School of Geography and Planning
Undergraduate Degree Programmes

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
Cardiff University School of Geography and Planning

Recognised for academic and teaching excellence

Highly-ranked in the UK for both Geography and Planning

Multiple opportunities for professional placement or international exchange

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
A friendly, supportive and stimulating learning environment

93% of our graduates were in employment and/or further study six months after graduating (DLHE 2016/17)

Student Bloggers
From study tips to where to eat, to societies, weekend trips and where to get your books, our student bloggers are real students talking about the reality of being a student at Cardiff. Don’t miss their latest blogs for the chance to find out more about what it’s like to study and live in Cardiff.

www.cardiff.ac.uk/studentbloggers
Discover the **Cardiff Experience**

**A leading university . . .**

- You’ll be part of a Russell Group university - one of the UK’s world-class universities.
- You can choose from more than 350 degree programmes. The Cardiff University degree is known and respected worldwide with a substantial number accredited by the professions and other external bodies.
- You’ll benefit from outstanding teaching in a research-led environment - Cardiff is ranked in the UK’s top 5 universities for research quality.
- Staff include a Nobel Laureate and numerous Fellows of the Royal Society and other prestigious institutions.

**in an outstanding city . . .**

- You’ll live in a friendly, compact and safe city with all your study, living and leisure needs within walking distance.
- Your money will go further at Cardiff with capital city attractions at provincial prices - Cardiff is amongst the most affordable/cost effective student destinations in the UK.¹

**with able and motivated students . . .**

- You’ll be at a first choice university where demand for places is strong.
- You’ll be studying in an environment with able and motivated students who have high grades at A-level or equivalent.
- You’ll be at an international university with students from more than 100 countries.

**who have excellent career prospects.**

- You can be confident of your future prospects - 95.7% of our students were employed or had entered further study within six months of completing their studies.²
- You’ll be in demand - Cardiff is among the top 25 universities targeted by employers seeking high calibre graduates.³

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**Notes**

1. Research by Natwest 2017
2. HESA Destination of Leavers Survey 2016/17
3. High Fliers Research The Graduate Market 2017

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**CardiffConnected**

www.cardiff.ac.uk

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youtube.com/user/cardiffuni

**Contact us**

For students from the UK:
Tel: 029 2087 4455
Email: enquiry@cardiff.ac.uk

For students from the rest of the world:
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4432
Email: international@cardiff.ac.uk

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

It’s an exciting time to join us, as we seek to address many of the grand challenges facing human societies, environments and places around the world. However, we know that choosing which university to attend is a big decision, and no doubt you will have lots of questions about the kind of academic and social experience that awaits you.

So, what can you expect if you choose Cardiff?

- A dynamic, supportive and interactive learning environment: We take your views seriously and provide you with multiple opportunities to input about learning and teaching in the School. You’ll see this feedback acted upon in real-time to enhance and tailor your learning experience.

- An active and engaged community: There are a number of events and activities running throughout the year to help foster a sense of community across the School, including our annual sports day which delivers fierce but fun staff-student competition!

- Teaching informed by pioneering research: We specialise in economic, environmental, developmental, social and cultural research and are recognised for quality and impact. You will be engaging with staff working at the forefront of their disciplines who will bring their agenda-setting research into the lecture theatre and seminar room and challenge you to think differently, critically and independently.

- Enhancing your employability through industry partnerships: All of our undergraduate programmes are now accredited or endorsed by the UK’s leading learned societies or professional associations, giving you a head start in building your professional network and profile.

- A truly global outlook: We recognise that we live in an increasingly interconnected and global world. During your time with us, you will be offered the opportunity to participate in exciting and subsidised field study visits, to a European city in the second year, and a global destination in the final year (this year’s students could choose from Hong Kong, Los Angeles, New York and Tanzania).

Come along to one of our upcoming open days to meet our staff, students and alumni, and see for yourself why we are the right choice for you!

Best wishes,
Professor Paul Milbourne
Head of School

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This brochure will provide you with more details of our programmes. We hope that they will give you more than just a flavour of what we have to offer you. However, we are always ready to answer any questions you may have, by post, telephone or email, or when you come to Cardiff for a visit. You will find the appropriate contacts at the end of this brochure.

Important Legal Information
The contents of this brochure relate to the Entry 2019 admissions cycle and are correct at the time of going to press in September 2018. However, there is a lengthy period of time between printing this brochure and applications being made to, and processed by us, so please check our website [www.cardiff.ac.uk] before making an application in case there are any changes to the course you are interested in or to other facilities and services described here. Where there is a difference between the contents of this brochure and our website, the contents of the website take precedence and represent the basis on which we intend to deliver our services to you.

Any offer of a place to study at Cardiff University is subject to terms and conditions, which can be found on our website [www.cardiff.ac.uk/offerterms] and which you are advised to read before making an application. The terms and conditions set out, for example, when we might make changes to your chosen course or to student regulations. It is therefore important you read them, and understand them. If you are not able to access information online please contact us:

Email: enquiry@cardiff.ac.uk
Tel: 029 2087 4455

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

The Principality (Millennium) Stadium nestles in the heart of the city, and is home to numerous sporting events and concerts throughout the year.
Cardiff is a thriving and attractive city, which is widely recognised as an outstanding place in which to live and study. It combines all the advantages of a compact, friendly and inexpensive location, with the cultural and recreational facilities of a modern capital city.

Cardiff offers everything from the excitement of the city to the peace and tranquility of the nearby coast and countryside. With its distinctive character, good quality of life, and growing national and international reputation, it hosts many high-profile cultural and sporting events, including international rugby, soccer, cricket and motor sport.

When it comes to entertainment, Cardiff is well-equipped to satisfy student needs. There is a multitude of cafés, pubs and nightclubs. The city is home to the world-renowned Welsh National Opera, it boasts prestigious concert venues such as the Wales Millennium Centre, St David’s Hall and the Motorpoint Arena, as well as the iconic Principality Stadium, the National Museum Wales, several theatres and the historic Cardiff Castle.

Cardiff is the location for award-winning television productions, including Doctor Who, Sherlock, Torchwood and Casualty.

The city is one of the UK’s best shopping destinations, with St David’s Dewi Sant retail centre standing alongside pedestrianised shopping streets, indoor and outdoor markets, and a fascinating network of glass-canopied Victorian and Edwardian arcades.

Cardiff also has more urban green space than any other UK city, and offers easy access to the countryside, coast and mountains.

Lively, elegant, confident, cosmopolitan and ambitious are all words readily used to describe modern-day Cardiff. Together, the city and the University provide students with the ‘Cardiff Experience’, a lifestyle our students remember long after graduation.

Don’t just take our word for it . . .

“Cardiff is one of Europe’s youngest capital cities – small enough to be friendly and big enough to offer the best of living in a major city.”

The Complete University Guide 2017

Come and see for yourself . . .

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

Cardiff is one of the UK’s best shopping destinations

Cardiff Bay offers a range of attractions including the Wales Millennium Centre, a world-class venue for the arts

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

With attractive and compact campuses, excellent student accommodation, and a hugely popular Students’ Union, all within easy walking distance of each other in a thriving city, it is not surprising that Cardiff is a first choice university for many. We admit approximately 5,000 undergraduate entrants each year, the majority of whom are school and college leavers, and have high grades at A-level or equivalent. While competition for entry is strong, Cardiff is an inclusive university with a good record on widening participation and fair access, and we welcome applications, irrespective of background, from everyone with the potential to succeed at Cardiff University.

The University’s Cathays Park Campus is located in and around the impressive Portland stone buildings, parks and wide tree-lined avenues that form Cardiff’s attractive civic centre. The majority of academic schools are located here - just a few minutes’ walk from the city centre. The three academic schools offering healthcare courses (excluding Optometry and Pharmacy) are based at the Heath Park Campus, approximately one mile away, which is also home to the University Hospital of Wales.

Although dating from 1883, Cardiff is focused on the 21st century, and has modern state-of-the-art buildings and facilities. The University has invested substantially in its estate in recent years and continues to do so today. Most academic schools have benefited from major refurbishment, including new and well-equipped laboratories, lecture theatres, libraries and computing facilities. International opportunities are available via our Global Opportunity Centre. These include study, work and volunteering placements in 27 EU countries as well as international exchange opportunities. All students also have the opportunity to study a language, in addition to their degree, through the University’s Languages For All programme.

What the Guides say . . .

“Cardiff University is a hugely popular UK university ... [it] has a reputation for world-class research and provides an excellent experience for its student body.”

Telegraph University Guide 2018

Cardiff University is among the best in the UK for preparing graduates for the workplace.

Times Higher Education – Global University Employability Ranking 2016

Cardiff offers one of the best student experiences in Wales, according to the latest Times higher Education UK Student Experience Survey.
Living in Cardiff
As a fast developing capital city, Cardiff is a great place to be a student. It’s large enough to offer you an exciting variety of activities and entertainment, but small enough for you to feel comfortable in.

Accommodation
Cardiff offers guaranteed University accommodation of good quality and value, and a range of residences to suit individual preferences and budgets.

All undergraduates who accept their offer of a place from Cardiff, on a firm basis, are guaranteed a single occupancy place in University residences during their first year of study.

Please see our website for full details of our accommodation guarantee and associated deadlines: www.cardiff.ac.uk/residences

The University is continually investing in its student residences, and the views of students are taken into account at the design stage. Unusually for a civic university, most of our residences are within easy walking distance of lecture theatres, libraries, laboratories, the Students’ Union and city centre.

There are 15 different residences, providing more than 5,500 study bedrooms and students can apply for the residences which best suit their preferences, interests and budgets. Some 70% have en-suite shower and toilet facilities and all halls of residence have computer network connection points and access to Wi-Fi.

Fees depend on the facilities included and whether catered, part-catered or self-catered, but prices compare very favourably with those of other UK universities. Besides managing University property, the Residences Office maintains close links with the private sector and provides assistance to students seeking to rent or share houses or flats.

Student Life
The Students’ Union
Cardiff Students’ Union is one of the biggest, best and most active in Britain. A multi-million pound investment has been made in Union facilities in recent years, which has included a new venue called Y Plas, which at night becomes a nightclub.

Hosting live music, club nights, stand-up comedy, fashion shows and awards ceremonies, there’s lots to keep you entertained from your first day to your last.

Other facilities include a food court, a bank, a print shop, a hair salon and a bookshop. The Lounge offers IT and Skyping facilities, meeting rooms and a “chill-out” area, as well as snooker tables and multi-faith prayer room. The Union also has its own letting agency and an Advice and Representation Centre. In addition, it is home to CU TV and Xpress Radio (the students’ own TV and radio stations) and more than 200 cultural, political, religious, social, sporting societies and clubs.

Jobshop
Jobshop is the Union’s own student employment service and provides casual, clerical and catering jobs around the University to hundreds of students.

What the Guides say . . .
“Cardiff is one of the best UK cities for young adults because of its low cost of living, good job opportunities and decent wages.”
The Complete University Guide 2017

“Cardiff boasts one of the lowest living costs in the UK.”
The Complete University Guide 2018

“Cardiff is the second most cost effective city for students in the UK.”
Natwest Student Living Index 2018
Choose the School of Geography and Planning in Cardiff
Join our mission to transform people, places and environments around the world and gain the skills, knowledge, tools and confidence to make real and lasting change to policy, society and culture.

Our home
We are based in the iconic, Beaux-Arts style, Grade-1 listed Glamorgan Building. Set in the heart of Cardiff’s Civic Centre, you’ll be just minutes away from the University’s services and the city centre. It’s a building with a long-history and considerable character, but our recent investment ensures teaching spaces fit for the 21st century.

Our approach
We focus on the grand challenges faced by human societies and places in the twenty-first century. Our research-led teaching will enable you to apply critical thinking and practical knowledge to address the impacts of economic, social, political and cultural change on the built and natural environment. We will empower you, with knowledge and understanding, to question the status quo and think differently to effect real, positive and lasting change.

As one of the largest schools of its kind in the UK, with over 70 teaching, research and support staff, you will be welcomed into a dynamic, diverse and proactive community. You’ll be exposed to research-active academics working at the forefront of their subject areas, which enables you to pursue specialist interests in line with their expertise.

Our networks
We have long-established relationships with professional bodies and industry partners. These links ensure we are part of the developing conversations around geography and planning issues and offer you the opportunity to develop your professional networks and enhance your employability.

All of our undergraduate programmes now hold accreditation or are endorsed by the UK’s leading learned societies or professional associations.

Your future
Recognising the importance of industry voices and practitioner experience, we regularly host events with external speakers to provide you with insights into links between academic ideas, policy and practice.

This, along with alumni interaction, is an excellent forum for you to learn about a variety of careers and begin thinking about your future career trajectory.

As one of our graduates you will be highly employable in a wide number of professions and sectors, such as local government, town planning, international development, environment and sustainability, banking, accountancy and HR.

However, to further develop your awareness of the array of careers open to you and to hone your professional skills and experience, we offer a range of work placements and practical opportunities throughout your degree. This allows you to apply your class-based knowledge to real-world issues and workplace scenarios and learn more about your professional ambitions and interests.

Ranked 11th in the UK for Town and Country Planning
The Complete University Guide 2019

Ranked 9th in the UK for Geography and Environmental Studies
Guardian University Guide 2019

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Guardian University Guide 2019
Enhancing your experience

We offer a number of opportunities for you to broaden your academic knowledge, immerse yourself in another culture, gain new skills and engage with the wider University community. These experiences will improve your employability and expand your thinking.
Field study visits
We live in an increasingly interconnected and global world and we attach a great deal of importance to internationalisation. The experience of studying or working in an international context can be highly attractive to employers.

In your first year, depending on your module choices, you will have the opportunity to go on local field trips. During your second and third years, you will have the opportunity to embark on a field study visit to European and international city destinations. This is an opportunity to engage with social, economic, and place-based issues in a live setting.

Current second-year destinations include: Amsterdam, Berlin and Copenhagen.
Current final year destinations include: Hong Kong, Los Angeles, New York and Tanzania.

Field study visits are currently ‘fee inclusive’ in years one and two, and subsidised in year three.

Learn a language
Our flexible Languages for All programme allows you to learn a language in a way that suits you, whether it is weekly, intensively or independently, for free and alongside your studies. Whether you are a complete beginner or just want to further improve your language skills, all abilities are catered for.

Currently, you can choose from nine different language courses:

- Arabic
- French
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Mandarin
- Chinese
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish

We also offer the innovative Welsh for All programme which enables you to learn Welsh alongside your studies, for free, and utilises new and interactive teaching methods.

Research opportunities
The Cardiff Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme (CUROP) offers you a grant – currently £262.50 a week, for up to eight weeks – to take part in a summer placement within any of our Academic Schools, working alongside academic staff as an assistant on research projects.

The projects provide unique opportunities for you to participate in academic research, enhance your academic skills and make a more informed decision on furthering your research at postgraduate level.

Your work could form the basis for a research publication, which we’ll upload to our institutional repository, where it will be available for researchers worldwide to download.

As part of the Programme, you’ll also come together with other CUROP students at a conference to exhibit posters of your research, sharing experiences and disseminating your research findings to the University audience.

Education innovation projects
The Cardiff University Student Education Innovation Projects (CUSEIP) enables you to work on projects that aim to enhance learning and teaching and shape student experience at Cardiff University.

Similar to the CUROP opportunity, CUSEIP offers you a grant – currently £262.50 per week - for up to eight weeks, based on a 30 hour week.

Following your placement, you will join all participating students in a day to exhibit posters relating to your projects, sharing your experiences and disseminating your findings to the University audience.

Global Opportunities Centre
Cardiff University has links with over 250 top-ranked institutions and can provide you with the opportunity to embark on an overseas placement in Europe and across the world (including the USA, Canada and Australia). All of our degree programmes offer the opportunity to spend at least a semester abroad, and this counts towards your degree at Cardiff University. All our partners offer modules where teaching is delivered in English.

There are also opportunities to study at some of the world’s top-ranked universities in countries such as the USA, Canada and Australia. Modules taken overseas also count towards your degree at Cardiff.

A range of short-term summer placements lasting a minimum of four weeks during the summer holidays are also available. These include international study programmes, internships and volunteering projects across a wide range of international organisations and charities.

For further information visit www.cardiff.ac.uk/global-opportunity

What’s it like to study abroad?
Louise Winchester, a recent BSc Geography (Human) graduate, reflects on her experience of studying at Stockholm University in Sweden.

“I met so many new people from all over the world, who were all keen to try new things and explore the country, it really motivated me to work hard and make the most of every day. The experience definitely opened my mind and I can’t believe I ever doubted going. It was such a fantastic experience that I didn’t want to leave!”
Fast-track your career

We are deeply committed to helping you achieve your academic and professional ambitions but how do you stand out in a global and competitive marketplace?
93% of our graduates were in employment and/or further study six months after graduating (DLHE 2016/17)

While our exciting, challenge-led curriculum and supportive learning environment will enable you to excel in your selected subject, we also recognise the importance of professional experience.

Increasingly, employers are looking for graduates who not only have specialist knowledge but also have practical experience of applying this in the workplace.

To help you compete in the global market, we provide a wide range of practical opportunities designed to broaden your horizons, deepen your understanding and enhance your employability.

Professional placement years
You can choose to study BSc Geography (Human) and Planning or BSc Urban Planning and Development as a four-year programme with a built-in professional placement year. This enables you to develop graduate level experience during your degree and boost your networking.

We will help you to secure this salaried placement and you will usually secure your placement on a competitive basis from a range of opportunities advertised through the School and University. However, many students secure their placements directly with companies and (organisations (subject to school approval). The placement may also contribute to the professional experience element of both the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) membership process.

Previous placement destinations have included: local authorities across South Wales, South West and South East England (including London boroughs); government agencies such as Transport for London and the Planning Inspectorate; and private companies such as Asbri Planning, Redrow Homes and Jones Lang LaSalle.

In-programme work experience
We have incorporated a placement opportunity into the three-year BSc Geography (Human) and BSc Geography (Human) and Planning programmes through the Citizen Geographies module. We will support you in finding your placement, providing you with the opportunity to engage with the University's Work Experience team.

The Citizen Geographies module also currently incorporates professional citizenship skills sessions where you will undertake exercises to help you nurture and develop key workplace skills such as team working, communication, fairness, recognition of diversity and corporate social responsibility.

Developing your professional skills
Outside of the transferable analytical and employability skills you will develop through your studies, we also encourage you to participate in the Cardiff Award Scheme. This is a structured employability programme run by the Students’ Union, which enables you to gain experience and reflect on your skills and attributes in preparation for the workplace. It offers you the opportunity to gain recognition for these skills while helping to improve your professionalism and employability, increase self-awareness of your skills and enable you to articulate these effectively to future recruiters.

We also encourage students to participate in the Royal Geographical Society's Ambassadors Scheme, which recruits, trains and supports student geographers to act as ambassadors for geography in the classroom and beyond. This is a way of developing new skills and building your network within the geography discipline.

Pursuing postgraduate study
Many undergraduates choose to continue their academic studies in a defined area of interest and follow one of our Master’s degree programmes.

- City Futures (MSc)
- Eco-Cities (MSc)
- Environment and Development (MSc)
- Food Politics and Sustainability (MSc)
- International Planning and Development (MSc)
- International Planning and Urban Design (MSc)
- Planning Practice (PgCert)
- Social Science Research Methods (Environmental Planning) (MSc/PgDip)
- Spatial Planning and Development (MSc)
- Sustainability, Planning and Environmental Policy (MSc)
- Transport and Planning (MSc)
- Urban and Regional Development (MSc)
- Urban Design (MA)

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
Gain a comprehensive and critical understanding of human geography and its application to society’s grand challenges.

The programme combines theoretical and conceptual approaches to the relations between space, place and environment with detailed empirical studies of geography in action. It explores geographical ideas and practice at various spatial scales, making connections between the local, regional, national and global levels.

While critically engaged with the key social, cultural, political, environmental, economic, and development components of geography, the important connections to physical geography are maintained through a range of modules that explore the associations between environment and society.

A key focus of this programme is evidencing the relevance of human geography, particularly to policy-makers and the public. You will have the opportunity to learn how the discipline informs elected decision-makers, helps the voluntary sector and seeks to improve civil society. You will also be offered the opportunity to translate your geographical knowledge into practice by undertaking a work placement module in the second year.

This module enables you to ease your transition between education and the ‘real world’ by providing valuable work experience beyond the University.

Choosing this degree will also develop and strengthen your skills in the broad range of research methods used in the discipline. With expert supervision, you will undertake exciting projects at home and abroad and gain transferable skills which will serve you well in the workplace.

We place a great emphasis on practical learning. To this end there are field study visits in each year of the undergraduate programme. In year one, these field study visits are local to the Cardiff city region. In year two, you will enjoy a residential field study visit to one of two European cities (currently Amsterdam and Berlin). In your final year, you can opt for a field study visit to a global city location. You can currently choose from the following destinations: Hong Kong, Los Angeles, New York or Tanzania.

Innovative teaching, excellent staff/student ratios, and overseas field study visits ensure that as a BSc Geography (Human) student you receive the highest quality learning experience.

Year one

The first year provides an introduction to the key dimensions of human geography, a showcase of the innovative approaches geography brings to contemporary issues, and strong overview of urban and rural development issues. Studying Living with Environmental Change enables you to develop your interest in physical and environmental geography. Through the Making Knowledge module, you will also develop the essential skills for studying human geography at degree level, including practical experience of research methods.

Students currently study:

- The Big Questions in Human Geography
- Making Knowledge: Evidence and Practice
- The Geographical Imagination: An Introduction to Human Geography
- Living with Environmental Change

Plus two option modules from:

- The Global Countryside
- Cities
- Border Spaces: Identities, Cultures and Politics in a Globalising World

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
Year two
The second year builds on the foundations provided in year one, looking in more depth at the history of geographical thought and the cultural, development, economic, political and social sub-fields of human geography. The Citizen Geographies module includes the possibility of a work placement and you have the option of a field study visit to a European city (currently a choice between Amsterdam and Berlin).

Students currently study:
- Developing Research Methods I
- Developing Research Methods II
- Geographical Ideas

Plus four option modules, which may include one field study visit:
- Spaces of Production: Economic Geography
- Cultural Geographies: Places and Practices
- Sustainable Development: Concepts, Practices and Challenges
- Political Geography: Place, Space and Power
- Development and Underdevelopment
- Social Geography: Spaces of Inequality and Welfare
- Citizen Geographies
- Post Carbon Worlds: Energy Geographies
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Amsterdam
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Berlin

Year three
The third year explores the broader relevance of geography to policy and society in the Human Geographies in Practice module. This and the dissertation are compulsory. The third year then allows you to specialise in particular areas, with a broad choice of modules and field study visits. You must choose four optional modules, of which one can be a field study visit.

Students currently study:
- Research Dissertation
- Human Geographies in Practice

Plus four option modules, which may include one field study visit:
- Cities and Social Justice
- Advanced Economic Geography
- Mobilities: Travel, Tourism and Communication
- Infrastructure Development: Swift, Smart and Sustainable?
- Geographies of the Developing World
- Gender, Space and Place
- Housing Inequalities: People, Places and Policies
- Spaces of Production: Economic Geography
- Cultural Geographies: Places and Practices
- Sustainable Development: Concepts, Practices and Challenges
- Political Geography: Place, Space and Power
- Development and Underdevelopment
- Social Geography: Spaces of Inequality and Welfare
- Citizen Geographies
- Post Carbon Worlds: Energy Geographies
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Amsterdam
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Berlin
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Los Angeles
- Researching Contemporary Issues in New York
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Tanzania

“My decision to study Geography at Cardiff was confirmed immediately after attending the open day - I found the lecturers incredibly passionate about what they did and this really enticed me.

“My experience really lived up to this initial day - I spent three years immersed in interesting modules touching upon a wide array of subjects, in which the lecturers were extremely enthusiastic and were always there to help if I had any questions. The highlight has to be the most incredible field study visit to New York - not only was it an amazing city to explore, but it was extremely interesting to see the way different aspects of Geography play out there. I would highly recommend this course to any prospective students if they are looking for a fun, sociable yet extremely insightful experience which provides you with transferable skills for the future.”

Camilla d’Aguilar, BSc Geography (Human) 2015-2018
BSc Geography (Human) and Planning

- UCAS Code: LK74 (three-year programme)
- UCAS Code: LK75 (four-year professional placement programme)

Examine the changing nature of spaces and places, the relationship between society and space, and the roles of the state.

This programme, which is accredited by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI), provides you with a broad-based spatial education that combines the problem solving approaches of planning with the topical insights of geography, with staff who have backgrounds in both disciplines. As well as forging strong links between the planning and geography disciplines, the programme has been specifically designed to provide you with key employability skills that will give you an all-important edge in an increasingly competitive market.

You will gain an understanding of global, national and local processes of change, key environmental, social, cultural, political and economic trends and the role that planning plays in shaping their effects on different places. Placing local and national issues in a global context, the programme covers topics ranging from environmental change in Europe, and economic and social change in the UK, to regional and international development.

Combining an appreciation of transnational spatial change with detailed case study work, through field study visits, away days and projects, the programme fosters an understanding of the main geographical trends in the world today, along with the analytical skills needed to study spatial change. At the same time, you are expected to constantly link the insights derived from the geography modules to the more specific concerns of urban and regional planning.

The combination of a general overview of human geography and planning linked to a research specialism allows you to cover a wide range of academic concerns while also following your own particular interests. Overall, the programme places emphasis on fusing the geography and planning disciplines, with a view to developing a theoretically driven problem-solving approach to pressing social and environmental issues.

In each year, field study visits fulfil a crucial element of teaching and learning. In year one, a number of modules take you on day trips to local destinations. In Year Two, you have the opportunity to travel to continental Europe for a residential field trip (currently to Copenhagen).

In Year Three, global cities provide our destinations (currently Hong Kong, Los Angeles, New York and Tanzania).

Year one

The first year provides an introduction to the core areas of geography and planning. You will cover issues such as the nature of geographical thinking, globalisation, the core elements of planning, and the developing world.

You will also develop the essential skills for accessing and processing information.

Students currently study:
- Making Knowledge: Evidence and Practice
- Key Issues in Urban Planning
- Places and Plans
- Society, Diversity and Planning
- The Geographical Imagination: An Introduction to Human Geography
- Urban Economies

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
Year two
The second year builds on year one, looking in more depth at the history of geographical thought, the economic and cultural sub-fields of geography, the core practical disciplines of planning, and planning’s application to environmental issues. A module on research methods provides a review of research techniques and issues, and also acts as an introduction to the dissertation to be completed in the third year.

Students currently study:
- Developing Research Methods I
- Developing Research Methods II
- Sustainable Development: Concepts, Practices and Challenges
- Geographical Ideas
- Site Planning and Development Valuation

Plus two option modules from:
- Citizen Geographies
- Development and Underdevelopment
- Learning from Liveable Cities
- Political Geography: Place, Space and Power
- Post Carbon Worlds: Energy Geographies
- Regulating Development: Planning Law and Policy
- Social Geography: Spaces of Inequality and Welfare

You are given guidance and advice during the second year on the placement year in practice. If you are enrolled on the three-year programme you may, subject to availability and approval, transfer to the four-year programme with placement, and vice versa.

Placement year in practice (four-year programme)
By undertaking a placement year, you will secure valuable practical experience in professional practice with a public or private organisation.

The placement is a period of supervised office training with an employing organisation which is prepared to deliver a range of experience and a structured programme of work. It contributes towards the professional experience requirements of the RTPI, providing one of the minimum two years’ professional experience for full membership.

We will help you to secure this salaried placement and you will usually secure your placement on a competitive basis from a range of opportunities advertised through the School. You can also explore opportunities with a wider range of employers if you have a specialist interest in a specific form of experience.

Placements are offered by a range of different employers in the private and public sectors, as well as in the third sector such as charitable trusts and campaigning organisations.

The following organisations have recently been among those offering placement opportunities:
- Private planning consultants – Pegasus Planning, White Young Green, RPS, Adams Hendry, Rolfe Judd
- National government – Welsh Government, Scottish Government
- Local planning authorities – Vale of Glamorgan Council, London Borough of Hounslow
- Regeneration and housebuilding companies – Redrow Homes, Newport Unlimited

All placements are salaried between £14,000 and £17,000, depending on location, and placements usually last for 12 months. Placement year students quickly become part of a professional team and secure depth of experience and a level of responsibility that is not possible in shorter periods of experience. Many placement employers recruit their placement employees on graduation, sometimes helping to fund their postgraduate studies.

As a placement student you will complete a series of assignments that are aligned with the assessment of professional competence (APC) requirements of the professional bodies. You will return to the School midway through the placement year to take part in a range of seminars and tutorials.

Final year
The final year pulls together the modules on planning and on geography in a combined module. You also work towards your research dissertation, under the guidance of a specialist academic supervisor. You will then be able to choose the remaining three modules from a range of options, which include one from a number of field study visits to various destinations. These are designed to enable you to specialise in particular topical areas and develop your own pathway through the degree.

Students currently study:
- Geography and Planning
- Planning Theory and Practice
- Research Dissertation

Plus three option modules, which may include one field study visit:
- Climate Change
- Gender, Space and Place
- Geographies of the Developing World
- Housing Inequalities: People, Places and Policies
- Spaces of Retail and Consumption
- Urban Design Guidance in Planning Practice
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Hong Kong
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Los Angeles
- Researching Contemporary Issues in New York
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Tanzania

The programme outline provided relates to the RTPI-accredited pathway. The programme can also be taken on a non-accredited pathway, providing you with an additional range of specialist geography and planning modules from which to choose.

Further information is available on our website.
Explore how planning underpins and influences how we live, travel and interact with people and places.

What can be more exciting than the challenge of shaping the places where we live? The BSc Urban Planning and Development programme is designed for those who want to understand how places work and how to change them. This professional degree opens up a wide range of career opportunities in planning, development and surveying.

Planning is an exciting activity that impacts on our everyday lives. Planning influences everything from the homes where we live, opportunities for employment, and the quality of our town centres. It also affects the quality of public spaces, the availability of green spaces and the ways we move between different parts of our towns and cities. Places are complex and continually changing, and graduate planners need the knowledge and skills to manage and promote change.

The Urban Planning and Development programme provides you with an understanding of the social, economic, political and environmental factors that shape cities and regions. You will also learn how to influence these processes in order to deliver more sustainable communities that are better places to live in for everyone.

You will have the opportunity to specialise in modules focusing on different areas of planning, spend time studying overseas, and participate in field study visits in the United Kingdom, Europe and globally. Your modules will involve practitioners and experts from the world of practice to bring your studies to life and help you to apply your knowledge. There is opportunity for you to obtain an extended, salaried placement where you will gain real responsibility and depth of experience.

The programme is recognised by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) as a spatial planning degree, and students frequently progress to the School's specialist master's programmes to complete the RTPI's educational requirements. The programme is also recognised by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and provides all of the educational requirements for membership.

You will experience a wide range of different types of assessment on the programme. These include professional reports, presentations, posters, site analyses and development briefs, films, debates, and both individual and group work. Your assignments will help you to become proficient in a series of planning skills and more general skills.

Graduates from the programme have an excellent track record in securing employment in careers in planning, surveying, design and development, as well as transport, economic development, environmental policy, housing and urban regeneration. And, because the programme places emphasis on developing a wide range of skills, it can open up opportunities in a range of careers outside of planning.

The practical emphasis of the programme is reinforced by field study visits. First year field study visits are local to the Cardiff city region. In Year Two, you will have the opportunity to travel to continental Europe for a residential field trip (currently to Copenhagen). In Year Three, the focus turns to a non-European location (currently Hong Kong, Los Angeles, New York and Tanzania).
Year one
The first year introduces you to the key ‘building blocks’ of planning, and also gets you straight into practical ‘live projects’. You will develop a critical understanding of the social, economic and environmental processes that influence places and how they function.

Students currently study:
- Making Knowledge: Evidence and Practice
- Key Issues in Urban Planning
- Places and Plans
- Property, Urban Development and Regeneration
- Society, Diversity and Planning
- Urban Economies

Year two
The second year builds on the core knowledge acquired in the first year and encourages you to apply your skills to a series of practical planning and development issues. The second year also includes option modules that allow you to explore different contexts for planning, both in the United Kingdom and globally.

Students currently study:
- Developing Research Methods I
- Developing Research Methods II
- Site Planning and Development Valuation

Plus four option modules from:
- Community Engagement, Mediation and Negotiation Skills
- Development and Underdevelopment
- Spaces of Production: Economic Geography
- Sustainable Development: Concepts, Practices and Challenges
- Learning from Liveable Cities
- Post-Carbon Worlds: Energy Geographies
- Regulating Development: Planning Law and Policy

You are given guidance and advice during the second year on the placement year in practice. If you are enrolled on the three-year programme you may, subject to availability and approval, transfer to the four-year programme with placement, and vice versa.

Placement year in practice
Students entering the placement year secure valuable practical experience in professional practice with a public or private organisation.

The placement is a period of supervised office training with an employing organisation which is prepared to deliver a range of experience and a structured programme of work. The placement year contributes towards the professional experience requirements of both the RTPI and the RICS, providing one of the minimum two years’ professional experience for full membership.

We will help you to secure this salaried placement and you will usually secure your placement on a competitive basis from a range of opportunities advertised through the School. You can also explore opportunities with a wider range of employers if you have a specialist interest in a specific form of experience.

Placements are offered by a range of different employers in the private and public sectors, as well as in the third sector such as charitable trusts and campaigning organisations.

The following organisations have recently been among those offering placement opportunities:
- Private planning consultants – Pegasus Planning, White Young Green, RPS, Adams Hendry, Rolfe Judd
- National government – Welsh Government, Scottish Government
- Local planning authorities – Vale of Glamorgan Council, London Borough of Hounslow
- Regeneration and housebuilding companies – Redrow Homes, Newport Unlimited

All placements are salaried between £14,000 and £17,000, depending on location, and placements usually last for 12 months. Placement year students quickly become part of a professional team and secure depth of experience and a level of responsibility that is not possible in shorter periods of experience.

Many placement employers recruit their placement employees on graduation, sometimes helping to fund their postgraduate studies.

As a placement student you will complete a series of assignments that are aligned with the assessment of professional competence (APC) requirements of the professional bodies. You will return to the School midway through the placement year to take part in a range of seminars and tutorials.

Final year
The final year provides a valuable opportunity for you to reflect on the learning across the programme to date, including any period of professional practice, and allows you to develop a specialism within a specific subfield of planning. It serves as an important component of the programme in bridging the worlds of practice and academic study. Emphasis is placed on developing the qualities of a critical, reflective practitioner and encouraging you to think carefully about the nature, instruments and impacts of planning.

Students currently study:
- Planning Theory and Practice
- Research Project
- Sustainable Transport

Plus three option modules, which may include one field study visit module:
- Contemporary International Planning
- Climate Change
- Housing Inequalities: People, Places and Policies
- Infrastructure Development: Swift, Smart and Sustainable?
- Mobilities: Travel, Tourism and Communication
- Spaces of Retail and Consumption
- Urban Design Guidance in Planning Practice
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Hong Kong
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Los Angeles
- Researching Contemporary Issues in New York
- Researching Contemporary Issues in Tanzania

The option modules are an important step in developing a specialism in planning. They complement your core modules and can help you to determine your preferred route to specialised study at master’s level.
Your learning experience

We have a strong record for teaching excellence and student satisfaction. We also take your views seriously and offer a number of different forums for you to feedback on your academic experiences so that we can develop or change our approach as necessary.

Teaching methods and assessment
Typically you will study six modules per year, and will receive an average of twelve hours of guided study per week. Teaching takes place through a variety of methods, including lectures, seminars, field study visits, studio work and workshops.

Subject-based teaching is enriched by opportunities to participate in study skills training, employability workshops, and interaction with high profile speakers from academia, policy and business, who contribute to the School’s Impact and Engagement programme.

Our degrees are designed with your employability at the fore. The programmes have a strong identity, and build knowledge year on year, leading to the development of critical skills, academic insight and professional awareness that allows for the potential of each student to be realised.

We encourage innovation and creativity in the delivery and assessment of teaching and learning, for example, the use of digital media and field study visits. Skills training ranges from presentations to critical thinking through to film-based assessments. Forms of assessment will equip you for the demands of a changing workplace; from individual academic essays and policy reports for a range of stakeholders to group presentations.

Personal development and support
You will be assigned a personal tutor when you arrive in Cardiff who will help you with a wide range of issues from reflecting on feedback in your modules, through to supporting you with any issues that may impact on your studies. We also offer individual Personal and Academic Development Planning (PDP). This process is introduced in the first year of all undergraduate programmes and allows you to reflect upon your learning, performance, and future plans. You will also have full access to the University’s extensive range of support services.

Facilities
As a leading research centre we are especially well resourced and have recently invested in our learning and teaching environment. You will have use of computer teaching facilities which are fully supported by technical staff, and are used for database management, computer aided design, census retrieval, statistical and graphical software packages. Photocopying, plan printing, report binding and related facilities, are all available in the School. The Geography and Planning Library is located in the adjacent Bute Building; University libraries have nearly one million books and subscriptions to more than 4,000 periodicals.

We maintain an extensive collection of all 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 for all students, and many resources are available electronically for access off-site at all times. All of the library facilities are computerised, enabling you to conduct computer-based literature searches and to automatically reserve books.

Beyond the lecture theatre
We recognise that your university experience is about more than only your academic achievements and we pride ourselves on offering a warm and friendly staff and student community. During the year we host a number of social events and activities to develop this sense of community and encourage your peer-to-peer relationships. These activities include our annual Staff vs. Students Sports Day where teams compete in Football, Netball and traditional sports day events. Competition is fierce, but always fun!

www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning
You benefit from the most up-to-date information and instruction as a result of staff involvement in research, both domestically in the UK and around the world. 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.

Our Innovation and Engagement Unit plays a key role in this through its timetable of high-profile research seminars and public lectures. You will be able to attend these events to learn more about wider research and policy debates in the fields of planning and human geography.

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

- The Environment Research Group combines expertise in a wide range of theories and methods – including biosecurity, participatory democracy, social justice, food security and ecological footprinting. Its members share a commitment to innovation and engagement and an interest in the development of collaborative approaches with researchers in other disciplines.

- The Spatial Planning and Analysis in City Environments Research Group specialises in both theoretical and applied research on a wide range of topics related to cities and urban environments. Research includes that which helps us better understand the way cities and urban environments work, as well as helping to develop better planning and policy approaches to designing and managing of urban settlements. The substantive interests of the group include land use, population change, urban morphology, transport, and housing.

- The Urban and Regional Governance Research Group specialises in the study of socio-economic change in towns, cities, regions and city-regions, its impacts on different social groups, and different places, and its relationship to policy and planning. It is currently leading major international research in key areas of regional economic development around smart specialisation and economic resilience.

- The Social and Cultural Geography Research Group brings together social and cultural geographers to engage with feminist, postcolonial and other theoretical perspectives within human geography. Such critical thinking is undertaken with reference to a diverse range of empirical topics such as breastfeeding, homelessness, drugs and alcohol, cycling, food banks, religion, surfing, fashion, music and dance, animal-human interactions, and community gardens and allotments.

Ranked 9th in the UK for research quality
Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014
Applications

As a world-leading centre in the subjects of Human Geography and Planning, our standards are high and we select the most able and committed students who can derive greatest benefit from the excellent teaching and outstanding research in the School. To be considered for a place to study at Cardiff University you should apply online via the UCAS website using the ‘UCAS Apply’ facility at: www.ucas.com/apply.

UCAS will send your application to the University and the School will issue a decision to you as soon as possible. You will also be invited to attend one of the School Open Days which are held between November and March. The Open Days are an opportunity to meet existing students, to have an informal discussion with a member of the academic staff, to find out what life is like as a student here, and to learn more about the School and the University.

Entry Requirements
All applicants must normally have passed English Language and Mathematics at GCSE (at least grade C) or have an equivalent qualification.

Geography (Human)
UCAS Code: L700
A-level: AAA-ABB

Geography (Human) and Planning
UCAS Code: LK74 (three years) or LK75 (four years including placement)
A-level: AAA-ABB

Urban Planning and Development
UCAS Code: K490 (three years) or K446 (four years including placement)
A-level: AAB-BBB, no set combination of subjects

The UCAS Tariff is applied to all UK qualifications. General Studies is not normally accepted as an A-level subject for Admissions purposes.

Welsh Bacc and Int Bacc requirements can be found on our website.

Equality and diversity
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

Open Days
University-wide Open Days are held throughout the year and provide the opportunity to visit all schools in addition to residences, the Students’ Union and sports facilities.
For further information please visit our website at: www.cardiff.ac.uk/opendays

Applicants with disabilities/special needs
All offers to study at Cardiff University are made solely on the basis of academic merit. Where applicants have specific requirements that relate to a disability or medical condition, they are encouraged to discuss these with relevant staff in order that appropriate arrangements can be made to ensure the University provides an accessible environment. Specifically, applicants are invited to contact the Disability Adviser who can provide information about the applications procedure, course delivery and access to the physical environment. Where appropriate, informal visits can be arranged in which applicants can view accommodation and meet academic staff.

The Disability Adviser can be contacted at the Student Advisory Service, 50 Park Place, Cardiff, CF10 3AT
Tel: 029 2087 4844
Email: disability@cardiff.ac.uk

Applicants with alternative/vocational qualifications
Applications from those offering alternative/vocational qualifications (e.g. Access, BTEC Nationals, Vocational A-level) are welcome, as are those who may have combinations of qualifications or other relevant work/life experience.

Please contact the admissions tutor for further information.

Overseas applicants
We welcome applications from overseas students and the School already has a number of overseas students studying both undergraduate and postgraduate courses. An offer will be made to you based on achieving an entry standard equivalent to UK qualifications.

For further information contact:
Dr Richard Gale, School of Geography and Planning, Cardiff University, Glamorgan Building, King Edward VII Avenue, Cardiff CF10 3WA
Tel: 029 2087 4022
Email: gandpenquiries@cardiff.ac.uk

Tuition fees and financial assistance
The University charges an annual fee which covers all tuition fees, registration and examinations other than the re-taking of examinations by students not currently registered. Please note charges for accommodation in University Residences are additional.

For more information please visit the following website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/fees

Scholarships and Bursaries
For more information please visit the following website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/funding-ug

Useful websites for information about tuition fees and financial assistance:
Cardiff University website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/fees
Student Support Centre website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/financialsupport/index.html
Student Finance Wales: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk
Student Finance England: www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance
Student Loans Company: www.slc.co.uk
How to find the School

We are located in the Glamorgan Building, which sits at the heart of the Cathays Park Campus, a short walk from the city centre. The building is very close to Cathays railway station and is easily accessible from University halls of residence.
To find out more about the School of Geography and Planning please visit our website: [www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/geography-planning)

**Student Bloggers**

From study tips to where to eat, to societies, weekend trips and where to get your books, our student bloggers are real students talking about the reality of being a student at Cardiff.

Don’t miss their latest blogs for the chance to find out more about what it’s like to study and live in Cardiff.

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