

CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

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CAERDYDD



Politics and International Relations **Undergraduate** Degree Programmes

School of Law and Politics

www.cardiff.ac.uk/law-politics

Welcome

97% of our graduates were in employment and/or further study, due to start a new job or course, or doing other activities such as travelling, 15 months after the end of their course.

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency, Graduate Outcomes Survey 2018/19*



Politics and international relations are exciting and varied subjects which address a range of questions that are **critical** to our contemporary world.

Our politics and IR research scored the highest possible score of 4.0 for impact in 2021's Research Excellence Framework (REF).

Our **internationally renowned** team offer expertise in political theory, public policy and electoral politics, cyber security, feminism, cold war history, environmental politics, security, intelligence studies and postcolonial politics.



We have links with Welsh Government, Westminster, G7, the United Nations and NATO, NGOs, policy-makers and journalists.

Contents

Choose Cardiff	2
Why study Politics and International Relations?	4
Beginning your career	6
Our graduate stories	8
Studying with us	10
Meet our experts	12
Our degree programmes	
Politics	14
International Relations	15
Law and Politics	17
International Relations and Politics	18
Politics and Economics	20
Politics and Modern History	22
Politics and Philosophy	22
Further joint honours programmes	23
A capital city	24
A leading university	25
Living in Cardiff	26
Applications	27
How to find the school	29

* Contains HESA Data
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Choose Cardiff

We are living through fascinating and momentous political times.



There could not be a better time in which to develop your expertise in many of the most important issues facing our world.

At Cardiff University, we offer the ideal environment in which to study the political world at all levels – from the most local to the truly global.

We are located literally next door to the headquarters of the Welsh Government and offer the best teaching and research expertise on the politics of devolution. We also have long-standing strengths in many aspects of British and European politics.

Central to how we teach politics and international relations is a strong focus on the core concepts through which we think about the political world. For instance, what might a more just world look like – and what would it mean in practice for how we treat each other, as individuals and on a global scale as different countries?

We are fortunate at Cardiff to be able to offer one of the widest ranges of global political expertise available. We provide expert

teaching covering the Americas (north and south), Africa, China and the Middle East. We also engage with many central issues in international politics, such as the legacies of colonialism and the Cold War; the continuing threats posed by nuclear and other deadly weapons; the widespread existence and impacts of inequalities grounded in sexism and racism; and the many political challenges that threaten effective responses to global climate change.

But Cardiff University students don't just study the political world. Many also get to put what they learn into practice – through our innovative placement module.

Our students are fortunate enough to study a fascinating subject in a vibrant and cosmopolitan city. We are sure that, if you do decide to study here, you will have an experience which is culturally, educationally and socially rewarding.



Why study politics and international relations?

Wherever you look, politics is at the heart of the human story.





To study politics is to learn about and critically engage with the diverse ideas, institutions and practices that shape society.

Political studies is so broad and so significant to human flourishing that it has been described as 'the master science'.

This fascinating subject deals with the way we organise our collective lives in a globally interconnected world through a complex of huge institutions and practises. This helps individuals to achieve the things we value most such as freedom, equality, dignity and prosperity. A greater understanding helps to avoid the failures which bring some of the greatest suffering to our lives, from war and oppression to famine and poverty

Studying with us will introduce you to national and sub-national constitutions, public policy and social practises; to regional and international organisations; to the moral and political ideas that drive political movements and change; and to the nature and consequences of conflict, colonialism and great power politics.

We examine these through broad lenses – looking at globalisation, political science or moral and political theory - and by drilling down to practises such as intelligence, cyber security, nuclear politics or electoral politics.

Our programmes offer a comprehensive education through a wide range of humanities and social science skill-sets. We have links with Welsh Government, Westminster, G7, the United Nations and NATO, NGOs, policy-makers and journalists that ground our academic work in the practical world. Our programmes are designed to be global in scope and to provide a critical insight into our complex and ever changing world.



Degrees in politics and international relations provide a foundation for a wide range of careers such as in non-governmental organisations, global development, international business, diplomacy and intelligence in government, journalism, and policy research, as well as a basis for more specialist subjects taught at postgraduate level.

Professor Peter Sutch
Professor of Politics

Beginning your career

Our degrees in politics or international relations can open doors to a multitude of exciting and varied career options.



Don't just take our word for it . . .

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

Adam Khattak
Law and Politics (LLB 2018)

Don't just take our word for it . . .

During my third year, I successfully applied for a placement and worked in the office of Jane Hutt AM in the National Assembly for Wales (now Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament). This insight into Welsh politics was unrivalled.

Following university, I joined Grayling, a UK wide public affairs agency as an Account Executive. Work at Grayling is fast paced, challenging and rewarding – I work with numerous high-profile clients as a political consultant covering both Welsh and UK-wide politics.

Issy Michelson
Politics (BScEcon 2018)

Our graduates are now working in diverse fields that include NGOs, global development, international business, teaching, diplomacy and intelligence in government, journalism, and policy research.

In the last survey, 97% of our graduates were in employment and/or further study, due to start a new job or course, or doing other activities such as travelling, 15 months after the end of their course (HESA, Graduate Outcomes Survey 2018/19).

When you join us, you can gain support from Student Futures (the university's careers service) which includes:

- one-to-one sessions by appointment
- workshops on topics such as CV writing and interview preparation
- access to careers fairs throughout the year
- professional networking events and employer presentations
- mock interviews
- information on internships and graduate training programmes
- up-to-date careers information and links to additional graduate careers resources
- access to the online learning module, 'Your Career Journey', via the Student Intranet
- enterprise and entrepreneurial activities
- links to Global Opportunities
- an opportunity to complete an employability award (Cardiff Award)
- work experience and placement opportunities
- specialist support from Go Wales (for eligible students)

Beyond the classroom

Apply your theory in a political setting

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

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

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

Go your own way

All politics and international relations students have the opportunity to apply for transfer onto our placement year degree programme.

The placement year allows you to gain extended experience of a professional work environment during your degree and will provide you with an opportunity to apply the knowledge gained during the first two years of study in a practical context.

Spending time in a professional workplace will enhance your employability skills and experience.

This is a self-sourced and self-funded opportunity: you will source your own placements within a framework of overall support provided by the school.

Our graduate stories

We are based in a thriving UK capital city, located metres from the Welsh Government and within a mile of Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament. This gives us unrivalled access and opportunities.

We are incredibly proud of the hundreds of students who leave our school each year to progress and excel in a variety of interesting and diverse sectors as a result of the grounding they have developed here.

We asked a handful of our former students to talk about their time here and share how they think the experience has helped them in their current careers.



“I have no doubt that I would not be in the House of Commons today had it not been for my studies at Cardiff University and the experiences I gained at the dynamic research unit, Wales Governance Centre (WGC). I benefitted massively from the research-oriented culture at the school, the expertise provided at WGC and from the Centre’s excellent connections.

There has rarely been a more important time in which to study politics, to understand the history and ideas which have underpinned the development of political systems and societies across the world and the dynamics which are now challenging long-standing assumptions about how and why we conduct our politics.

Adam Evans

Senior Clerk in the House of Commons and Clerk of the Welsh Affairs Committee
Politics (BSc 2011)



“At the time I would have been surprised to hear that the range of skills and experience that I garnered throughout undergraduate and postgraduate study would eventually equip me to take on the role of Staff Tutor in politics, for the Open University.

In this role I combine my love of teaching with a managerial brief overseeing fellow lecturers, playing an active role in the production of course materials, and the creation of initiatives and projects to recruit and support students from a range of backgrounds.

I remain extremely grateful for the time I spent studying politics at Cardiff University.

Dr Claire Malcolm

Open University Staff Tutor and Associate Lecturer
Politics (BScEcon 2003)



Political theory and international relations are of fundamental importance to every aspect of human life in the modern world. Anyone who seriously engages with these subjects will almost certainly find an enormous amount to be interested in and excited about. It has undoubtedly helped to shape the way I see the world and its complicated problems.

My career has been possible because of the education I received at Cardiff University. I acquired very advanced skills in research, analysis, legal reasoning and resolution of complex problems as part of my undergraduate and postgraduate education, all of which has proved invaluable in my legal career.

Antony O'Loughlin
 Law lecturer, BPP Law School
 Modern History and Politics (BSc 2003)

Cardiff is a great university in a great city. I loved pretty much everything about being a student at undergraduate level. The vibe was positive and open. Learning about Anglo-American and EU-American relations was always interesting.

Since completing my undergraduate degree, followed by a PhD I have worked exclusively in the private sector as an Executive Search Headhunter working on assignments for some of Wales' most senior and important positions. Doing a degree, and a PhD in particular, equipped me with a number of skills and tools, and a strong discipline, to ensure I was able to be successful in the private sector.

Marc Pollentine
 Executive Search Headhunter
 Politics (BScEcon 2005)

Studying with us

The School of Law and Politics is a dynamic, diverse and friendly school and we have every confidence that you will be happy studying here.





Choosing to study politics and international relations with us will place you in the heart of Cardiff and metres away from the country's political decision makers within the city's civic centre.

A familiarity with the central concerns of politics and international relations is essential to any serious understanding of our dynamic and integrated world. Our undergraduate courses are designed to enable you to fulfil your academic and vocational potential. To study at Cardiff University is to commit to excellence.

We attract students from all over the world and offer a helpful, supportive and culturally diverse environment in which to study.

Pastoral care and support

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

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

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

Research quality

The combination of established researchers and young scholars has created a dynamic and forward-thinking research environment within our school. Our team offer expertise in political theory, public policy and electoral

politics, cyber security, feminism, cold war history, environmental politics, security, intelligence studies and postcolonial politics.

Research quality is measured in the UK by the Government's Research Excellence Framework (REF). In the last assessment exercise we achieved the highest possible score of 4.0 for research impact with 80% of our submission considered world-leading or internationally excellent in terms of originality and significance (REF2021).

Our centres of research are:

- British Idealism and Collingwood Centre
- Environmental Justice Research Unit
- European Governance, Identity and Public Policy
- Political Theory
- The International Studies Research Unit
- Wales Governance Centre
- Centre for Internet and Global Politics
- Centre for Conflict and Societies

Public lectures

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

Sir Nick Clegg, former Deputy Prime Minister of the UK and President of Global Affairs at Meta, **Sir Jeremy Greenstock**, former Ambassador to the United Nations, **Ed Mortimer CMG**, former Director of Communications for the United Nations Secretary General, **Michelle O'Neill**, Deputy First Minister for Northern Ireland, **Bertrand Ramcharan**, former High Commissioner for Human Rights, **Nicola Sturgeon**, First Minister of Scotland and leader of the Scottish National Party and **Karel van Oosterom**, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the UK.

Meet our experts

The Department of Politics and International Relations has expanded substantially in recent years, recruiting outstanding scholars from around the world.

Marysia Zalewski
Professor of
International Relations



Q: What excites you about feminist theory in global politics?

A: Feminist theory was one of the most neglected theories of global politics when I started out – yet when you look more carefully at the world of international politics – so much of it is marked by gender, even if by absence. So, the ongoing predominance of men in global leadership positions for example, and of course the kinds of men that get there and the things they get away with that women would not! Critical feminist analysis demonstrates how gender is a huge driver in global politics in war and peace more broadly, as such it is where a lot of hidden power lies. That's very important to investigate.

Edwin Egede
Professor of
International Law
& International
Relations



Q: What attracted you to your area of study?

A: I have a keen interest in the role of law in international affairs, but I'm particularly interested in Ocean Law & Governance. The ocean constitutes 70% of the earth's surface with activities taking place in the ocean space such as security and developmental issues becoming significant and concerning. What really excites me about my research areas are the incredible opportunities I have had to make connections between theory and practice, making an impact beyond academia.

Laura McAllister
Professor of Public
Policy and the
Governance of Wales



Q: Tell us about your Welsh Politics journey.

A: I finished my PhD on Plaid Cymru and theories underpinning nationalism in Wales back in 1996. One year later, the referendum on devolution was held and won and two years later the National Assembly was established which was good timing! As my career progressed, I'm really proud of my contributions to helping make the fledgling National Assembly work better for the people of Wales and become a proper Parliament that can deliver. Commissions and Expert Panels get slated by some, but they've been crucial in stimulating this journey and I'm proud to have been part of several.

Victoria Basham
Professor of International Relations



Q: What makes Cardiff different?

A: We, as a department, are all interested in how we can make relations between the individual and an increasingly globalised society more fair, whether that's by framing climate change as an ethical and political issue, by examining how international law or other governance structures can help societies move on from conflict, or by asking our students to think seriously about how global issues like war or the financial crisis disproportionately affect some people's lives more than others.

Wales has a proud tradition in being at the forefront of initiatives that seek to create a fairer, more peaceful world so I think it's fitting that Cardiff University's international relations team share such aspirations.

David Boucher
Professor of Political Philosophy and
International Relations



Q: Tell us about your biggest achievements.

A: I've always been interested in political protest movements and particularly the place of protest songs in political agitation. I was thrilled to be able to publish a book on Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen, two icons of the 1960s student unrest, which has been translated into many languages, including Serbian, Polish and Mexican Spanish.

I also had the opportunity to study anti-colonial arguments from the African perspective as a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg, in post-apartheid South Africa. Colonialism and decolonisation are at the fore of public discussion in Africa, where the West continues to be viewed as perpetrators of neo-colonialism. The Rhodes must Fall campaign; the Fees must Fall Campaign and Decolonisation of the Curriculum and of the Mind are central to students' concerns.

Our degree programmes



Politics **BScEcon**

UCAS Code: **L200**



Politics is a subject that has an undeniable impact on our lives.

The field of politics allows you to explore how parliaments and governments function, and to evaluate political ideas such as power, freedom, democracy, conflict, legitimacy and accountability.

This innovative degree programme explores the interaction of states, international alliances, non-governmental organisations and multinational companies. You will study major political issues such as the changing face of British Politics in a devolved setting, the consequences of Brexit, the politics of international and cyber security, the role of human rights, terrorism and global climate change.

During the first year of the course, compulsory modules examine the foundations of Western political thought, modern political analysis, globalisation and international relations and European integration.

The second and final years allow you to deepen your understanding of politics, political theory and ideas, in order to sharpen your insight into what motivates individuals, parties and organisations within the political sphere.

This programme will provide you with an excellent understanding of politics and government while also equipping you with associated intellectual and communications skills that will be of value whether you work in government or in the private or third sector.

Studying in one of the UK's leading centres for teaching and research in politics, you will learn how to assess the challenges we face in an increasingly globalised world.

Distinctive features

- Supplement your learning by engaging with political decision makers. Benefit from excellent academic links with Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament, Westminster, NATO, G7, the UN, non-governmental organisations, politicians, policy-makers and journalists.
- Choose our Parliamentary Studies module which is taught in-conjunction with Westminster Parliament and includes teaching by clerks of the House of Commons and study visits to Westminster.
- Study abroad or undertake a work placement in the Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament. Many students undertake internships via our strong links with employers in the private and public sector.

International Relations **BScEcon**

UCAS Code: **305Q**



International relations is a multifaceted field which addresses a wide range of questions that are critical to our contemporary world.

It examines the role of states, international alliances, non-governmental organisations and multinational companies in an increasingly globalised world.

This programme provides you with the opportunity to study this exciting and important subject in its depth and breadth and covers both traditional and new areas of thinking in a manner informed by scholarly debates and global political concerns and developments.

You will gain a solid grounding in core international relations theories and perspectives, and the historical development of the international system. This will provide you with a theoretical and historical foundation

for more advanced study of a rich range of topics at second and final year.

Our objective is to challenge the preconceptions that you will bring to the subject and to actively encourage a critical attitude to the nature of the political and the international.

The ideas and practices studied as part of this programme are in constant evolution. Our aim is for you to become an active and critical citizen with a developed consciousness of the values of internationalisation.

Distinctive features

- Study topics that include international security, environmental politics, feminism, cyber security, war and peace and postcolonial politics.
- Benefit from a programme suited to careers in non-governmental organisations, global development, international business, diplomacy and intelligence in government, journalism and policy research.
- Supplement your learning by engaging with political decision makers. Benefit from excellent academic links with Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament, Westminster, NATO, G7, the UN, non-governmental organisations, politicians, policy-makers and journalists.



The staff are one of the best things about the School of Law and Politics because of how relentlessly they will work to make sure you get the most out of your time. I have found that they are always willing to help, either in lectures and seminars or in exam-specific sessions, which are set up to help you do your best in assessments. They are always friendly and approachable, which makes university that bit more fun and less stressful!

Ellen Morris, International Relations and Politics (BScEcon 2021)

Law and Politics **LLB**

UCAS Code: **ML12**



Unquestionably, the relationship between law and politics is an interdependent one.

Both subjects have a huge impact on all our lives regardless of age, ethnicity and social background. This programme allows you to combine these fascinating topics within the interdisciplinary environment of our school.

You will gain a comprehensive grounding in law, spaced out across the three years of your programme. Alongside your law modules you will study political modules that explore how parliaments and governments function and evaluate political ideas such as power, freedom, democracy, conflict, legitimacy and accountability.

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

A foundation for professional practice

The paths to professional qualification as solicitor or barrister have undergone significant changes recently. Those wishing to qualify as a solicitor will need to obtain a degree (or equivalent) but will no longer need to obtain a law degree. Instead, prospective solicitors must sit the new centralised online assessment, the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE), which was introduced in September 2021.

The foundational modules studied as part of a law degree cover some of the subjects which are examined in the SQE. This means that many students will continue to choose a law degree as the first step in becoming a solicitor. Also, the Bar Standards Board (the regulatory body for barristers) continue to require the study of the foundational modules before progressing to vocational training for the Bar.

All LLB programmes at the School of Law and Politics allow you to study these foundational modules and thereby provide you with a solid start to your career in law.

Distinctive features

- Interested in Welsh Politics? We offer distinctive research-led teaching in this subject. We also offer the chance to study several of our modules through the medium of Welsh.
- Apply for a legal work placement which will be carried out in the third year of your degree. You will also have the opportunity to apply for a module which allows you to carry out a work placement at an organisation that plays a key role in Welsh governance.
- Enhance your studies by carrying out voluntary legal work via our pro bono unit, take part in annual mooted competitions to present legal issues before a judge and participate in client interviewing competitions to assess your interpersonal skills and ability to handle legal problems.

International Relations and Politics **BScEcon**

UCAS Code: **L290**



Study international relations and politics to investigate the key global issues that impact our daily lives.

If you seek a deeper understanding of how the political world works, why and how decisions are made by governments and non-governmental organisations, and how the consequences of these actions affect all of us, the study of politics and international relations is the subject for you.

This innovative degree programme explores the interaction of states, international alliances, non-governmental organisations and multinational companies. You will study major political issues such as the politics of international and cyber security, the role of human rights, terrorism, gender and military affairs and global climate change.

This degree will provide you with an excellent understanding of politics and international relations while also equipping you with associated intellectual and communications skills.

You will have a broad based choice of modules which allows you to tailor your degree to reflect your specific interests and career goals.

Distinctive features

- Choose from a varied range of modules which currently include:
 - Bombs, Bullets and Ballot Boxes: Northern Ireland
 - Gender, Sex and Death
 - Modern Political Thought: Machiavelli to Mill
 - China in the world
- Study abroad or undertake a work placement in Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament. Many students undertake internships via our strong links with employers in the private and public sector.
- Supplement your learning by engaging with political decision makers. Benefit from excellent academic links with Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament, Westminster, NATO, G7, the UN, non-governmental organisations, politicians, policy-makers and journalists.



I enjoyed choosing my own modules in the second year as it allowed me to study topics that I found particularly interesting. For example, international security was a great module for me as I learnt about a range of new concepts which I'd never covered before like terrorism, technology and Arctic Security. I also really enjoyed political theories from across the globe as it allowed me to study theories from a whole new perspective as well as being able to learn more about my Indian heritage.

Hitesh Mistry, International Relations and Politics (BScEcon)

Study politics alongside complementary topics

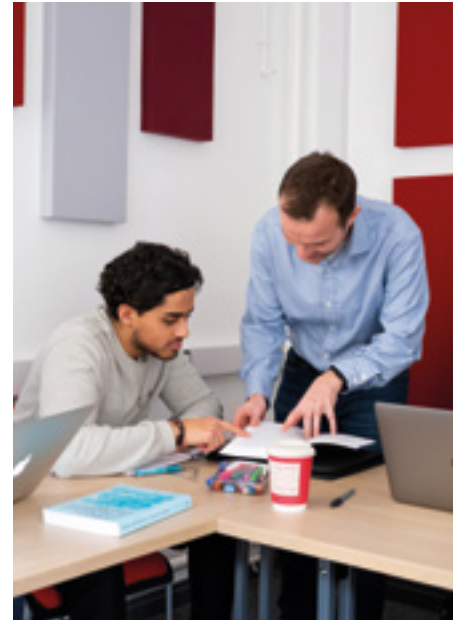
If you'd like to study politics but are also interested in other topics of study, a joint honours programme could be exactly what you are looking for.

We are the home school for three politics joint honours programmes which are offered in conjunction with Cardiff Business School, the School of History, Archaeology and Religion and the School of English, Communication and Philosophy.

By studying two subjects in different environments you automatically gain a different perspective. You'll experience varied teaching and assessment styles and will learn flexibility; a quality increasingly required within the job market.

We provide a suite of exciting and complementary joint honour options which:

- allow you to concentrate on more than one subject area
- give you access to a wider range of modules
- encourage effective time management
- provide you with a host of transferable skills



Politics and Economics **BScEcon** UCAS Code: **LL12**

This programme seeks to discover a new generation of economically focused, political thinkers.

Austerity, Brexit, wages, wealth, homelessness and the environment are all talking points that bring together politics and economics. These two areas are inextricably linked which makes this programme of study a fascinating and topical choice for undergraduates.

While the field of politics allows you to explore how parliaments and governments function and evaluate political ideas such as power, freedom, democracy, conflict, legitimacy or accountability, the field of economics will allow you to use quantitative and empirical research skills to understand real-world economic issues.

Distinctive features

- Develop knowledge in areas suited to government, journalism, policy research, business, banking, accountancy and consultancy.
- Specialise in industrial economics, economic history, labour economics or international economics.
- Supplement your learning by engaging with political decision makers. Benefit from excellent academic links with Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament, Westminster, NATO, G7, the UN, non-governmental organisations, politicians, policymakers and journalists.





My highlight of studying at the school has been the additional events that are offered outside of teaching hours, such as panel discussions, conferences and talks from political speakers. One event that I enjoyed was a talk from the Norwegian Ambassador to the UK. This talk was not only interesting and relevant to me due to the fact that I want to work in the field of diplomacy after university, but it was also very useful to my studies as the information I learned was relevant to a military studies module.

Oliver Bruce-Radcliffe, International Relations (BScEcon 2021)

Politics and Modern History **BScEcon**

UCAS Code: **LV21**

Understanding the past is key to understanding today. This politics and modern history programme addresses a range of questions that are critical to our understanding of the contemporary and historical world.

The field of politics allows you to explore how parliaments and governments function and to evaluate political ideas such as power, freedom, democracy, conflict, legitimacy and accountability.

The study of history enables you to learn about the different worlds of people in the past and to better understand the present. History gives you an insight into the process of change from Ancient Greece and Rome through the Medieval period to the modern day. You may study the history of societies in diverse parts of the globe, from India and China, through Germany and France, to Britain, Wales and Cardiff.



Distinctive features

- Investigate past worlds and processes of change by examining key events and personalities from the past 1,500 years.
- Explore the history of societies in diverse parts of the globe, including Europe, China, India and Russia.
- Supplement your learning by engaging with political decision makers. Benefit from excellent academic links with Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament, Westminster, NATO, G7, the UN, non-governmental organisations, politicians, policymakers and journalists.

Politics and Philosophy **BA**

UCAS Code: **LV25**

Explore and test the basic beliefs and values that underpin our ideas about politics by combining it with the study of philosophy.

The field of politics allows you to explore how parliaments and governments function and to evaluate political ideas such as power, freedom, democracy, conflict, legitimacy and accountability.

Philosophy covers the full range of philosophical concerns, with a particular emphasis on ethics and aesthetics. Modules cover both the analytic and continental styles of western philosophy, which is unusual in the UK.



Distinctive features

- A strong emphasis on ethics, politics, and philosophy of mind.
- Develop your ability to identify the reasons for people's claims, to find the assumptions lying behind those reasons, to critically assess both and to communicate clearly and effectively.
- Supplement your learning by engaging with political decision makers. Benefit from excellent academic links with Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament, Westminster, NATO, G7, the UN, non-governmental organisations, politicians, policymakers and journalists.



Joint honours programmes offered by other academic schools

Politics is a topic which permeates every element of our lives. As a result, the following five schools offer programmes which allow you to study Politics alongside complementary topics.

School of Modern Languages

- French and Politics (BA)
- German and Politics (BA)
- Italian and Politics (BA)
- Politics and Spanish (BA)

School of Journalism, Media and Culture

- Journalism, Communication and Politics (BA)

School of Social Sciences

- Politics and Sociology (BScEcon)

School of Welsh

- Welsh and Politics (BA)

For more detailed information on the joint honours programmes offered across the university please consult the relevant school brochure or visit:

www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses

A capital city



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

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

The vibrant and independent culinary scene is the heartbeat of the city. With something

to please every palate, you can enjoy fine dining, plant-based treats and exotic cuisines from almost every corner of the globe, without forgetting Welsh cakes for dessert!

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

Though your Cardiff bucket list may be bursting at the seams, be sure to make a little room for our National Museum which is a place of

true wonder, while the iconic Wales Millennium Centre in the idyllic setting of Cardiff Bay is simply not to be missed.

Bustling with personality, Cardiff is a city made for students, offering an endless string of entertainment opportunities while remaining inexpensive and easy to navigate.

The modern shopping centres, aesthetic arcades, luscious green parks and thriving nightlife are a huge draw for living in Cardiff, though you'll always find your way back to our Students' Union, which is the true home of the student scene in the city.

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

Rough Guide 2020

A leading university

Part of the
**RUSSELL
GROUP**



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

The Telegraph, 2018

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

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

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

Facilities and development

Committed to investing in our services, Cardiff University is home to new and well-equipped laboratories, lecture theatres, libraries and

computing facilities to name a few, with more exciting developments continuously underway.

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

Global Opportunities

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

Supporting you

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

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



Virtual campus tour

Discover more about the university and the city of Cardiff through our interactive online tour at:

virtualltour.cardiff.ac.uk

Living in Cardiff



“Cardiff has one of the biggest, best and most active students’ unions in the UK, with high quality facilities including Y Plas, a 2,150 capacity nightclub; and the Great Hall, a major concert venue.”

Complete University Guide, 2020



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

A guarantee of accommodation

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

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

Residence Life

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

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

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

Students’ Union

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

Built on the foundation of inclusion, diversity, personal development and friendship, the Students’ Union runs a range of activities and services to help enhance your Cardiff University experience.

These include advice, training, skills development, entertainment, volunteering opportunities and employment throughout your time at Cardiff and to prepare you for a career after university too.

Find out more . . .

Accommodation

For further information please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/residences

You can also watch our residences film online at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxZX-dYLF88

Students’ Union

 facebook.com/cardiffstudents

 snapchat.com/add/cardiffstudents

 instagram.com/cardiffstudents

 [@cardiffstudents](https://twitter.com/cardiffstudents)

 www.youtube.com/cardiffstudents

Applications



To be considered for entry onto any of the undergraduate courses offered in the School of Law and Politics you should apply through UCAS:

UCAS, Rosehill, New Barn Lane, Cheltenham, Glos, GL52 3LZ, UK

www.ucas.com

Typical entry requirements

These typical requirements are for guidance. Please check our website for the latest information.

A-level:

Politics: ABB-BBB

International Relations: ABB-BBB

International Relations and Politics: ABB-BBB

International Relations and Politics (with a language): ABB-BBB

Politics and Philosophy: ABB-BBB

Politics and Modern History: ABB-BBB

Politics and Economics: ABB-BBB plus GCSE Maths at grade B/grade 6 and GCSE English Language at grade C/grade 4 if not offered at AS or A-level.

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

IB: 34 points or 665 in Higher Level subjects.

BTEC: Single honours: DDM-DMM.
Joint honours: see website.

All degrees

GCSE requirements (or equivalent): English Language at grade B or grade 6.

Please note, General Studies, Citizenship Studies and Critical Thinking will not be accepted.

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

Equality and diversity

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

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

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

For further information, please visit: www.cardiff.ac.uk/public-information/equality-and-diversity

Applications *continued*



Open Days

The university runs Open Days throughout the year giving anyone considering applying to Cardiff the chance to find out more about life at university and see what we offer.

If you apply and are offered a place, you will be invited to meet us at our specially-devised school offer-holder days. When making that important decision, we strongly encourage you to join us. Not only will you have the opportunity to hear more about our degrees, you will also meet staff, have the chance to talk to current students and to get the feel for our cosmopolitan capital city.

Student support

Whether or not you use student support services it's reassuring to know that they are available to you should you need them. Every student is assigned a personal tutor but should you need extra support we have a range of services available to you. Such as;

- Disability and Dyslexia support
- Counselling and Wellbeing Guidance
- International Student Support

Email: studentsupportcentre@cardiff.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4844

- Student Mentor Scheme
www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/student-life/student-support

Tuition fees and financial assistance

The university charges an annual fee which covers all tuition fees, registration and examinations other than the re-taking of examinations by applicants not currently registered. Please note charges for accommodation in university residences are additional.

Tuition fees

Please see the following website for more information: www.cardiff.ac.uk/fees

Scholarships and bursaries

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



Important Legal Information

The contents of this brochure relate to the Entry 2023 admissions cycle and are correct at the time of going to press in June 2022. However, there is a lengthy period of time between printing this brochure and applications being made to, and processed by us, so please check our website at: www.cardiff.ac.uk before making an application in case there are any changes to the course you are interested in or to other facilities and services described here. Where there is a difference between the contents of this brochure and our website, the contents of the website take precedence and represent the basis on which we intend to deliver our services to you.

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



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




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Thank you.

Cardiff University is a registered charity, no. 1136855

How to find the school

The School of Law and Politics is located in the heart of Cathays Campus. Just a short walk from university residences, the Students' Union and Cardiff city centre.

- Key**
-  School of Law and Politics
 -  University and NHS buildings
 -  Student residences

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

To request an alternative format please contact Laura Roberts:

Tel: **029 2087 4455**

Email: **RobertsL9@cardiff.ac.uk**

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To find out more about the School of Law and Politics please visit our website:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/law-politics



Contact us

Tel: **029 2087 4343**

Email:

lawpladmissions@cardiff.ac.uk

Politics and International Relations
School of Law and Politics
Cardiff University
Law Building, Museum Ave
Cardiff CF10 3AX

Stay in touch

 Cardiffpolitics

 Cardiffpolitics

Student life

Got questions about student life?
Get them answered at:

www.cardiff.ac.uk/studentbloggers

Want to know more about life at Cardiff University? Our student bloggers are recording their experiences and are happy to answer your questions.

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



THE SUNDAY TIMES
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OF THE YEAR