



Guide to Postgraduate Study in Wales

Table of Contents

Introduction: Why you should choose to live and study in Wales	3
Great for culture lovers	3
The land of song	3
Sports enthusiasts... ready, steady, go!	3
Wonderful Welsh Folk	4
Becoming Bi-Lingual	5
Green, Guilt-Free Studying	5
Procrastinating Productively	5
The Universities Are All So Good...So How Do You Choose?	6
Bangor University	6
University of South Wales	7
Cardiff University	8
Swansea University	9
Aberystwyth University	10
Cardiff Metropolitan University	11
Trinity Saint David	12
Glyndŵr University	13
Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama	14
Student Case Studies	15
Conclusion: What to do next	19

Introduction: Why you should choose to live and study in Wales

When many people think of Wales, they imagine a land of myth and mystery – after all it's the birthplace of Merlin, and there are castles everywhere you look. And whilst this may be right in a sense (no, really, it has more castles per square mile than anywhere else in world) it ignores many of the other wonderful things about Wales. Wales is an exciting and dynamic country to live and study in – with highly ranked universities and great research opportunities, not to mention amazing social and sporting activities.



Great for culture lovers



Wales is a great place to live if you're interested in the arts and culture. It hosts the world's largest arts and literary event each year in Hay-on-Wye. In fact many world-renowned literary figures such as Dylan Thomas, children's author Roald Dahl and sci-fi and fantasy writer Jo Walton are from Wales, playing testament to its inspirational surroundings. And on the note of science fiction, Wales is home to one of the biggest and most popular ongoing sci-fi series on British TV. That's right, Wales is home

to Dr Who! Its stunning scenery has also provided the backdrop to massive blockbuster movies, including Captain America, Harry Potter and Die Another Day.

The land of song

Wales is also known as the land of song, both because of its melodic national language and its history of producing some fine male choirs, but there are also more up-to-date reasons why this is true. Wales has a thriving modern music scene producing great bands such as the Stereophonics and the Manic Street Preachers (fact fans please note that as well as being born in Wales, bassist Nicky Wire is an alumni of Swansea Uni), as well as being the birthplace of some of the early pioneers of heavy metal music such as the bands Man and Budgie. And that's without even mentioning global superstars such as Tom Jones and Shirley Bassey. Plus, did you know it's the home of what is likely to be the world's oldest record store? Spillers Records was founded in Cardiff in 1894! Every year Wales plays host to some of the biggest music festivals in the UK – including Green Man, so if you're looking to indulge your love of music, Wales is the place to be.



Sports enthusiasts... ready, steady, go!



If you're more of a sports enthusiast than a culture buff fear not as you're also in luck. That whole aspect of Wales being a stunningly gorgeous country actually serves another purpose – it is in fact a huge playground for the active amongst us! Wales has got three national parks, mountain ranges, beaches, sea, surf – and all of this will be at your disposal if you live and study in Wales. You can indulge your adventurous side with rock climbing, cycling, hiking, white-water rafting, and even bog snorkelling (no, seriously, they host the annual World Bog Snorkelling Championships!). More obscure sports aside, Wales

has a strong association with rugby, in fact rugby union is the national sport. And there are also other sports on offer such as football, golf and cricket.

Wonderful Welsh Folk

Wales is a great place to be a postgraduate student as it is such an inspiring place to live. It is the birthplace of some of the brightest stars in their fields. From actor/comedian Rob Brydon of *Would I Lie To You* fame, who started his career at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, before moving onto Radio Wales, to Tom Jones – who let's face it is so famous he needs no explanation!

Other Welsh people in the public eye include Catherine Zeta Jones, originally from Swansea, and movie star Anthony Hopkins of *Silence of the Lambs* fame – another alumni of the Royal Welsh College. Other Welsh figures of note include acclaimed director Richard Marquand who directed *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi*; Monty Python's Terry Jones; as well as opera stars Bryn Terfel and Katherine Jenkins.

But it's not just the arts that the Welsh excel at, they are also at the forefront of the science world. Alfred Russel Wallace, the most-cited naturalist in Darwin's *Descent of Man* and proponent of natural selection, began his life in Llanbadoc. While in more modern scientific developments, we have Lyn Evans the project leader of CERN, an alumni of Swansea University.

This is just a selection of inspiring people from Wales – encouraging when it comes to thinking about where your degree could lead you!



Becoming Bi-Lingual



Around 20% of the population in Wales speak Cymraeg, one of Europe's oldest living languages – in fact you can trace the current state of it all the way back to the sixth century. However in Wales it's not just an additional language, it is in fact an official one. You'll find it on signs, in literature, and even taught in schools. What does this mean for you as a postgraduate student? Well, it means you have the chance to immerse yourself in a bilingual culture, picking up another language to add to your already growing skill-set. But don't worry –

everything written in Welsh is usually translated into English too, so rather than seeing it as a difficulty, see it as an opportunity!

Green, Guilt-Free Studying

If you're environmentally conscious (and we hope you are!) you'll be pleased to know that Wales is one of the most conscientious countries in terms of environmental impact. According to the World Wildlife Fund, Newport in Wales is the UK's greenest city, and the university there (University of South Wales) was the first to build an on-site plant that converts waste cooking oil into biodiesel.

Wales itself has five outstanding areas of natural beauty and three national parks that protect 20% of the country. Alongside all of this stunning greenery, Wales as a country is dedicated to alternative energy sources. So, if you're looking for a country where you can explore green spaces and get involved in the future of energy and renewable resources, Wales is the place to be.



Procrastinating Productively(or, why Wales has the best distractions...)

Most universities around the world boast about their **sports and outdoor activities**, but the universities in Wales do so with very good reason. Thanks to its coastline, mountains and open spaces, there is a huge range of outdoor activities open to students who want to **explore their local area**. Whether you're interested in extreme sports like rock climbing – and we don't mean on those indoor walls, we mean on real cliffs! Or something a bit much niche like caving, there'll be something great for you to do. You could also try your hand at sea kayaking, abseiling or even bog snorkelling! And if the idea of these things scares you and you'd rather do something a bit less active... why not try dolphin watching?

Really Useful Welsh Websites

VisitWales.com

[Official info on studying in Wales](#)

[Student Finance Wales](#)

WalesInfo.com

Welsh.gov.uk



The Universities Are All So Good...So How Do You Choose?

Wales is home to a host of brilliant **universities** – here we give you the lowdown on all of them (in no particular order) to help you decide which one to study at.

Bangor University

Top Five Interesting Facts About Bangor University

Bangor University is right near Snowdonia, guaranteeing you gorgeous views and a true Welsh feel to your experience.

Danny Boyle, director of Trainspotting and Slumdog Millionaire is one of its most famous alumni!

It also has some top-class fictional alumni – Bridget Jones of Bridget Jones' Diary is a Bangor alumnus.

Its motto is Gorau Dawn Deall which means “The Best Gift is Knowledge”.

It's in the Top 4 universities in the UK in terms of cost of living – perfect for those of us who remain poor students!



Postgrad Info

- * Around 2,800 postgraduate students
- * Of these, around 1,000 are part time and the rest full time
- * Around 240 postgraduate courses

The Important Things

Money:

Bangor University is one of the cheapest places in the UK to be a student, and the [tuition fees](#) for the courses themselves are reasonable – for example, a full time [taught masters degree](#) in 2013/14 will set you back £4,500. Tuition fees may be higher if you are an international student.



Facilities:

Bangor was voted one of the best places to live in terms of facilities and location. There are some [fantastic libraries](#) (which, whilst they may not excite you now, you'll be very grateful for the night before your deadlines!), including a music-specific site, and there are over a thousand PCs available for student use. Bangor University is currently developing an Arts and Innovation Centre to go alongside their already successful Business and Management Centre. This new centre, set to open in 2014, will contain a theatre, a cinema, and exhibition spaces – what more could you want?

Student Life:

Whilst Bangor might not have a reputation for a thriving social life on the scale of a major city like Cardiff, it's by no means boring, you will find that there are lots of [things to do in your time out!](#) For those looking for a good social scene, there are pubs and nightclubs galore, and large restaurants and big name chains sit comfortably alongside smaller independent venues. If you're more into culture, there are plenty of historical sites nearby to enjoy. And another major attribute of the location of Bangor University is its proximity to sporting activities – set in the Welsh countryside, near the coast, there are plenty of outdoor locations – not to mention indoor ones.

University of South Wales



Top Five Interesting Facts About the University of South Wales

This university is basically brand new – it started in April 2013, after a merge of the University of Glamorgan and the University of Wales, Newport.

Gareth Evans, director of The Raid, is an alumnus of the University of Glamorgan.

If you're looking for a bustling, busy university, this is perfect for you – it has over 33,000 students making it one of the largest universities in the UK.

For you eco-friendly types, you'll be pleased to hear it was the first university in the UK to set up an on-site plant for turning waste cooking oil into eco-friendly biodiesel.

And for those of you looking to live by a true Welsh legend? One of its campuses is in Treforest, birthplace of Tom Jones.

Postgrad Info

* Around 5,000 postgraduate students

* Around 170 postgraduate courses

The Important Things

Money:

A [full-time taught postgraduate course](#) will set you back around £4,000 and it estimates around £200 a week [living costs](#) at the most – and that's including food and nights out! Tuition fees may be higher if you are an international student.

Facilities:

The university has five campuses spread across South Wales. At Treforest campus there is a student union building, a sports centre and 30 acres of playing fields. And it's not just students who use these – the Wales national football team, as well as the New Zealand and South African rugby teams use these, so the facilities have got to be good. In terms of learning, the University of South Wales has some great simulated environments – from a court room, to TV studios, and even a hospital ward!

Student Life:

This university is quieter than some, but that doesn't mean it's boring. Close to some fantastic pubs (including some that host lively karaoke nights if you're up for some fun!). In addition, it's near to the Doctor Who Experience and the local stadium is used frequently by the All Blacks and the Springboks. So, whatever [extra-curricular activities](#) you enjoy there's something for you here. You'll also be pleased to know that the University of South Wales won the Times Higher Award for Outstanding Support for Students – so you can be confident that you'll be well looked after here.



Cardiff University



Top Five Interesting Facts About Cardiff University

It's the second oldest University in Wales.

In 1904, it appointed the first ever female professor in the UK, Millicent McKenzie.

TV presenter, Adrian Chiles, is one of its alumni.

It's in Cardiff. And you know what that means? Doctor Who!

It's one of the flattest cities in Britain, so no need to worry about having to walk or cycle uphill to lectures!

Postgrad Info

* Around 7,000 postgraduate students

* Of these, around 3,300 are part time and the rest full time

* Around 150 research courses and 200 taught courses

The Important Things

Money:

An [MA](#) at Cardiff University will set you back around £5,500, and an [MSc](#) around £7,800. [Living costs](#) are around £170 a week, but you'll be pleased to know that the university has recently invested a lot of money into its scholarships and bursaries. Tuition fees may be higher if you are an international student.

Facilities:

You can never have too many books, and Cardiff takes that literally – with more than 1.3m books in over 17 libraries, you'll always have something to read. In addition, the student union has nearly 60 sports clubs, a concert hall and 33 acres of grass pitches. On the academic side, there's a health education centre, a devoted business school with a trading room, and a new research campus is currently being built.

Student Life:

Home to over 28,000 students, of which 7,000 are postgraduates, Cardiff University is set in one of the biggest cities in Wales. With a thriving arts scene, including theatre, opera and dance, you'll never be short of culture or exciting things to do. And if sport is more your thing, there's an ice rink, white-water rafting, and of course, the Millennium Stadium. As well as that, it's one of the greenest cities in the UK, so it's full of beautiful parks for you to relax and study in!



Swansea University



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

Top Five Interesting Facts About Swansea University

It competes with Cardiff University in a varsity event, much like Oxbridge Boat Race, only with rugby.

Nicky Wire, bassist for the Manic Street Preachers, studied politics here.

Staff from Swansea University were amongst the first to create antihydrogen at CERN.

The student union holds the Guinness World Record for the number of people dressed as Smurfs in one place (2,510 if you were wondering).

The Science and Innovation campus will open in 2015 on the beach! Did we mention there was a beach and that Swansea is statistically one of the UK's sunniest cities?

Postgrad Info

- * Around 2,400 postgraduate students
- * Of these, around 600 are part time and the rest full time
- * Around 150 taught courses and 200 research courses

The Important Things

Money:

[Taught masters programs](#) cost from around £4,300 to £4,700 depending on subject, and research programs cost around £3,900. Tuition fees may be higher if you are an international student. Last year Swansea had £4 million of scholarships and bursaries available to students starting a postgraduate degree. In halls of residence the rent is around £70-£120 a week (inclusive of bills), and privately you can expect to pay around £60-£70 (not including bills).

Facilities:

Swansea University is another university with a great sports centre – this one is one of only five in the UK to be awarded intensive training centre status. It hosts the Wales national pool, various pitches and courts, and a physiotherapy service. The library remains open seven days a week, and 1,850 computers are available across the university, meaning you should always be able to find somewhere to finish that vital essay even if you have left it to the last minute! In addition, there is an office devoted to postgraduate training, so if you're a bit worried about your skill-set, you have a great place to go to for help.

Student Life:

Set near the beautiful old fishing village of Mumbles (home to Catherine Zeta Jones on those rare times when she hops back across the pond to visit her family), there's the option of a quiet, relaxing time at the seaside. Or if you'd prefer something a bit busier, there's Swansea's Maritime Quarter and its waterfront village. Swansea University is also very near to the Gower Peninsula – Britain's first area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – and Brecon Beacons so those of you wanting to take advantage of the stunning Welsh countryside, coastline, views and outdoor pursuits won't be disappointed.



[Aberystwyth University](#)

Top Five Interesting Facts About Aberystwyth University

Its motto is Nid Byd, Byd Heb Wybodaeth (A world without knowledge is no world at all)
Jan Pinkava, co-director of Pixar's Ratatouille, is one of its alumni.

Aberystwyth is home to the National Library of Wales. You know, just in case you run out of books at the university libraries.

According to Douglas Adams (Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy author), Aberystwyth means "A nostalgic yearning which is in itself more pleasant than the thing being yearned for".

It has the highest ratio of books to people in the world with around 6 million books to 20,000 inhabitants.

Postgrad Info

- * **Around 1,800 postgraduate students**
- * **Of these, around 700 are part time and the rest full time**
- * **Around 100 taught postgraduate courses, and research options are available in 17 course areas**

The Important Things

Money:

If you want to study a postgraduate program in 2014/15, you're looking at around £4,350 – £5,700 for a [taught course](#), and £3,900 for a [research program](#). Tuition fees may be higher if you are an international student. Annual [living costs](#) can be anything from £6,000 to £9,000 depending on how thrifty you plan to be!

Facilities:

As well as the university library, Aberystwyth is home to the National Library of Wales, which is a copyright library. That means it is entitled to a copy of every book that is published in Britain, so you can guarantee if you need to find something, it'll be there. In addition, Aberystwyth University's Arts Centre is recognised as a national centre for arts development.

Student Life:

The Student Union Arts Centre regularly plays host to some of the top performers in the country, as well as hosting free film nights. If nights out away from the uni are more your thing, Aberystwyth is home to over 50 pubs, so you can go to a different place each week! For more [daytime distractions](#), there's a castle, a lovely beach, and tons of volunteering opportunities!



Top Five Interesting Facts About Cardiff Metropolitan University

If sport is your thing, you'll be pleased to hear that Cardiff Met's Roll of Honour features 300 international performers from 30 different sports.

Gillian Clarke – a poet you may know from doing your GCSE in English if you're from the UK – is one of its alumni.

It hosts the Welsh Open Taekwon-Do Championships each year.

Cardiff has more hours of sunlight than Milan – surprising, but true!

It has more green space per person than any other UK core city – making it a great combination of modern city and gorgeous parks.

Postgrad Info

* Around 4,600 postgraduate students

* The split of these is roughly 50/50 between part time and full time

* Around 60 postgraduate courses

The Important Things

Money:

Postgraduate programs at Cardiff Met University in 2013/14 will cost from around £3,930 depending on subject. Tuition fees may be higher if you are an international student. [Living costs](#) are fairly reasonable too, with estimates of around £5,500-£6,000 a year.

Facilities:

Cardiff Met features a devoted School of Management, a dedicated information zone and it is currently working on a new School of Art and Design. In addition, there is a Sport and Exercise Medicine centre which is the first of its kind in the UK to assist both athletes and the general public. The campus centre has a variety of shops for students, but most important for those of you pulling the occasional all-nighter – it also has a Starbucks to cater for your caffeine fix!

Student Life:

Cardiff was voted a top travel destination in Natural Geographic, so you know it's somewhere you'll want to live! Home to some fantastic sports stadiums, and a thriving Cafe Quarter, it's packed with culture – from comedy nights to opera. Cardiff is also home to one of the best indie clubs in Wales – the famed Clwb Ifor Bach (also known as The Welsh Club). To put it frankly there's plenty of student activities both inside the city of Cardiff and in the surrounding glorious countryside.



Trinity Saint David



Top Five Interesting Facts About Trinity Saint David

It began as a teacher training college in 1848 – making it the oldest continuous teacher training college in Wales.

Dewi Bebb, who won 34 caps playing rugby for Wales as a wing, is one of its alumni.

Carmarthen, where one of the campuses is located, is believed to be the birthplace of Merlin.

Lampeter, the location of the other campus, is the smallest university town in the UK.

It recently (October 2012) merged with Swansea Metropolitan University, so it's now even bigger!

Postgrad Info

- * **Around 1,000 postgraduate students**
- * **Of these, around 560 are part time and the rest full time**
- * **Around 60 postgraduate courses**



The Important Things

Money:

Costs for the year 2012/13 are very reasonable – Mphil, PhDs and masters degrees cost around £3,600, with postgraduate diplomas at £2,410 and postgraduate certificates at £1,205. Tuition fees may be higher if you are an international student. Renting with the university will cost you around £60 - £90 a week, including bills, and private renting is around £50 per week (not including bills).

Facilities:

This campus is well on its way up, with exciting building projects improving it all the time. It even has its own fully equipped theatre on the Carmarthen campus. At the Lampeter campus you can find the university's oldest printed books and archives – which is one of the top resources for academic research in all of Wales. Add to that a new arts hall and a sports centre, and you're sorted!

Student Life:

Trinity Saint David has small campuses, ensuring a homely, community-like feel. The student union runs many things, from club nights to mountain biking, ensuring the campuses stay connected. If safety is a prime concern of yours you will be reassured to hear that the crime rates are some of the lowest in the UK, making it one of the safest places to go to university!

Glyndŵr University



Top Five Interesting Facts About Glyndŵr University

In 1887, miners collected their “whiskey money” (which was a tax on beer and spirits) and set up the Wrexham School of Science and Arts – which later became Glyndŵr University. Nothing like building a university on alcohol, is there?

It is named after a medieval prince.

One of Glyndŵr’s campuses is in Wrexham, home to [Wales Comic Con!](#)

Another campus is in St Asaph which is situated near two historic castles.

It owns the oldest active international football stadium, the Glyndŵr University Racecourse Stadium.

Postgrad Info

* **Around 1,400 postgraduate students**

* **Of these, around 570 are part time and the rest full time**

* **Around 85 postgrad courses**

The Important Things

Money:

You can expect to pay around £4,000 for both [taught and research postgraduate courses](#), and rent sits at around £80-£100 per week. Tuition fees may be higher if you are an international student.

Facilities:

Glyndŵr University has something for everyone – with a radio studio, a human-performance laboratory, and even a flight simulator. The university also own the world’s oldest active international football stadium, perfect for those of you who fancy watching some sport as well as playing it. There are also specialist art, design and animation facilities, as well as a centre for the creative industries, so if you are into the arts, there’ll be plenty for you to do.

Student Life:

There’s a Students Guild, and plenty of societies covering everything from drama to kickboxing. In addition, Wrexham is home to Central Station, described as Wales’ leading live music venue. It is full of culture – outdoor theatre, art galleries, and home to lots of industry, making it a great place to start networking and preparing for you future career, so get out there and [explore!](#)



Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama

ROYAL WELSH COLLEGE
OF MUSIC & DRAMA
COLEG BRENHINOL
CERDD A DRAMA CYMRU

Top Five Interesting Facts About the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama

It was the first, and remains one of just two, All-Steinway Schools in the UK (that's an institution in which all students perform and are taught on Steinway-designed pianos!)

Rob Brydon, host of *Would I Lie To You*, is an alumnus.

It's based inside a castle! An actual castle!

It is based in Cardiff which is one of the top ten retail locations in the UK.

Roald Dahl grew up in Cardiff, and there is a festival dedicated to him each year.

Postgrad Info

* **Around 125 postgraduate students**

* **17 postgraduate courses in a variety of areas**

The Important Things

Money:

The cost of postgraduate study at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama obviously varies depending on [how you study your course](#) (full time, part time), but generally you're looking at around £9,000 for a masters program, and £5,700 per year for a PhD. Tuition fees may be higher if you are an international student. [Living costs](#) are pretty reasonable – Cardiff is estimated to be one of the cheapest locations to be a student – expect to pay around £60 a week in rent.

Facilities:

As you might expect from a university dedicated to music and drama, the facilities here are top-class – there's the Richard Burton Theatre, the Dora Stouzker Hall and the Anthony Hopkins Centre. But as well as all of these, there are recital galleries, a courtyard performance space and a recording studio. Basically, if you want somewhere to perform, you'll find it here.

Student Life:

If you're planning to do your postgraduate studying here, it's because you love performance. With over 300 public performances a year, and set in Cardiff, home to theatres and stadiums galore, you'll find exactly what you're looking for here. With just over 600 students, the community is small, and a reasonable percentage of them are postgraduates too, ensuring a homely feel to your life there.



Student Case Studies



You've heard all the reasons why we think you should come and study your postgraduate program in Wales – but why not see what the students themselves have to say!

STUDENT CASE STUDY 1: Bangor University



Name: Joel Chidley
Course: MSc Applied Sport and Exercise Physiology
Age: 23
Nationality: British



“A combination of the fantastic location, lifestyle and academic reputation persuaded me to stay on here as a postgraduate student.”

Why did you choose to study in Wales?

The location was an important factor. North Wales provides brilliant access to the mountains and sea, making it easy to maintain my interest in outdoor activities.

Why did you choose Bangor University?

I did my undergrad degree here, and the combination of the fantastic location, lifestyle and academic reputation persuaded me to stay on here as a postgraduate student. I'd describe the student life here as lively and selective. It's not always very busy, but there are some real gems to be found once you scratch the surface.

Why did you choose your course?

I chose this course after graduating from Bangor with a 1st class honours degree in Sports Science. The world-leading research in my field of interest, combined with lovely people, a great location and exceptional student support made it an easy choice to return for my masters degree. I also received a £2,500 scholarship.

What's the best thing about your course?

The quality of the research is an important factor, particularly in the second part of the masters which is heavily research-orientated. The School of Sport, Health and Exercise Science also has really great connections, essential for making those academic and career links that are so important to my future work in the field of Sport Science.

Do you have any advice for students considering studying at Bangor University?

Come and have a look, speak to the people in the academic department and just get involved.

STUDENT CASE STUDY 2: Cardiff Met University



Name: Priyesh Thar
Course: Masters of Business
Administration in Project Management
Age: 30
Nationality: Indian

“Your future is bright when you’re on a Cardiff Met flight.”

Why did you choose to study in Wales?

Wales is popular for its enduring spirit with a fascinating blend of history and new-world sophistication. Its relatively small size makes it easier to explore – and you can go hiking, or enjoy adventure sports like rock climbing, kayaking, mountain biking, as well as look around mystical castles and ancient cathedrals. What I find the most beautiful thing about Wales is that the locals are very friendly and lovely to chat with. Wales offers students unique experiences and opportunities for self-exploration.

Why did you choose Cardiff Met University?

According to the UKBA list Cardiff Met University is awarded as a highly trusted university. It also has the largest number of full-time MBA students in UK. I have had many friends graduate from the same university that are now working as high qualified professionals in multi-national companies. In the case of most of the senior successful managers, I realised that experience did play a major role in their success, but what was more important was that they came from recognized schools of business. Hence, my determination to pursue an MBA in Cardiff Met.

Why did you choose your course?

My hunger for knowledge regarding management had started increasing day by day during my BCom studies. I’ve always had a dream – to become one of the most successful entrepreneurs in India, be it my own family business or a completely new venture. Hence an MBA became my goal in line with my interest in fulfilling my dream of becoming a successful entrepreneur.

What’s the best thing about your course?

My MBA course is highly flexible and only takes one and a half years to complete. It is categorized into core modules and elective modules. The core modules are designed in such a way that it includes realistic subjects like Strategic Management and Accounting, whereas the elective modules offer me a wide variety of subjects so I can focus and specialise on areas which are most relevant for my career and choose the pathway of my interest. I also have the opportunity to attend seminars and guest lectures featuring expert speakers who shared their real life experiences.

Do you have any advice for students considering studying at Cardiff Met University?

The course is excellent value for money for any student planning to pursue his/her higher education at Cardiff Met. It’s a bonus for international students to get the desired international exposure with further assistance from the very co-operative staff of the international office and high qualified professors/teachers. There are also lots of opportunities to get involved in campus activities or to find work experience – so make sure you take advantage of this. During my course I have enjoyed working part time at the university campus as a UWIC International Student Helper.

STUDENT CASE STUDY 3: University of South Wales



Name: Victor Nwihim
Course: MSc Music Engineering and Production
Age: 24
Nationality: Nigerian

“All the teaching staff are fabulous – very understanding, helpful, ready to listen, knowledgeable and insightful – it goes without saying that they bring out the best in the students.”

Why did you choose the University of South Wales?

The facilities at the Cardiff campus are awesome, without a doubt. I mean, it's not that many schools you'll go to and find about six fully equipped music studios, video and photography labs, computer labs and a whole lot more. As for the location, who could ask for a better one? Right in the middle of town with almost everything you need within a few paces from the building. Absolutely genius! Plus, the inner city feel gives it an artistic touch.

What made you choose your postgraduate course?

My interest in music and music production has been evident since my childhood and there are few things in life that I would prefer to be involved in than music. When I looked at the module descriptions for the MSc Music Engineering and Production course, it really encapsulated the core areas where I felt I needed knowledge and clarity.

What's the best thing about your course?

The opportunity to interact and collaborate with some really talented people musically is priceless. Since I started studying here I have worked with international artists, producers, video editors, DJs and so on. They have all imparted a lot of knowledge to me in some way or the other, and that has broadened my repertoire, and highlights what this course has done for me.

STUDENT CASE STUDY 4: Swansea University



Name: Katelyn Godfrey
Course: MA Communication, Media Practice and Public Relations
Age: 23
Nationality: American



“Find a way to get involved with something at the uni, by joining a sports team, society, or through your own course. It’s an easy way to make friends and make Swansea feel closer to home.”

Why did you choose to study in Wales?

I chose to study in Wales because friends of mine had travelled to Swansea and neighbouring cities a few years ago with my university back home. They always talked about Wales being a nice welcoming place, and talked so highly of the country that of course I wanted to see it for myself!

Why did you choose Swansea University?

Initially, I looked at Swansea University because of the partnership it has with my undergrad university in America. However, once I decided to study abroad for my postgrad degree, Swansea University stood out to me because of the hands-on experience and the requirement of a work placement my course offered. This made me feel like Swansea University understood that experience is just as vital as theoretical knowledge.

What made you choose your postgraduate course?

The MA in Communication, Media Practice, and PR gained my attention because it enabled me to study communication more in depth. I had studied journalism in my undergrad degree so I chose this MA course to extend my skills and experience for promotional writing and in business communication.

What’s the best thing about your course?

I like that our modules are taught by current professionals within the industry. I think this is really beneficial to us because our lecturers are experienced in the things that they are teaching us. Also, not only are they educating us on the theories that are important for the course, but they are giving us hands-on experience that will set us above others in our career paths.

STUDENT CASE STUDY 5: Cardiff University



Name: Bo Zhao
Course: PhD in Computer Science
Age: 26
Nationality: Chinese

“Cardiff is a nice and safe place to study.”

Why did you choose to study in Wales?

It's about going off the beaten track! Wales has beautiful attractions and a multicultural environment. You can also experience an extremely warm welcome when you come to Wales.

Why did you choose Cardiff University?

Cardiff University is one of the Russell Group universities. It has excellent research achievements and good employment rate among graduates.

Why did you choose your course?

Computer related subjects really interest me! It's nice to see your ideas turn into actual computer codes running on your computer.

What's the best thing about your course?

Apart from the knowledge and skills I get from this course, I have two really nice supervisors providing me useful guidance.

Do you have any advice for students considering studying at Cardiff University?

The university has set up many services to perfect their student experience. Also the Students' Union organises great parties! Places run out really quick for some of the popular courses. If you are considering any popular subjects, you'd better apply as early as possible!

Conclusion: What to do next...

So, you've decided you want to study in Wales... what should you do now?
Here's your step-by-step guide!

- Well – first of all you should decide what [postgrad course](#) you want to study and [what university](#) you want to study it at.
- Your next step is to apply for the course – check out our [essential application and admissions advice](#).
- Once you have been successful in your application, apply for one of our [Postgrad Solutions Study Bursaries](#).
- Move to Wales and enjoy your postgraduate degree program!

Wishing you the best of luck with your studies,
The Postgrad Team