility and what you can do, please contact:
IntercalatedBSc@cardiff.ac.uk

“ Intercalating in Physiology was great fun and I loved the extra challenge.

David Goulding, medical student ”



Erasmus

The Socrates Erasmus programme was set up to encourage students to learn in different countries and enjoy different cultures and languages. We currently have Erasmus agreements with medical schools across Europe, meaning that you can choose to undertake a placement as part of your core studies and immerse yourself in the host country's culture at the same time. We hope to be able to continue with the Erasmus agreements after Brexit.

If you participate in the Erasmus+ Programme you may be eligible to receive an Erasmus grant to help offset the costs of studying abroad. Language doesn't have to be a barrier as we organise intensive courses and language advisors who can help you learn or improve upon existing languages.

The Global Opportunity Centre provides opportunities for you to study, work and volunteer abroad. These short-term placements last a minimum of four weeks and take place in a variety of locations around the world. *Bursaries are provided to students to help cover the costs of going abroad.*

Student Selected Components (SSCs)

SSCs account for approximately 15% of the medical curriculum and offer a range of project opportunities that enable you to explore an area of medicine in depth. We offer SSCs across all five years of MBChB and there are a range of projects, from clinical research through to basic science plus connections between the arts and health. You will have an opportunity to choose from tutor-proposed SSCs or design your own bespoke project – this is your chance to be extra creative and focused in your own studies, tailoring your degree to your own particular interests and career aspirations.

“ Gyda phwyslais cynnar ar brofiadau clinigol mae C21 yn gosod cleifion yn ganolog i'n haddysg Feddygol.

With an early emphasis on clinical experiences, C21 places the patient at the centre of our medical education.

Gwenllian Rhys, medical student ”

“ My 3 months in Lisbon was an unforgettable time. We got a fascinating slice into being a medical student in Portugal. You get to see a whole lot more, although it is not as hands-on. Not only do you get to stretch your language skills (some knowledge of Portuguese or advanced Spanish is a must), but also exercise your taste buds and enjoy many day trips to the hot beach. If you get the chance to partake in this experience, take it! Até já!

Thomas Gupta Jessop,
medical student, Lisbon ”

“ As well as a fantastic learning opportunity and experience to work with talented individuals, I was able to present my project at several conferences and submit it into competitions. Cumulatively, widening access to opportunities and giving me a better insight into Gynaecology as a career.

Dr Catherine Morgan, Cardiff graduate ”

“ The opportunity to experience medical training and practice in France will undoubtedly be one of the highlights of my time in Cardiff. Exposure to the varying practices and approaches seen across countries is essential in our ever-shrinking world and is hugely valuable in informing and improving our practice with our own patients at home. All this goes without mentioning the varied and multiple opportunities to enjoy the culture, language and cheap Muscadet! Vive la France!

Rhiannon Watson,
medical student, Nantes ”

MBBCh Admissions



Applications

UCAS Codes

MBBCh Medicine (5 year programme)	A100
MBBCh Medicine (with a preliminary year)	A104
MBBCh Medicine (Four year Graduate Entry Scheme via feeder streams)	A101

To be considered for entry onto one of our degree programmes you should apply online via the UCAS website using the 'UCAS Apply' facility. To use this facility you need to log on to www.ucas.ac.uk/apply.

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

The closing date for all applications each year is 15th October.

The aim of our selection process is to identify students who are best suited to follow our medical programme successfully and who have the greatest potential to embark on a productive career in the medical profession. We will assess you in two broad areas: academic ability and potential; and personal qualities appropriate for a career in medicine.

The School of Medicine is committed to ensuring that the selection process is open, equitable and applied fairly to all applicants. We have a detailed Admissions Policy which can be viewed on our website www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine/courses/undergraduate.

Academic Entry Requirements

To establish your potential to cope with the academic demands of our programme, the initial assessment consists of scoring performance in a range of subjects.

The minimum requirements at GCSE are English Language B, Mathematics B, either Double Award Science AA or AAB in Chemistry, Physics and Biology in any order. You will be ordered according to your academic qualifications, which means that not all who meet the minimum entry criteria will be selected for interview.

The first action the School of Medicine will take on receipt of an application is to score the top 9 GCSEs. These 9 must include English Language (and/or Welsh Language), the Sciences and Mathematics. We award 3 points for an A* (9), 2 points for an A (8 and 7) and 1 point for a B (6). We do not award points for short courses. Applications will be ordered according to their score and a cut-off point is decided. The cut-off score can change from year to year as it depends on the overall standard of applications we get in any one year. Over the last 5 years the cut-off score has ranged between 22 to 26 points (including applicants who are identified through our contextual admissions model).

Applicants who have completed A-level qualifications that fulfil or exceed our typical A-level offer (AAA) will therefore be considered with lower GCSE scores. We score achieved A-levels (3 points for A* and 2 points for A).

Please check our website for the most up-to-date information.

We will only consider Certified GCSE resit results if completed within twelve months of the first sitting.

The typical A-level offer for the A100 course is AAA grades at A2 level which should include Chemistry and Biology. We also accept the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification in lieu of a third A-level. General Studies, Critical Thinking and Further Mathematics are not acceptable at A2 level. If your qualifications do not include both Chemistry and Biology you may apply for the A104 course. The requirements for A104 are AAA in three subjects at A-level.

There is a specific four year programme (A101) for applicants who are currently enrolled on to an official Feeder Stream course within one of the following programmes: BMed Sci Degree from the University of Bangor (B100); BSc (Hons) Medical Sciences Degree from the University of South Wales (B901); BSc (Hons) Medical Pharmacology Degree from School of Medicine, Cardiff University (B210); or BSc (Hons) Biomedical Sciences Degree from School of Biosciences, Cardiff University (BC97). If you are applying from these routes you will need to have achieved a minimum of grade 'B' in GCSE Mathematics and English Language, BBB at A-level and achieve a first or upper second class honours degree.

If you are applying for the A100 programme with a degree you will need to have appropriate science qualifications at A-level or above. Grades BBB at A-level will be accepted and an offer will be conditional on achieving at least a first or upper second class honours degree.



International Baccalaureate

You will be expected to achieve 36 points (excluding Theory of Knowledge and the Extended Essay). A minimum of 19 points must be achieved in the Higher Level subjects made up of a score of 7, 6, 6 points. Two sciences (from Chemistry, Biology, Physics and either Mathematics or Statistics, but not Mathematical Studies) must be offered at Higher Level with the score of 6 points being achieved in either Chemistry or Biology. Chemistry or Biology must be offered at Standard Level with a score of 7 points, if not at Higher Level. Physics must be offered at GCSE level if not at Higher or Subsidiary Level.

Other

Applications from those offering alternative equivalent/overseas qualifications are welcome. Information regarding such requirements can be found on our website www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/admissions-criteria/medicine

Applications Information

The number of applications per place is normally around 10:1

UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT)

You will be required to sit the UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) from July to October in the same year as application unless you have completed or are committed to a degree. Some countries are exempt and you should speak to UKCAT regarding this. Find out more about the UKCAT by visiting the website www.ukcat.ac.uk.

We do not have a minimum threshold score for the UKCAT, however the score may be used as part of the assessment process.

Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT)

If you have completed or are committed to a degree you must sit the Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT) for applications to A100 and A101 and your score must be available prior to an offer of interview. Your GAMSAT score will contribute to the decision to shortlist for interview. Graduate applicants for A104 must offer the UKCAT.

Non-Academic Entry Requirements

If you are successful at the first scoring stage your personal statement and reference will then be assessed. The following attributes should be demonstrated:

- ▶ Insight into a career in Medicine
- ▶ Evidence of experience and reflection in a caring environment
- ▶ Evidence and reflection of personal responsibility
- ▶ Evidence of a balanced approach to life
- ▶ Evidence of self-directed learning.

Interviews

If you are successful in both academic and non-academic assessment then you will be invited to attend a multiple mini interview. This will involve rotating around approximately 10 stations in turn where each station will last 6 minutes. The interviews focus on exploring the personal qualities and attributes important in developing good doctors. The interviews will take place over a three week period during December/January. No offers are made without interview. If invited to interview, Welsh-speaking applicants can request a bilingual interview.

“ University faculty and staff are dynamic, engaging and enthusiastic about their educational and pastoral roles.

Dr Ronak Ved, Cardiff graduate ”

“ Cardiff will always be in my heart. It's the school that opened its doors for me and I am proud to be an alumnus of this prestigious School.

Dr Agamemnon Pericleous, Cardiff graduate ”

“ Nowhere else do you get to see such a vast range of places and people.

Niko Ciecierski-Holmes, medical student ”

Additional requirements

If you are successful in receiving an offer you will be required to complete a health questionnaire and complete the Disclosure and Barring Service process at the 'enhanced' level.

Use of Contextual Data

Cardiff University School of Medicine is committed to widening access and welcomes applications from students of all backgrounds. The academic and non-academic attainment of an applicant will be reviewed against national educational performance data and socio-economic background, to provide admissions tutors with a more complete overview of an applicant's attainment and potential. The School may include Welsh Culture, Society and Welsh Language qualifications as part of the assessment criteria. The School will consider this information when deciding whether to call a candidate for interview. It will not use this information to make lower or differential offers to any particular group of students. For further information about contextual data and its use please visit the web pages: www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/contextual-data

The School of Medicine welcomes applications from the Step Up to University scheme. Applicants are required to let the scheme co-ordinators know that they will be applying to study Medicine. They must meet the minimum entry requirements to receive a guaranteed interview. These requirements are listed on our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/admissions-criteria

Applicants on the Step Up scheme will not be made lower or differential offers.

Admissions Contacts

For information on applying please contact a member of the Admissions Team:

Tel: 029 2068 8113

Email: medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk

www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine

FAQs



Do you accept resits?

For Medical Pharmacology, Yes.

For Medicine, we will consider Certified GCSE resit results but only if they are completed within 12 months of the first sitting. Resits for those whose A-levels have been completed, and the grades awarded, will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. All extenuating circumstances are viewed on a case by case basis by the Admissions Group.

Does Cardiff University School of Medicine accept applications for deferred entry?

Yes, and please make this clear on your application form when you submit it.

We cannot guarantee to accept later decisions to defer once an offer has been made.

What does Cardiff University School of Medicine think of a gap year?

We welcome a constructive gap year as it gives you an opportunity to travel, gain work experience or carry out charity work etc. We recognise that a gap year can broaden your skills and experience. A gap year is not compulsory.

I can't find the answers to my questions in this brochure where should I look now?

Our Admissions Policy is a good place to start as it is much more detailed than this brochure in relation to the policies and procedures around applying. The Admissions Policy can be found easily on our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine/courses/undergraduate

Does Cardiff accept transfers onto the course?

Transfers may be considered for Medical Pharmacology. Please contact the Admissions Tutor, Dr Derek Lang (LangD@cardiff.ac.uk) for advice.

Transfers from outside of the UK will not be considered. Transfers within the UK will be considered on a case by case basis.

What is the minimum score required in an IELTS exam?

All medical programmes require an average score of 7.0 or above (with a minimum of 7.0 in speaking, 6.5 in listening, 6.5 in reading and 6.5 in writing).

I applied to Cardiff for Medicine last year and didn't get in. Can I reapply this time?

Yes, you can reapply as long as you meet our minimum entry requirements for the year you are applying. You will need a current UKCAT/GAMSAT score. Your previous application will not influence our decision on your current application.

Please see the Admissions Policy on our website for more details.
www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine/courses/undergraduate

“ I have always felt welcome among staff, who value me for who I am. I cannot recommend Cardiff highly enough.

Dr Helen Iliff, Cardiff graduate

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Information for applicants

At the end of the undergraduate course you will receive your MBBCh (or equivalent) degree, which is a primary medical qualification (PMQ). Holding a PMQ entitles you to provisional registration with the General Medical Council, subject only to its acceptance that there are no Fitness to Practise concerns that need consideration. Provisional registration is time limited to a maximum of three years and 30 days (1125 days in total). After this time period your provisional registration will normally expire.

Provisionally registered doctors can only practise in approved Foundation Year 1 posts: the law does not allow provisionally registered doctors to undertake any other type of work. To obtain a Foundation Year 1 post you will need to apply during the final year of your undergraduate course through the UK Foundation Programme Office selection scheme, which allocates these posts to graduates on a competitive basis. So far, all suitably qualified UK graduates have found a place on the Foundation Year 1 programme, but this cannot be guaranteed, for instance if there were to be an increased number of competitive applications from non-UK graduates.

Successful completion of the Foundation Year 1 programme is normally achieved within 12 months and is marked by the award of a Certificate of Experience. You will then be eligible to apply for full registration with the General Medical Council.

You need full registration with a licence to practise for unsupervised medical practice in the NHS or private practice in the UK.

Although this information is currently correct, students need to be aware that regulations in this area may change from time to time.

There is some discussion about whether to remove provisional registration for newly qualified doctors. If this happens then UK graduates will receive full registration as soon as they have successfully completed an MBBCh (or equivalent) degree. It should be noted that it is very likely that UK graduates will still need to apply for a training programme similar to the current Foundation Programme and that places on this programme may not be guaranteed for every UK graduate.

In addition, the GMC is currently considering whether to introduce a formal assessment that all doctors would need to pass in order to be granted full registration. Although no firm decision has been taken as to whether or when such an exam will be introduced, applicants should be aware that the GMC envisages that future cohorts of medical students will need to pass parts of a new UK Medical Licensing Assessment before the GMC will grant them Registration with a Licence to Practise.



What our students say . . .

Rucira Ooi

Year 4 medical student

What do you think of C21?

I'm really glad I came here. C21 has a holistic, practical approach, with CBL covering the anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, plan of management, sociology and treatment of your patient. We also had early clinical exposure right from 1st Year, with ample time to practise, so we aren't thrown into the deep end in our later years.

Do you have any advice for future medical students?

Be bold and confident. With the medical school's outstanding support, approachable staff and endless opportunities, I can assure you that you have all you need to achieve your greatest potential. When I started I would blend into the background, but in my 3rd year alone, I completed a closed-loop audit and three audits, presented at four conferences and spearheaded the Surgical Society's Biennial Undergraduate Surgical Exchange Conference, with the help of my committee members. I was also a part of MedDay 2016/17, fundraising for Bobath, a charity aiding children with cerebral palsy.

What's the best thing about living here?

Welsh culture is so welcoming - people here are friendly and always smiling. Cardiff is one of the more student-friendly cities and good accommodation can be under £300 a month.



Luke Morgan

Year 2 medical student

Is CBL an effective and supportive learning style?

CBL is the perfect balance of facilitated learning and being given the responsibility to learn in-depth areas of particular personal interest. Having a safe environment to get a range of views on a case and be able to question preconceptions is hugely beneficial to creating a well-rounded doctor. Bringing the theory back to a patient keeps the learning grounded in a patient centred, integrated approach to medicine.

What's the best thing about living in Cardiff?

Cardiff is idyllic! It has the many perks of a capital city, such as world-class sport and fantastic cultural facilities, while still being small enough to walk pretty much anywhere. Having Bute Park so close to the university and the city centre is perfect for both BBQs and sport on warm summer days or mass snowball fights during the winter!

What are the benefits to having a MedSoc family?

MedSoc families provide fantastic opportunities to get to know students from other years and get involved in a variety of projects. As well as being there for a great night out, families support each other when the going gets tough as they are very easy to talk to and are able to give some of the best inside tips.



Thomas Grother

Intercalating

Why Intercalate?

Cardiff provide a number of Intercalation options for third and fourth year students, it gives you the opportunity to study a topic you find interesting, in greater depth. I applied for the Medical Education course because the modules were applicable to my future ambitions. I was successful in my application, and I am excited to start in the autumn.

What do you think of CBL?

I find CBL to be a perfect mix of PBL and traditional learning. Each fortnight a case group of roughly 12 discuss a 'patient' and explore topics around the case. A case facilitator supports the group and helps keep you on track to ensure you achieve all learning outcomes within the fortnight. These fortnight blocks also include plenaries, anatomy centre sessions and placements. Many groups rename CBL to 'Cake' based learning, as they have a rota for someone to bring in cake each session.

What are the benefits to having a Cardiff MedSoc family?

When you arrive at Cardiff, you will be paired with another first year medical student, and two second year medical students to form a 'Medic Family'. During the first week of studies, your parents take you on a tour of the University and provide a great opportunity to answer any questions you have. Many Medic families stay in touch during their time in Cardiff, I'm looking forward to meeting my great-grandchildren in September!



Tilly Ellis

Year 4 medical student

What's the best thing about living here?

I love Cardiff being a small capital city. It has everything you could possibly want, so much variety and everything in walking distance. Beautiful parks provide the perfect excuse to escape into nature. A little further afield are gorgeous beaches, Brecon Beacons National Park and lots more. I can't imagine going to university anywhere else and hope to stay in Wales after I graduate.

How beneficial is a spiral curriculum?

Remembering everything is impossible so revisiting a topic multiple times during your studies is invaluable. As well as consolidating your memory, you can build on your knowledge in that area, adding detail you may not have understood earlier.

Is CBL an effective & supportive learning style?

I would definitely not know as much as I do now if I'd had 9-5 lectures. I cannot praise CBL enough and absolutely love this style of learning. Practicals, small groups, lectures and placements support the cases perfectly and so much clinical experience, so early on, is amazing. I don't think there is any better way to remember and consolidate information than teaching someone else what you have learnt - CBL is perfect for this.



The Medical Pharmacology BSc Programme (UCAS B210)

3 year (or 4, to include the Professional Placement) undergraduate course

Medicines: How are they discovered & developed? Why do we need them? What do they do & how do they work?

With medicines underpinning healthcare, our BSc programme aims to encourage and develop your natural curiosity about how they work. As a student you will embark on a high quality, in-depth exploration of modern Medical Pharmacology, with specialised training in internationally- recognised research laboratories. You will be taught by experts from a team of pharmacologists and clinical pharmacologists. Throughout the course there is emphasis on providing you with transferable skills such as data analysis and organisational and problem solving skills, making your degree highly attractive to future employers.

Each year up to 10 places are available on the 4 year Graduate Entry Medicine (UCAS A101) scheme, allowing graduates of this BSc programme to go on to become doctors.



B210 Programme Entry Requirements

A-level: Typical offer: AAB to include Chemistry and at least one other science subject (preferably Biology but Physics, Mathematics or Statistics are also appropriate). General Studies or Critical Thinking are not accepted. Only one Mathematics or Statistics subject may be included in meeting the conditions of the offer. Applicants undertaking science A-levels where a separate practical assessment is reported, will require a pass in this element.

WBA: Typical offer: AAB to include A-level Chemistry plus another Science subject* and the Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate (WBA).

* from Biology, Physics, Mathematics or Statistics.

IB: Please look on our website for details.

Other: Applications from those offering alternative equivalent qualifications are welcome.

English Language and Maths GCSE must be at least grade B if not offered at A-level.

For more information contact;
Dr Derek Lang, Admissions Tutor
email: langd@cardiff.ac.uk

Programme structure & content

YEAR ONE

Underpinning modules taken in common with the School of Biosciences, where you will spend most of your time, provide knowledge of physiology, anatomy and biochemistry. A flagship module provides specific information on:

- ▶ Foundations & Principles of Pharmacology.

YEAR TWO

Basic & clinical coverage of drugs and their actions in a wide range of contexts, plus:

- ▶ Pharmacology-specific practical applied skills
- ▶ Pharmacology research techniques
- ▶ Clinical Anatomy

You will be based almost entirely on the Heath campus.

YEAR THREE – Optional Professional Placement Year (PPY)

An extended period in a working industrial/academic environment gaining invaluable employability skills. Entry to the PPY is offered once on the BSc course and not directly via UCAS.

FINAL YEAR

Research-led specialist pharmacology topics including:

- ▶ Pharmacogenetics
- ▶ Cardiovascular pharmacology
- ▶ Immunopharmacology
- ▶ Neuropharmacology
- ▶ Cancer Biology
- ▶ Drug Development and Therapeutics
- ▶ Plus an intensive medical research laboratory-based research project.

You will be based fully on the Heath Park campus, working with active researchers.

A BSc degree in Medical Pharmacology from Cardiff University is a valuable commodity. As a graduate from a leading Russell Group research institution, your skills and experience will mean that you are well placed for rewarding and challenging careers in the pharmaceutical industry, academia (for research and teaching), governmental regulatory bodies, the healthcare sector and a range of other professional career pathways e.g. patent law.

Medical Pharmacology ranked 8th in the UK in the Complete University Guide 2018 with an overall score of 93.4. The course also scored 100% for Overall Student Satisfaction in the National Student Survey 2016, with 99% or 100% in four of the other themed areas.

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Studying pharmacology at Cardiff has been a fantastic experience for me. I have found the teaching and pastoral support to be excellent and the course has provided me with all the necessary skills that are needed to pursue a career in research or in a medical field. The course entails a mixture of hands-on practical classes, lectures and group work seminars that help to build a really cohesive learning environment. I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience at Cardiff University and definitely recommend the course!

Zoe Boreham, Medical Pharmacology graduate

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Meet the . . .

Graduate:

Dr Mike Atkinson

I graduated from Cardiff University in 2014. I am currently a Core Medical Trainee in Gastroenterology.



School of Medicine, what was it really like?

It's a great environment to train in. The staff are approachable and supportive and it's led by some inspirational and eminent academics. Generally, medics in Wales are friendly and down-to-earth and the range of experience you gain is enormous - from placements in a big tertiary centre (UHW) to small cottage hospitals and inner city GPs to single-handed rural practices.

All Wales placements?

Really great - without doubt one of the best aspects to being a Cardiff medic. I had an 8 week placement at Bronglais Hospital in Aberystwyth. It was brilliant. I got a first-rate taster of life as a junior doctor and learnt loads in terms of medical knowledge, clinical skills and workplace skills. The highlight was getting the opportunity to experience a new part of Wales; the scenery around Aberystwyth is beautiful.

What will you take away into working life?

The Harmonisation year was totally invaluable in preparing me for my F1 post. In fact, although it had its ups and downs, I would say that starting work as a junior doctor was thoroughly enjoyable and not nearly as rocky as I had imagined.

Wales has a wealth of excellent doctors and clinical teachers and without doubt their teaching and advice has prepared and enthused me to do a job which I love.

Teacher:

Awen Iorwerth

I am a Clinical Lecturer.



Why do you teach undergraduates?

Prof Lewis in the Wales School for Surgery in the Wales Deanery helped develop my interest in training young doctors and encouraged me to take the job of the core Surgical Training Programme Director in Wales. Having organised several Welsh Medical Society Conferences, I was inspired by the enthusiasm of the Cardiff undergraduate medical students and the opportunity to develop Welsh medium medical education with the Coleg Cymraeg was an opportunity that was too good not to take!

What makes Cardiff stand out?

A small enough community to get to know people, but big enough to develop clinicians of international standard.

What do you enjoy about teaching?

Watching the penny drop! And seeing the students make the link between science and the patient in front of them.

What can your students expect from you?

Someone who explains the concept clearly and tries to demonstrate why they are learning an exceptional subject.

Teacher:

Dr Zarabeth Newton

I am a Lecturer in the MBBCh programme.



What do you enjoy most about teaching here?

I enjoy teaching our students. Our medical students are a dynamic, inquisitive set who stretch themselves and draw the most out of every experience. I look forward to having you as one of them. I love watching you learn and explore the knowledge and skills that you are acquiring. My favourite aspect is watching the information "click" for you.

What can your students expect from you?

You can expect enthusiastic, innovative teaching and the knowledge that you will be able to understand some of the most complex concepts. I love the science and explaining it to you and why it all happens. You can expect a lot of "But why?" questions from me. We will explore the different elements of a patient together so you become the best doctor that you can be.

What makes Cardiff stand out?

The curriculum, which is structured around you, is about training you to provide the best patient care. You are involved in community medicine from your first year. In Cardiff, you are Doctors in Training from the start. In the student-selected projects, you can choose your own project or topic according to your own interests.

Teacher:

Dr Jeff Allen

I'm a lecturer in the Centre for Medical Education.



Why do you teach undergraduates?

We often use the term 'teaching' as imparting knowledge but nowadays I think it's more about facilitating the learning experience. Emphasis is on immersing students in a learning environment which encourages active learning, developing their skills that help them become lifelong learners. I find this very rewarding.

What can your students expect from you?

As a teacher I help students develop an understanding of physiology: how living things work - their structure and function right down to the molecular level. I challenge students by asking 'how do you learn?' I want them to find out what is best for them. To understand concepts I try to help students apply ideas and learn actively by communicating these to their peers. I am also the Director of Year 1 MBBCh, which means I am involved in curriculum design, delivery and assessment. I am directly involved in student pastoral and academic support.

What makes Cardiff stand out?

Cardiff University offers the opportunity to learn medicine in a capital city, with added ability to study in both rural & coastal communities. The University has the clear aim of providing students with an inspiring and enriching educational experience.

Life Outside Medicine



First Responders

Cardiff Medics' First Responders recruits medical students in their 3rd Year or above to train as Welsh Ambulance Service First Responders, responding to 'Category A' 999 calls. Working as part of the Welsh Ambulance Service, our aims are to deliver a quality service to our local communities and provide invaluable experience in Emergency Medicine to our members. As a First Responder, you will attend the most critical of emergencies, from patients who have collapsed in the street to those who are having a heart attack in their home. Using your training, you will provide the vital pre-hospital care that could save someone's life.



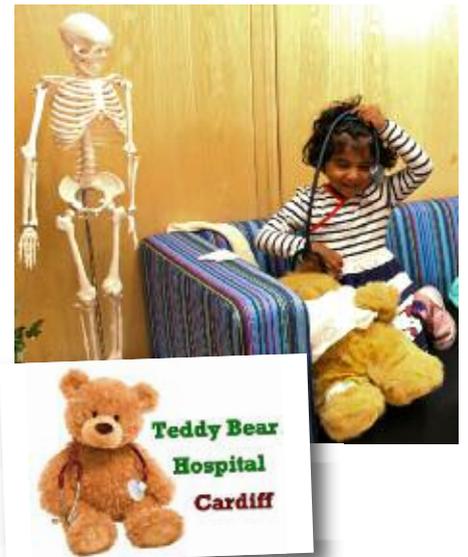
MedSoc allocates Freshers a 2nd year 'Mummy' and 'Daddy' who are there to help you to settle into med student life.

“ Our medic 'family' has grown to 6 generations that are still in touch. ”

Antony Wilby, medical student

Teddy Bear Hospital

Teddy Bear Hospital Cardiff is a society that aims to reduce children's fears of hospitals through play. We also offer medical students a fantastic opportunity to develop their communication skills and interact with children aged 3-11 years old - helping everyone to find the cuddly side of Medicine. Working with local schools, after school clubs and other groups we also aim to teach children about the body and their health, using the fun medium of toys, small bandages, dressing up scrubs, and copious amounts of glitter. Teddy Bear Hospital Cardiff also supports our local hospital Noah's Ark Children's Hospital Charity, raising money by holding events such as cake sales, pub quizzes and a Teddy Bear's Picnic.



The Wilderness and Expedition Society (WEMS)

Are you a bit of an adventurer? Like the great outdoors? Or just want to take Medicine one step further?

This is the ethos of WEMS - we aim to equip our members with hands on, practical teaching in the treatment of medical emergencies in a remote setting, taught by older medical students, doctors, guest speakers, WEMS makes sitting in lecture theatres a whole lot more interesting! Not forgetting to put everything in context - we regularly go on expeditions and treks.





Medics Sport

Sport is available to all Cardiff students, through University or Medics teams. This makes it easier to play sport at university by fitting training sessions and matches around demanding timetables and having a more forgiving attitude when course commitments clash. Medics teams also allow students on healthcare subjects to “network” with each other and provide a stable pastoral role, as older students have been there already.

However, don't underestimate us - we are a competitive bunch by nature and we make sure this is shown on the pitch, court and field!



MedDay Wales

A fundraising initiative organised by the students from the School of Medicine in 2014, MedDay Wales is now an annual

event in the medical calendar. Numerous activities by staff and students raise funds for local charities - the ever growing total reached around £3,500 in the first year alone!

Events in the past have included students cream pieing teachers, sponsored fun runs, raffles with prizes including Welsh Rugby Team signed shirts, MedDay Wales' pub quiz and after-party plus more. The students also have the opportunity to represent the School and take part in collections in and around Cardiff City Centre and the Bay. People can volunteer to help on the day or be more integrally involved by being part of the committee responsible for organising the fundraising activities and ensuring the day goes smoothly.

It is a fantastic opportunity to raise money for some incredible causes and to give back to the community, as well as representing the School of Medicine, which is very proud of its fantastically conscientious and proactive students.



Cardiff University Research Society

CUREs is a student-led society which aims to foster and develop a passion for research among Cardiff medical students. Together with the

Academy of Medical Sciences' INSPIRE programme and Cardiff Undergraduate Research Opportunities (CUROP) programme, CUREs coordinates a range of events and schemes to help students of all years develop and undertake an extended research project in an area of their interest. Cardiff students have an excellent reputation for their achievements in research, with many attaining peer reviewed publications and national prizes in recognition of their work prior to graduation. You might not think research is for you but this may change as your experience broadens and you identify problems you'd like to solve while studying or on clinical placements. As a Cardiff student, you can rest assured that CUREs' support will help you seek the solution.

For more information, like 'Cardiff University Research Society - CUREs' on Facebook.

MedSoc

MedSoc is Cardiff's student-led medical society. From supporting students and appraising the course curriculum to planning the best social events for student medics, MedSoc aims to provide you with the best University experience, tailored to meet your evolving needs.

MedSoc represent students across all years of the course. They work closely with the School of Medicine and organise activities to help you make some of those important decisions you face as a prospective doctor.

For more information, like "Cardiff MedSoc" on Facebook.



Institute for Healthcare Improvement Open School

Cardiff medical students are making a real difference to the NHS thanks to a simple initiative called "Ask One Question". Students ask patients, "What can I do to improve your day?" and act on their responses, which has identified issues from adverse drug reactions to doctor-patient communication breakdown.

This idea has been so successful that our students presented at an international conference and won an award. It is now in Cardiff's curriculum and has been adopted internationally.





Research

Cardiff is a member of the Russell Group of Britain's foremost research-intensive universities.

The School of Medicine is the oldest medical school in Wales and one of the largest in the UK. We have a proud record of world-class research and were ranked 8th in the UK in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework. We look ahead to the challenges faced by healthcare professionals and our recent restructuring means that you can feel more confident in tackling these challenges - our expertise and support for your research interests will help develop a range of skills that you will use throughout your career.

Our research is organised into four divisions and, as a medical student, you can choose to develop your personal interests, learning from leaders in their field, in any of these areas:

Cancer & Genetics

We aim to understand the genetic basis of disease with a focus on cancer, revealing the mechanisms of tumour initiation and progression, defining the genetic basis for variation in therapeutic responses and developing new diagnostics and therapeutic approaches that benefit patients.

Infection & Immunity

Our research extends from basic mechanisms of infection and immunology to activities that make a real difference to doctors diagnosing, managing and preventing disease. We aim to translate basic discoveries into improvements in patient care and clinical practice across a range of different disciplines. Our main areas of research are inflammation, infection and immunology.

Population Medicine

Population Medicine looks not just at the individual but the whole environment in which healthcare is delivered. We aim to improve the health of individual patients through research and innovation that look at larger groups and communities as well as at how their health systems affect their care. We understand how important it is that those who want to develop effective health policy with real impact have expert advice and we work in partnership with other groups across society to provide this support.

Psychological Medicine and Clinical Neurosciences

Our work is focused on understanding the fundamental mechanisms underlying major psychiatric and neurological disorders. There are programmes of work on schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression in children and adolescents, ADHD, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease and epilepsy among others. There is a major focus on genetics and genomics but also interest in brain imaging, epidemiology, in vivo models and cell biology. We also work on psychoeducation, health services, research and public engagement. The majority of our research is undertaken at the MRC Centre for Neuropsychiatric Genetics and Genomics (MRC CNGG).

In addition to the four Research Divisions, the School of Medicine also hosts two University Research Institutes:

Neuroscience & Mental Health Research Institute

Taking new discoveries and translating them into greater understanding and diagnosis of mental illness.

Systems Immunity Research Institute

Delivering a comprehensive systems-based approach to immunity research and providing a holistic view of chronic disease progression, the control of infection and mechanisms that determine an effective immune response.

Further Information

Equal opportunities

Cardiff University is committed to promoting equality and diversity in all of its practices and activities, including those relating to student recruitment, selection and admission. The University aims to establish an inclusive culture which welcomes and ensures equality of opportunity for applicants of all ages, ethnicities, disabilities, family structures, genders, nationalities, sexual orientations, races, religious or other beliefs and socio-economic backgrounds. This commitment forms part of the Equality and Diversity Policy which is available at: www.cardiff.ac.uk/public-information/equality-and-diversity

Bilingual Welsh/English Skills



Whether you are already a Welsh speaker or just keen to learn,

the School of Medicine can support the development of your Welsh language skills in a number of ways. Many of our students have found using Welsh useful when training across Wales, and you can gain confidence through accessing online resources or tutor-led free Welsh lessons for all abilities. Welsh speakers can undertake a Language Skills Certificate and can work with a Welsh speaking personal tutor- Welsh speaking tutors are happy to work bilingually too. Where possible, we ensure that those who wish to develop their Welsh language skills on placement work with Welsh speaking educational supervisors. Academically, students can choose to work with Welsh speaking students during some parts of the course, and you will be able to write your assignments or take some written examinations in Welsh if you wish. You may be eligible for a scholarship through the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol; go to www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/myfyrwyr for more information. We offer bilingual admissions interviews and some of the student residences have been allocated for Welsh-speakers and learners.



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Thank you.

1

Cardiff University has been named Welsh University of the Year in The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018.



To find out more about the School of Medicine,
please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine

Explore the School of Medicine online at: virtualtour.cardiff.ac.uk/medical

INSIDERS

meet our students

Got questions about student life?

Get them answered at:

www.cardiff.ac.uk/insiders

Some of our current students are sharing their experiences online through their Facebook pages, so if you want to know what life as a student at Cardiff is really like, then you can find out now. There is also lots of information about what is happening in Cardiff, including articles written by our students, videos and much more.

Admissions Enquiries

Tel: +44 (0)29 2068 8113
+44 (0)29 2068 8073

Email: medadmissions@cardiff.ac.uk
medicopenday@cardiff.ac.uk

Cardiff University
School of Medicine
Cochrane Building
Heath Park
Cardiff CF14 4YU
UK

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