We believe that specialist study and research are needed to inform the designs that make the world a better place. Our graduates bring benefits to the world through the knowledge and skills they gain at the School. They leave us with an inquiring attitude and the ability to tackle complex problems in the built environment, equipped with a holistic approach to the subject, honed by lively discussion and critical thinking. We try to leave them with an enduring connection to the School, the University and the city of Cardiff.
Disclaimer:
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 2017 admissions cycle and are correct at the time of going to press in January 2017. 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
Telephone: +44 (0)29 2087 4455
Your degree: Students admitted to Cardiff University study for a Cardiff University degree.

CONTENTS

01 WELCOME
03 INTRODUCING THE WELSH SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
05 OUR POSTGRADUATE TAUGHT PROGRAMMES
07 MASTER OF DESIGN ADMINISTRATION (MDA)
09 PGDIP IN ARCHITECTURE: PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE
11 MSC BUILDING DIAGNOSTICS FOR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE
13 MSC ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN OF BUILDINGS
15 MSC SUSTAINABLE BUILDING CONSERVATION
17 MSC COMPUTATIONAL METHODS IN ARCHITECTURE
19 MSC SUSTAINABLE MEGA-BUILDINGS
21 MA ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
23 MA URBAN DESIGN
25 OUR POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAMMES
27 OUR FACILITIES
29 LIVING IN CARDIFF
29 THE CITY
29 THE UNIVERSITY
30 STUDENT LIFE
31 APPLICATIONS
33 FUNDING YOUR STUDIES
The Welsh School of Architecture has delivered architecture programmes for nearly 100 years, and specialist master’s and PhD programmes for more than 30 years. We pride ourselves on producing highly employable graduates who can apply expertise, rigour and imagination to solve architectural and design challenges around the world.

We believe that specialist study and research are needed to inform the designs that make the world a better place. Our graduates bring benefits to the world through the knowledge and skills they gain at the School. They leave us with an inquiring attitude and the ability to tackle complex problems in the built environment, equipped with a holistic approach to the subject, honed by lively discussion and critical thinking. We try to leave them with an enduring connection to the School, the University and the city of Cardiff.

In the pages that follow you will learn more about the postgraduate taught and research programmes we offer and what drives our curiosity. We’ll also introduce you to Cardiff, the vibrant capital city of Wales, and give you a flavour of what it’s like studying at the University as a postgraduate student. If you have any queries about our programmes, please do get in touch with our friendly and knowledgeable admissions tutors who will be happy to advise and guide you.

Professor Chris Tweed
January 2017
Introducing the Welsh School of Architecture

The Welsh School of Architecture is located at the heart of Cardiff’s Edwardian civic centre, close to the city centre and just over a mile from Cardiff Bay, one of the UK’s major dockland regeneration projects. Established in 1920, we attract postgraduate students from around the world.

We have an outstanding international reputation for our teaching and research. The School is ranked 35th in the 2016 QS World Rankings and is consistently placed in the top 5 schools of architecture in UK league tables compiled by the Times, Guardian and Comprehensive University Guides. Our strengths include low carbon environments, sustainable design, people and the built environment, building technologies, urban regeneration, and architectural and urban history.

Our location in the capital city of Wales gives us easy access to diverse physical, social and cultural contexts we can explore in our teaching and research. We have productive global research links with practice, industry and with universities, and see our contribution to the cultural life of Wales, and to the city of Cardiff, as a significant part of our identity. All of our students, whether they are distance learners or Cardiff-based, benefit from these relationships.

Our students are highly employable and sought after by practices around the world. In 2014/15 94% of our postgraduate students secured employment or further study within 6 months of completing their course according to the latest survey.*

“All our modules were fascinating, especially the specialist modules. I think the standard of teaching is really high. We were provided with lots of opportunities by the School such as study trips, training, contemporary facilities and meeting with famous architects within the course. I am so satisfied I took this MSc course for my career.”

Sabuhi Pasha, MSc Sustainable Mega Buildings graduate

*2014/15 Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey.
Our postgraduate taught programmes

We are passionate about creating a built environment that enhances people’s lives, without destroying the planet for future generations. Our postgraduate taught programmes aim to address current issues of sustainable development worldwide and reflect our research expertise and interests in sustainability, conservation, urban design and energy studies.

Our programmes are designed to be of value to architectural students as well as many other professions involved in designing, managing, enhancing and evaluating the built environment.

Our diverse portfolio of programmes aims to give all students a background in their field of interest which will allow them to specialise and enhance their career opportunities. Many of our programmes are available as part-time or distance learning courses and would be suitable for working professionals.

For more information on these degree schemes, including entry requirements, please visit our website or contact our Postgraduate Officer.

Name: Carys Meredith
Email: MeredithC5@cardiff.ac.uk
Telephone: +44 (0)29 2087 9693
Master of Design Administration (MDA)

Overview

The aim of this programme is to provide students with in-depth knowledge and understanding of the management and legal aspects of design, and the skills necessary to successfully administer the procurement of design services and building projects.

It will examine all stages in the production of a building, from inception and feasibility through to completion, handover, and post-occupancy, focusing on the management challenges in defining and delivering design objectives.

The course is taught by blended learning methods using the internet, supplemented by short on-site courses.

The course is open to all graduate construction professionals, and those concerned with the procurement and management of buildings (for example clients, architects, engineers, surveyors, and design-build and specialist contractors). It is expected that they have several years’ experience in industry, as well as a primary qualification in a related field.

Distinctive features

- Broadens career opportunities by enabling qualified construction professionals to develop a specialism in design management
- Combines management and legal aspects of procurement, with a unique focus on design aspects
- Addresses current topics of key interest to construction professionals, including cutting edge procurement arrangements
- Based on acclaimed research expertise within the Welsh School of Architecture and run by a leading author and expert in the field
- Study while you work in practice; this course is taught by distance learning and short courses, where the emphasis is on workshops and group working
- Available as a one year full-time or three year part-time qualification.
- Benefit from a small cohort size, individual tutoring (normally including a workplace visit), and the wide variety of expert speakers and topics covered.
- Assessment methods via a wide variety of written assignments, no examinations
- Supported by an active alumni network.

Structure

This course is available on a one year full-time, or three year part-time basis and is undertaken while students are in an approved employment setting.

This course is made up of six 20 credit modules and a dissertation. The modules are delivered over one academic year, with the dissertation completed over the summer if you are undertaking this course on a full-time basis. If you are completing the course on a part-time basis, you will complete three 20 credit modules in the first and second years, with the dissertation being taken in year three.
PGDip in Architecture: Professional Practice

Overview

On this programme students will acquire an in-depth understanding of the legal and economic aspects of architectural practice and construction procurement, and the related skills necessary to practice effectively on entry into the architectural profession.

The programme is designed to be undertaken whilst in full-time employment within an architectural practice or related construction industry organisation. It is taught by blended learning methods using the internet, and supplemented by short on-site courses.

The version of this Diploma course, which ran in 2016/17 received commendations from successive RIBA Visiting Boards including from the latest in July 2016, where it was commended for its ‘breadth, depth and rigour’.

The previous incarnation of this course was accredited by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) and Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) at Part 3 level. We are currently seeking approval of the amendments introduced into the new programme. Once this has been received, we will announce it on our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/architecture

Distinctive features

- Based on acclaimed research expertise within the Welsh School of Architecture and run by a leading author and expert in the field
- Study while you work in practice; this course is taught by distance learning and short courses, where the emphasis is on workshops and group working
- Available as a one year full-time or two year part-time qualification
- Benefit from a small cohort size, individual tutoring (normally including a workplace visit), and the wide variety of expert speakers and topics covered
- Assessment methods via a wide variety of written assignments, no examinations
- Supported by an active alumni network.

Structure

This course is available on a one year full-time, or two year part-time basis and is undertaken while students are in an approved employment setting.

There are three 20 credit modules and one 60 credit module that make up this course. If you are completing the course on a full-time basis, you will complete all modules in one academic year. If you are completing the course on a part-time basis, you will complete the three 20 credit modules in the first year, with the 60 credit module being taken in year two.
MSc Building Diagnostics for Energy and Environmental Performance

Overview

This course aims to give students a solid foundation in the evaluation of the operational performance of building for energy and environmental aspects. It will prepare you for a future career across a range of roles in facilities and building management, consultancy, energy and environmental performance assessment and research.

Most existing programmes in this subject area focus on the design of new buildings. However, better operation of buildings is recognised as essential to closing the ‘performance gaps’ between design intentions and actual use. This course focuses on the energy and environmental performance of existing buildings, integrating technical and occupants’ data into the diagnostic process. You will learn from interdisciplinary approaches, as the programme draws on bodies of theories from building science, social sciences and humanities.

Distinctive features

- Develops skills for troubleshooting energy and environmental problems in existing buildings
- Looks at building diagnostics in a holistic way by considering both technical and human aspects affecting the performance of existing buildings
- Highly relevant, as the efficient operation of existing buildings is becoming more important
- Work on a live project to embed your knowledge of building energy and environmental performance with a focused and hands-on approach
- Benefit from our close links with industry and other building clients to boost your employability

Structure

This programme is available on a one year full-time basis.

You will complete a selection of taught modules totalling 120 credits over one or two years, depending on whether you are a full or part-time student. You will then undertake a dissertation, an ideal opportunity to follow your professional and academic interests in the field supported by experts in different aspects of building performance evaluation.

Through the programme’s taught modules you will gain fundamental knowledge around energy and environmental aspects of the built environment. Several of these modules are shared with some of our other postgraduate master’s courses, which will enable you to network with other students and make connections. You will also undertake specialist modules which focus on developing discipline-specific skills and knowledge in conducting sound evidence-based building performance evaluations.
MSc Environmental Design of Buildings

Overview

Our MSc Environmental Design of Buildings aims to develop knowledge and expertise in the design of comfortable and healthy environments in and around buildings, regardless of climate, and with due regard to sustainable issues.

Distinctive features

- Accredited by the Chartered Institute of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE), meeting the academic requirements for CEng professional registration
- Available as a full-time or part-time course
- Available through distance learning
- Established course, providing a practical grounding in the subject of sustainable design to built environment professionals since 1993
- Based on internationally acclaimed research expertise within the Welsh School of Architecture, we have long-standing experience in designing, monitoring and consulting on sustainable buildings such as the carbon positive SOLCER House.

Structure

Our MSc Environmental Design of Buildings is delivered through taught and project modules, with a dissertation at the end of the course. Full-time students usually complete the course in one year, whereas part-time students or distance learners can take two to three years to complete the course, depending on the pathway they are enrolled on.

All modules on this course will approach environmental design from a different angle, while taking specific themes, such as heating, lighting, acoustics and sustainability into account. The taught modules on this course provide a grounding in architectural science within the context of sustainable development and environmental performance of buildings. The project modules focus on specific themes in building design, such as climatic environment, internal building environment and passive design strategies. In these modules you will have the opportunity to apply taught design ideas to real-world scenarios.

Throughout the course, we will address good practice in climates around the world, making the course relevant for professionals from a variety of different home countries.
Overview

This course is unique in emphasising the role of sustainability within the historic context and addresses concerns identified by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) as critical to the future of Conservation Education.

The course aims to:

- Broaden career opportunities by enabling qualified architects and other specialist disciplines to gain expertise in conservation leading towards professional accreditation
- Augment students’ current expertise and prepare them for critical professional challenges by developing skills to assert detailed and strategic responses to complex issues regarding building conservation in the context of a sustainable agenda
- Ensure students possess the requisite knowledge but also to know where to refer for advice in order to take responsibility when making reasoned decisions in relation to multifaceted conservation issues
- Use project based iterative learning techniques using case studies in order to develop a clear understanding of relevant legislative frameworks
- Enable students to develop autonomous judgments of appropriateness regarding responses to the historic built environment.

We welcome a broad range of students with varied levels of experience in professional practice who share an interest in the conservation of architecture and the environment. This programme is designed for graduates who want to pursue a career in this area and whose first degree was in a related area such as engineering, planning, architecture, archaeology, surveying or construction. It is also open to people who may have equivalent experience in the construction industry or in heritage management.

Distinctive features

The course is both Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) approved and Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) accredited. Completion of the RIBA approved course for RIBA and Architects Registration Board (ARB) registered architects entitles them to apply to become ‘Conservation Registrants’ immediately. As a RIBA approved course, it reduces the number of years in practice required to be entitled to apply for registration as ‘Specialist Conservation Architect’ to 4 years (from 5) and 2 years (from 3) for ‘Conservation Architect’. Completion of the IHBC accredited course enables suitably qualified candidates to achieve full IHBC accreditation in 2 as opposed to 5 years.

Students on this course travel to Rome for a two day intensive visit during which we meet with tutors from the 2nd level International Masters in Architectural Restoration and Cultural Heritage at Roma TRE University. Travel to Rome, entrance fees and accommodation are covered in the course fee but travel to and from the UK airport is not.

Structure

The programme is offered on both a full-time and a part-time basis. The taught modules are all delivered over two day sessions per year thereby attracting part-time candidates who are employed in full time practice. Part-time students will complete modules 1, 2, and 3 (i.e. 60 credits) in the first year and modules 4 and 5 in the second year. They will be given until the following December to submit their dissertation module, the sixth module.
MSc Computational Methods in Architecture

Overview

This course addresses the need for creative professionals who are equipped with the IT skills, digital fabrication skills, simulation software skills, or the ability to design custom-software development tools to solve unique design problems.

Our multidisciplinary approach will provide students with the knowledge and skills to discover innovative computational methods for use in the creative and design industries.

Distinctive features

- Learn innovative algorithmic design methods in architecture.
- Build your own digital tools through visual programming and scripting.
- Gain practical experience with our in-house advanced digital fabrication equipment, including a large industrial robotic arm.
- Participate in multi-disciplinary teamwork that mirrors professional practice.
- Benefit from multi-disciplinary expertise from research staff across the Schools of architecture, computer science and engineering.
- Tailor your learning to your own interests and needs and develop specific expertise through optional modules and a student-led research project.

Structure

This programme is available on a one year full-time or two year part-time basis and is suitable for graduates in architecture, the built environment, civil engineering, architectural engineering, computer science, or for professionals who wish to develop a specialisation in computational methods in architecture.

Students will participate in core modules that present fundamental concepts of computational methods and a series of more advanced modules that will allow you to specialise in a particular area. The course will culminate in a student-led dissertation accompanied by a reflective essay.
MSc Sustainable Mega-Buildings

Overview

Until recently, large buildings have been viewed as mega-scale energy consumers with little regard for sustainable design and performance. However, this is changing with a new generation of mega-buildings that have been designed with energy conservation and sustainability as their principal criteria.

This programme focuses on principles of sustainable planning and design of mega-buildings, and aims to train students to respond to the environmental challenges associated with these buildings. Students will learn to adapt to shifting demands as sustainable policies are increasingly supported by the public and governments worldwide.

Distinctive features

- Accredited by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago and by the Chartered Institute of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE), meeting the academic requirements for CEng professional registration
- Available on a 1 year full-time or 2 year part-time basis
- See sustainable mega-building design in practice on a variety of national and international field trips
- Benefit from our exceptional facilities, such as the School’s environmental laboratory with its artificial sky dome.

Structure

The MSc Sustainable Mega-Buildings is delivered through taught and project modules, with a dissertation at the end of the course. It is available on a one year full-time or two year part-time basis.

Our taught modules will help you to explore the interdependence and relationship between social, technological and environmental issues. You will also learn how to relate these issues to the economic, political and legal contexts of planning and designing mega-buildings. We will introduce and review the latest design methods for sustainable mega-buildings in architectural, engineering and building contractor fields.

We also encourage you to articulate your perspectives on sustainable design, which should enable you to become well-versed and experienced in promoting the benefits of sustainable mega-buildings.
Overview

This programme is aimed at students who are looking for a design-focused postgraduate programme, but do not necessarily have a Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Part 1 qualification. It shares many of the design elements of our established MArch (Master of Architecture/Part 2) programme, but provides greater flexibility in terms of study choices, allowing you to engage with the interests of our research staff.

During the programme, we will focus on using design-led research to inform learning and investigation. You will develop your existing design skills by focusing on how design thinking might address current global challenges. This approach offers an intense and lively forum for the exploration and discussion of design issues.

Researching through design is a creative activity that closely integrates the process of designing with the act of researching, so that they can mutually inform each other. You will explore problems by making and testing design propositions, introducing and developing established knowledge as and when required. Through project work, you will draw on knowledge from many disciplines.

Distinctive features

- Supported by the School's award-winning Design Research Unit Wales (DRUw)
- Learn from notable design-led practitioners; currently more than 50% of our design programme is delivered by practising architects
- Perfect for students who prefer a more practical/active approach to learning through our focus on investigation through design
- Choose from a range of optional modules to supplement your learning in areas of interest to you and develop important skills in design-based research.

Structure

This programme is available on a one year full-time basis.

The taught element of this programme is structured around a 60 credit design module, where you will use techniques of research through design to explore an issue of interest related to one of the School’s design units. Your work in the design studio is complemented by a module on analysing architectural precedent and a choice of optional study modules.

You will also undertake a dissertation. This is intended as the culmination of your design research throughout the programme. The dissertation usually comprises a documented design project, accompanied by a 5000 word critical commentary. Support for developing the necessary skills of research through design will be provided during the taught elements of the programme.
MA Urban Design

Overview

The goal of the MA Urban Design programme is to enable practitioners and scholars to transform the field of urban design. The goal is achieved through critical thinking and creative practice. This strategy is based on an inherently transdisciplinary approach grounded in both the Welsh School of Architecture and the School of Geography and Planning, both of which are ranked among the top 50 in the world. Our academic staff are highly accomplished and locally engaged in Cardiff, nationally in the UK, and internationally across the world.

The programme has a stellar reputation both in the UK and internationally. In 2015, it attracted 63 candidates, and continues to produce highly skilled graduates. The course is accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and recognised by the Royal Town Planning Institute.

Urban design is transdisciplinary in that it not only straddles professional fields such as architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning and public policy, but also disciplines such as politics, economics, sociology and cultural studies. The MA Urban Design programme fully embraces such transdisciplinarity as a way to embolden its students to engage in successful practice and research. Our graduates have successful careers in urban design, urban planning, real estate development, research institutes, and academia through pursuit of doctoral studies.

Distinctive features

- One-year full-time degree designed for those with backgrounds in architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning, urban studies, real estate development, civil engineering, and other disciplines such as urban sociology, economics and politics.
- Design projects investigate and address crucial issues in the contemporary city, including affordable housing, public space, infrastructure design, community engagement and urban transformation. All projects are based in actual sites and contexts.
- The Welsh School of Architecture and the School of Geography and Planning at Cardiff University are extremely well-resourced, including a customized urban design studio newly equipped with digital presentation facilities, the latest modelling and workshop facilities, extremely well-stocked libraries with access to journals and books, and lectures and symposia from visitors from all over the world.
- The course is recognised by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) as a ‘specialist’ masters for those who have completed at least a three year RTPI recognised undergraduate spatial planning degree, allowing completion of the RTPI’s educational requirements for membership.
- The course is accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), satisfying requirements for RICS membership.
- The program benefits from its location in the centre of Cardiff, which is the vibrant and highly liveable capital city of Wales that continues to grow and diversify. Cardiff is also extremely well-situated geographically, with short direct flights to London, Manchester, Birmingham, Paris, Amsterdam, Rome, Berlin and other cities in the UK and Europe.

For more information

To read what alumni and current students say about their experience on this programme, and to see examples of design work produced by them, please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/taught/courses/course/urban-design-ma
Our postgraduate research programmes

Our MPhil and PhD postgraduate research programmes offer students the opportunity to work closely with academics related to field of study. Students are embedded in our research groups to maximise exposure to their subject area and foster collaboration with other researchers.

The aim of a postgraduate research degree is to produce a major piece of work. This is normally a written thesis, but may involve a combination of written and design work, and must embody the methods and results of systematic research. In the case of a PhD degree, the work must constitute an original contribution to knowledge in the field of study.

A research degree is confirmation that its holder has gained expertise in developing and employing appropriate research methods and in drawing conclusions from their results. It is excellent training for those wishing to pursue a career in research in higher education, industry or professional consultancy. Candidates may study their MPhil or PhD on a full or part-time basis.

We offer MPhil and PhD research degrees in the following areas:

- **Architectural Science**
  Interdisciplinary research on sustainability and the sustainable design and management of the built environment, from individual components, through whole buildings, to city scale.

- **Architectural History and Theory**
  Understanding the histories and theories of architecture including its practice, making and education within the situated realities of its cultures and contexts.

- **Design and Practice Research**
  Research in this group places the activities of the design studio and workshop on an equal footing with those of the library and laboratory. Interests include building, design, digital design techniques, prototyping materials, critical means of representation, project management, building law and architectural education.

We are now also offering a new PhD in Creative Practice in Architecture available to practising architects. Further details of the rich variety of research at the School, potential supervisors and current research students are on our website: [www.cardiff.ac.uk/architecture/courses/mphilphd-courses/](www.cardiff.ac.uk/architecture/courses/mphilphd-courses/)

For enquiries relating to our postgraduate research programmes, please contact our Research Officer.

**Name:** Katrina Lewis  
**Tel:** +44 (0)29 2087 6251  
**Email:** LewisK2@cardiff.ac.uk
In the city centre, nestled between parks and green spaces, stands the Bute Building, home of the Welsh School of Architecture. The majority of our facilities are housed here, including the Architecture Library, lecture theatres, exhibition galleries, studios and other teaching spaces.

In the basement of the building is our environmental design laboratory; with its artificial sky it is one of the best equipped in the UK. We have recently also established a secondary home in Friary House, a central city location within easy walking distance of the Bute Building, equipped with flexible and modern teaching and study spaces. Our MA Urban Design, MSc Environmental Design of Buildings and MSc Sustainable Mega Buildings are currently based here. Our MSc in Sustainable Building Conservation is located in 2 North Road, a dedicated base with its own computer facilities.

The School also has an IT suite for teaching computer aided design and advanced visualisation techniques. A well-equipped workshop provides tools and expertise necessary for student model making along with a ventilated spray booth, model testing facility and a laser cutter, robotic arm, 3D printer and CNC router.
The City

Cardiff, the capital city of Wales, is a friendly, safe and welcoming city, which is often ranked highly in the press for quality of life. It combines all the advantages of a compact, friendly and affordable location, with the cultural and recreational facilities of a modern capital city.

The city offers a range of cultural venues hosting international events of different kinds, from the Principality Stadium to the Wales Millennium Centre, home to Welsh National Opera.

Cardiff has more green space per person than any other core UK city. It is also located within half an hour’s drive of the Brecon Beacons National Park - ideal for walking, climbing, mountain-biking or fishing – and within striking distance of the Glamorgan Heritage Coastline, the Gower Peninsula (the UK’s first Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty), the Wye Valley and the Forest of Dean.

Cardiff is a very accessible city from elsewhere, benefiting from a variety of road, rail and air connections. Using the hourly train service, London can be reached in just over 2 hours. Cardiff International Airport, as well as connections to Heathrow, Gatwick and Birmingham airports, link the city to Europe and the rest of the world.

The University

Founded in 1883 by Royal Charter, Cardiff is among the collective of 24 research-intensive universities in the UK that make up the Russell Group and is among the top 100 universities worldwide according to the Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities.

In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF), the University was ranked 5th for quality of research across the UK.

Academic life at Cardiff University is challenging, innovative and rewarding. Our students learn from leading researchers and teachers who are driven by creativity and curiosity.

Student life

As a fast developing capital city, Cardiff is a great place to be a student. It is large enough to offer you an exciting variety of activities and entertainment, but small enough for you to feel comfortable in.

Postgraduate support services

Throughout your studies, support and advice is available from a number of sources both within the Welsh School of Architecture and the University as a whole. These include your academic tutors and supervisor, the English Language Support service, Student Advisory Service and the Careers Service. The Student Union’s Postgraduate Association offer a dedicated programme of events to bring together the postgraduate community both during the autumn welcome week and during the year.

Support for international students

The University provides dedicated support and guidance to help ease the transition to life as a Cardiff student.

Once you have been made an offer, you will receive advice on matters such as immigration, visas, healthcare, climate and living and studying in Cardiff.

We also provide a comprehensive induction and orientation programme which includes events for all international students during the week before enrolment. This includes a coach collection service from Cardiff and Heathrow airports, welcome talks and activities to introduce you to Cardiff and welcome you to Wales.

Accommodation

International/EU postgraduate students are guaranteed a single-occupancy place in University residences for the full duration of your studies.

This is providing you apply through the normal admission and allocation process, and re-apply for residences each year through the overseas returners process.

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

Postgraduate taught programmes

We usually welcome applications from candidates with a good first degree (typically a 2:1 or equivalent) in architecture, planning, engineering, social sciences, computer science and environmental science, or equivalent work experience in a relevant discipline.

For international students, please visit the University’s pages for your country to find out more about grade equivalents: www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/your-country.

Applicants whose first language is not English must meet the University’s English language requirements. Currently our minimum requirement is an IELTS score of 6.5. For more information about our English language requirements, or equivalent tests and scores please visit www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/english-language-requirements.

In order to apply, you must provide us with certificates and transcripts relating to previous qualifications, a personal statement, references, and (where applicable) proof of your English language proficiency.

You should apply using the University’s Online Applications Service, which will guide you through the process. www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/applying

If you have any queries about our postgraduate taught programmes, please visit our website or get in touch with our Postgraduate Officer who will be happy to assist you.

Name: Carys Meredith
Email: MeredithC5@cardiff.ac.uk
Tel: +44 29208 79693

Postgraduate research programmes (PhD/MPhil)

We welcome enquiries and applications from suitably qualified people, usually graduates with a good degree (typically a 2:1 or equivalent) in wishing to conduct a research degree in Architectural Science, History and Theory, or Design and Practice. For international students, please visit the University’s pages for your country to find out more about grade equivalents: www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/your-country.

Applicants whose first language is not English must meet the University’s English language requirements. Currently our minimum requirement is an IELTS score of 6.5. For more information about our English language requirements, or equivalent tests and scores please visit www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/english-language-requirements.

For research degrees, it is essential to outline a topic or area of interest in the research proposal. Applications can be made at any time of the year and if successful, students may start their study on the first day of October or April.

Each application is considered on individual merit. Applicants are encouraged to provide as much information and supporting documentation (where requested) as possible about their academic record, relevant work experience and funding support.

You should apply using the University’s Online Applications Service, which will guide you through the process. This service, along with general guidance on English language requirements is available www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/applying.

If you have any queries about our postgraduate research programmes, please visit our website or get in touch with our Research Executive Officer who will be happy to assist you.

Name: Katrina Lewis
Email: LewisK2@cardiff.ac.uk
Tel: +44 29208 76251
Equal Opportunities

Cardiff University is committed to promoting equality and diversity in all of its practices and activities, including those relating to student recruitment, selection and admission.

The University aims to establish an inclusive culture which welcomes and ensures equality of opportunity for applicants of all ages, ethnicities, disabilities, family structures, genders, nationalities, sexual orientations, races, religious or other beliefs, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

This commitment forms part of the Equality and Diversity Policy which is available at www.cardiff.ac.uk/public-info/equality-and-diversity.

Applicants with Disabilities/Specific 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 Advisor 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.

For further information please contact the Disability Advisor:
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4844
Email: disability@cardiff.ac.uk

Funding your studies

Securing funding is an important consideration for many postgraduates. Most funding sources are highly competitive, so it is essential to start researching your funding options as early as possible.

Cardiff University offers its own student scholarships as well as some run in conjunction with other organisations.

For the most up to date information on fees, funding and scholarship opportunities available, please visit the University’s funding and fees website www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/funding-and-fees.

We also have a website dedicated to scholarship information for international students, along with some scholarship stories and tips from international scholarship students already studying at the University.

Current scholarships for international postgraduate taught students include Cardiff University Santander Scholarships, Chevening Scholarships and Fulbright-Cardiff University scholarships:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/funding-and-fees/international-scholarships

Fees for home, EU and international postgraduate study can be accessed via the University website:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/funding-and-fees/fees.

Terms and Conditions

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained within this brochure is correct at the time of going to press.

However, the University does not accept any liability for any errors that it may contain, or for any subsequent changes to the University or Government policy that may affect the information given. Cardiff University expressly excludes any representations or warranties (whether expressed or implied) and all liability including direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential damages arising out of the use of the information on these pages, to the fullest extent possible under law.

Cardiff University is a registered charity, no. 1136855

FSC certificate

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

When you have finished with this brochure it can be recycled, but please consider passing it onto a friend or leaving it in your careers library for others to use. Thank you.

This document can also be made available in large print (text), Braille and on audio tape/CD.

To request an alternative format, please contact Janice Coyle:
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4437
Email: CoyleJ@cardiff.ac.uk

To find out more about the Welsh School of Architecture please visit our website:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/architecture