

1872



**Department of  
Welsh and Celtic Studies**



Teaching  
Excellence  
Framework

#### Department of Welsh and Celtic Studies

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#### Important information

The programme information published in this brochure was correct at time of going to print (February 2020) and may be subject to change. Prospective students are advised to check the definitive programme information, including entry requirements, that is available on our website before making an application, to ensure that the programme meets their needs.

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## Welcome

**Welcome to the most established Welsh Department in Wales. Founded in 1875, Aberystwyth's Department of Welsh and Celtic Studies has always led the way with innovative courses in language and literature, creative writing, Professional Welsh, translation studies and Celtic Studies.**

In today's devolved Wales, in which the Welsh language has official status, we prepare our graduates for a broader than ever range of careers and look forward to playing a crucial role in ensuring a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

The Department is close-knit yet outward looking and offers a supportive environment to all its students, from absolute beginners to confident and fluent speakers. Our students join us from all parts of Wales and the world which makes for dynamic exchanges, both academically and socially.

We are committed to delivering engaging courses that unlock your potential. The academic staff in our department are experienced and respected researchers and we produce world-class research that feeds directly into the courses we teach.

The broad research interests of our staff mean that Aberystwyth offers you a complete learning experience. Our innovative and stimulating courses encompass Welsh in the professional workplace, translation studies,

contemporary poetry and fiction, literary criticism, creative writing, medieval literature, and women's writing. We also specialise in Celtic Studies, and so our students can also choose to study Irish, Breton, and Scottish Gaelic language and literature. Further opportunities are available through exchange schemes with universities in Europe and North America. The choice is yours!

By joining us you will be joining a university that gained a Gold Standard in the Teaching Excellence Framework, and it gained recognition for its exemplary teaching standards for the second year running in the Good Univeristy Guide, The Times & Sunday Times (2018 & 2019).

We complement lectures and seminars with innovative teaching techniques, group work, and electronic resources. For language students, we have pathways in Welsh and Irish that are tailored for students at all levels, and students can also study Scottish Gaelic and Breton.

Aberystwyth is located in the heart of mid Wales, and so our students, from beginners to fluent speakers, can use their language skills in the community as well as on the University campus. We also provide a dedicated Second Language Tutor, peer mentoring and regular informal meetings over coffee, and Aberystwyth's Welsh Students' Union, UMCA, brings Welsh speakers together in a wide range of social, sporting, musical, and charity events across the academic year. S



Some of the highlights of the year include the popular quiz held during Welcome Week, the Christmas literary evening and annual literary magazine coordinated by our students.

To learn more about our Department and our courses, come along to an Open Day and discover for yourself why our students rated us 100% for overall satisfaction in this year's NSS.

**Dr Cathryn A. Charnell-White**  
Head of Department.





## Courses

- > Celtic Studies
- > Cymraeg Proffesiynol (Professional Welsh)
- > Cymraeg (Welsh)
- > Cymraeg a'r Ieithoedd Celtaidd (Welsh and the Celtic Languages)
- > Cymraeg Y Gweithle Proffesiynol (Welsh in the Professional work place)
- > MA Astudiaethau Cyfeithu Proffesiynol (Tystysgrif Diploma)



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# Celtic Studies

BA (Hons)

Aberystwyth is renowned for its dedicated exploration of the Celtic languages and their associated cultures, histories and literatures. Our four-year Celtic Studies degree will provide you with a unique opportunity to learn about Celtic languages and their cultures.

The first year will equip you to consider the broad questions of identity, culture and literature, while introducing you to a modern Celtic language.

In subsequent years you will concentrate on expanding and consolidating your knowledge of modern and historical Celtic languages, as well as the literature and culture of Celtic-speakers from the earliest history to the present day.

Welsh and Irish remain at the core of our language provision, but the range of modules available allows you to explore other linguistic and literary interests e.g Breton and Scottish Gaelic.

Students studying Celtic Studies at Aberystwyth will enjoy:

- the opportunity to hear and use Welsh within a Welsh-speaking community;
- an international and diverse academic community and stimulating research environment;
- proximity to the National Library of Wales and the Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies;
- the opportunity to study abroad;
- the opportunity to apply for a scholarship courtesy of the Irish Government to follow an intensive language course in Ireland.

**Modules available on this course include:**

## First year:

- > Introduction to the Literature of Gaelic Ireland
- > The Celts: A Contested Legacy
- > Introduction to Welsh Literature
- > Beginning Modern Welsh

## Second year:


- > Introduction to Modern Irish Language; or
- > Modern Irish Language and Literature for Non-Beginners
- > Cymraeg Llyfr a Chymraeg Llafar
- > Llenyddiaeth Gymraeg Cyfoes a Hanesyddol
- > Trafod y Byd Cyfoes drwy'r Gymraeg

## Third year:


- > Middle Irish Texts in Context
- > Modern Irish (Language and Literature)
- > Cymraeg y Gweithle Proffesiynol

## Fourth year:

- > Modern Irish (Language and Literature)

 **Duration:** 4 years.

 **UCAS Code:** Q500.

 **Degree type:** BA.

# Cymraeg a'r leithoedd Celtaidd

(Welsh and the Celtic Languages)

BA (Hons)

Studying Welsh and the Celtic Languages at Aberystwyth provides you with an opportunity to learn Breton, Irish and Scottish Gaelic alongside Welsh. By following this Welsh-medium course you will gain a deeper understanding of the Celtic languages and their literatures (past and present), and of their cultural and creative dynamics.

This course is taught in one of the main university departments in Britain that specialises in Welsh and Celtic languages, and you will be able to choose modules that suit your interests. As well as studying Welsh, you can also choose modules in Breton, Irish and Scottish Gaelic.


This scheme is designed to facilitate your linguistic development, and so students of Welsh and the Celtic Languages usually spend a semester abroad during their year at a partnered university. This experience gives you the opportunity to develop your language skills and your confidence, whilst also acquiring a life skill much admired by employers - the ability to live and work independently.

Students studying Welsh and the Celtic Languages at Aberystwyth will enjoy:

- joining the only academic department in Britain that teaches all the living Celtic languages: Welsh, Breton, Irish and Scottish Gaelic;
- benefit from the exceptional resource that National Library of Wales offers, which is located next to our campus;
- the opportunity to study abroad;
- the opportunity to apply for a scholarship courtesy of the Irish Government to follow an intensive language course in Ireland;
- being part of the oldest Welsh and Celtic studies department in Wales, which has many well-established working links with private businesses and public-sector institutions who can give our students valuable contacts in the world of work.

 **Degree type:** BA.

 **UCAS Code:** Q562.

 **Duration:** 3 years.

**Modules available on this course include:**

## First year:

- > Sgiliau Astudio Iaith a Llên
- > Cymraeg Llyfr a Chymraeg Llafar
- > Themâu a Ffigurau Llên c.550-1900
- > Llenyddiaeth Gymraeg: Cyfoes a Hanesyddol
- > Cymru a'r Celtiaid
- > Gwyddaleg: Cyflwyniad
- > Llydaweg: Cyflwyniad

- > Introduction to the Literature of Gaelic Ireland
- > Trafod y Byd Cyfoes drwy'r Gymraeg
- > Ysgrifennu Cymraeg Graenus.

## Second and third years:

In your second and third years, along with the core module of Gloywi Iaith, you'll also choose a range of optional modules from a selection available. Examples of these optional modules include:

- > Barddoniaeth Tri Chwarter Canrif, 1900-79
- > Gwyddeleg Modern (Iaith a Llên)
- > Rhyddiaith y Dadeni
- > Y Cynfeirdd Ddiweddar
- > Y Gynghanedd: Cwrs Trochi
- > Rhyddiaith Tri Chwarter Canrif, 1900-79
- > Traddodiad Benywaidd? Merched a Barddoniaeth 1400-1800
- > Y Chwedl Arthuraidd cyn 1200
- > Y Gymraeg yn y Gweithle
- > Y Golygydd a Diwydiant Cyhoedd yng Nghymru
- > Gaeleg yr Alban.



## Student Profiles



Name: Anne Robbins (Calgary, Alberta, Canada)  
Course: Celtic Studies

**The great thing about the course is...** it's absolutely everything I wanted to study all balled into one, as if it were made for me, and the class sizes are wonderfully small so you get to know your lecturers and peers and the material itself very well, very quickly.

**The great thing about studying at Aberystwyth is...** The area. Everything about this town (with the exception of the big hill!) is wonderful. The National Library is the most beautiful, glorious place I ever been... As soon as you arrive in Aberystwyth you feel as if you've come home.



Name: Veronika Todorova (Bulgaria)  
Course: Celtic Studies

**The course appealed to me because...** it's designed in a way that allows me to learn and explore everything about the Celtic culture from different perspectives including the learning of two new languages - Welsh and Irish.

**The great thing about studying at Aberystwyth is...** that it's a quiet, beautiful place with magnificent views, kind people, an international community and vast resources of information concerning every possible area.



Name: Jan Zajec  
Course: Celtic Studies

**The course appealed to me because...** it offers a wide range of interesting modules that suit my interests in historical linguistics and philology. I also like the fact that it is possible to learn all the living Celtic languages at the Department.

**The great thing about the course is...** that it takes place in a Welsh-speaking environment. It is an amazing opportunity for students like me who have no previous knowledge of Welsh to be able to put their new-gained knowledge into practice as soon as possible.

**The great thing about studying at Aberystwyth...** The support offered by the University staff is excellent and studying here is simply a fantastic experience.





# Cymraeg Proffesiynol (Professional Welsh)

BA (Hons)

We understand the importance of providing our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in a professional bilingual workplace. Aberystwyth is the home of Professional Welsh, and this sector-leading scheme is popular with students and employers who seek a 'gold standard' in Welsh.

This Welsh-medium scheme hones skills that will enable you to use the Welsh language confidently in professional contexts as varied as Welsh government, journalism, the media, and the publishing industry. We also offer you the opportunity to apply these skills through work experience in one of 30 institutions and businesses in the public and private sector, enabling crucial networking opportunities.

Our bespoke core modules introduce a range of essential skills: writing reports and press releases, taking minutes, simultaneous translation, adaptation for radio/television/film, copy editing, and adapting texts from other languages. You can also study a wide range of optional modules that focus on language, literature or creative writing, or you can add another language to your professional CV by studying Irish or Breton.

Students of Cymraeg Proffesiynol (Professional Welsh) at Aberystwyth will enjoy:

- having the support of a designated lecturer in Cymraeg Proffesiynol on the first scheme of its kind in Wales;
- being part of the oldest Welsh and Celtic studies department in Wales, which has many well-established working links with private businesses and public-sector institutions who can help you make valuable contacts in the world of work;
- our proximity to the National Library of Wales, with its invaluable resources;
- the opportunity to study another Celtic language alongside Welsh: Breton, Irish or Scottish Gaelic.

**Modules available on this course include:**

**First year:**

- > Cyflwyniad i Gymraeg Proffesiynol
- > Sgiliau Astudio Iaith a Llên
- > Cymraeg Llyfr a Chymraeg Llafar
- > Beirdd a Llenorion o 1900 Hyd Heddiw
- > Themâu a Ffigurau Llên c.550-1900
- > Cymru a'r Celtiaid
- > Gwyddeleg Modern: Cyflwyniad
- > Llydaweg: Cyflwyniad

**Second and third years:**

- > Astudiaethau Trosi ac Addasu
- > Bro a Bywyd: dehongli treftadaeth lenyddol y Cymry
- > Gloywi Iaith
- > Y Gymraeg yn y Gweithle
- > Prosiect Hir

# Cymraeg (Welsh)

BA (Hons)

By studying a degree in Welsh at Aberystwyth, you will be part of an established department that leads the sector in areas such as translation studies and Welsh in the professional workplace. The Department is home to a vibrant and enthusiastic community of students and researchers from Wales and beyond that share the aim of promoting a wider understanding of the Welsh language, its history, its literature and its place in the modern world.

You will be taught by staff who are experts in their fields, and as a result, you will be able to choose from a range of interesting subjects.

There are several entry points for learning Welsh at Aberystwyth: beginner (Q522), intermediate (second language Q560) and fluent (first language Q560). The courses for each entry point allow you to improve your written and spoken Welsh, to study a comprehensive range of literature from all periods, and to deepen your understanding of the language and how it continues to evolve in a global environment.

Students studying Welsh at Aberystwyth will enjoy:

- being able to live and study in one of the heartlands of the Welsh language;
- being able to tailor part two of your degree by choosing from a range of optional language, literature, critical, professional and creative modules.
- the opportunity to learn Breton, Irish or Scottish Gaelic alongside Welsh.

**Core modules available on this course include:**

**First year:**

**First language:**

- > Sgiliau Astudio Iaith a Llên
- > Cymraeg Llyfr a Chymraeg Llafar
- > Themâu a Ffigurau Llên c.550-1900

**Second language:**

- > Sgiliau Astudio Iaith a Llên
- > Llenyddiaeth Gymraeg: Cyfoes a Hanesyddol
- > Trafod y Byd Cyfoes drwy'r Gymraeg
- > Ysgrifennu Cymraeg Graenus

**Beginners:**

- > Welsh for beginners
- > An introduction to Welsh Literature

**Second year:**

- > Cymraeg Llyfr a Chymraeg Llafar
- > Cymraeg y Gweithle Proffesiynol
- > Gloywi Iaith

**Third year:**

- > Gloywi Iaith yr Ail Iaith
- > Traethawd Hir



Degree type: BA.



UCAS Code: Q5P0.



Duration: 3 years.



Degree type: BA.



UCAS Code: Q560 (1st and 2nd languages), Q522 (beginners).



Duration: 3 years (Q522 is 4 years).



# Cymraeg y Gweithle Proffesiynol

(gyda Busnes a Rheolaeth, Cyfrifeg a Chyllid)

Welsh in the professional workplace

(with Business and Management, Accounting and Finance)  
BA (Hons)

The innovative course, Welsh in the professional workplace, is available to study with Accounting and Finance (QN54) or with Business and Management (QN51). The joint honours BAs with Welsh in the professional workplace combine linguistic and professional skills with expertise in accounting and finance or business and management.


There is a growing demand for high-calibre bilingual professionals in contemporary Wales, and this new course will enable you to gain invaluable skills and experiences when entering the business world in Wales and beyond.

You will have the opportunity to learn the following skills: administration, editing, translation, marketing, management, presentation, leadership and collaboration. You will also learn about entrepreneurship and developing your own business.

You will gain valuable experience, through the medium of Welsh, of the wealth of careers available to you, and you can also choose to study aspects of Welsh language, culture and literature.

This course is available to first and second language students. There is also an opportunity to follow the course even if you haven't studied Welsh first language A level.

 Degree type: BA.

 UCAS Code:  
QN51 - Cymraeg y Gweithle Proffesiynol /  
Busnes a Rheolaeth.  
QN54 - Cymraeg y Gweithle Proffesiynol /  
Cyfrifeg a Chyllid

## Modules

Below is an indicative list of core modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Fundamentals of Accounting and Finance
- Cymraeg Llyfr a Chymraeg Llafar
- Trafod y Byd Cyfoes trwy'r Gymraeg
- Ysgrifennu Cymraeg Graenus
- Hanfodion Rheolaeth a Busnes\*
- Egwyddorion Marchnata ac Ymarfer Cyfoes\*
- Data Analytics
- Understanding The Economy

### Second year:


- Cymraeg Llyfr a Chymraeg Llafar
- Cymraeg y Gweithle Proffesiynol
- Entreprenwriaeth a Chreu Menter Newydd
- Rheolaeth Marchnata
- Rheolaeth Adnoddau Dynol\*
- Gweithrediadau a Rheoli'r Gadwyn Cyflenwi\*
- Corporate Finance and Financial Markets
- Intermediate Financial Accounting
- Intermediate Management Accounting.

### Third year:

Gloywi Iaith Yr Ail Iaith .

*\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.*

You will also be able to choose from a wide range of optional modules each year on this course.

 Duration: 3 years.





# Employability

With excellent communication skills in Welsh and an understanding of Welsh culture, you can expect to enjoy a wide variety of jobs.

The Welsh Language Act and the creation of the Welsh Assembly Government have created a huge demand for civil servants, administrators, translators, social workers, marketing officers, as well as teachers, writers, typesetters, editors, proofreaders, publishers, journalists, and researchers and presenters in the Welsh media.

A degree in Welsh from Aberystwyth University prepares students for a wide range of rewarding employment opportunities in both the private and public sectors in Wales and beyond. The Department's employability rate speaks for itself: 100% of our graduates were in employment or further study six months after graduation (HESA 2018).

Employability is embedded in the curriculum that we offer to all our students. We aim to nurture your critical, analytical and creative skills through our wide range of modules. Our modules will reinforce your written and spoken Welsh, and prepare you for the competitive job market by honing your ability to analyse, communicate and work with others. Through the module 'Y Gymraeg yn y Gweithle' (Welsh in the Workplace) we offer work experience with 30 institutions and companies of national and local standing. Furthermore, the innovative degree scheme Cymraeg Proffesiynol (Professional Welsh) is now the standard qualification for prospective employers who are looking for competent bilingual employees - a number of our students have been offered full-time employment on the strength of their work placements.

The Department of Welsh and Celtic Studies also participates in a scheme offered by the Careers Service over a period of three years that offers students guidance on practical aspects such as writing a CV and how to conduct oneself in an interview. Guest speakers from outside the University also come to give talks about the opportunities available for Welsh speakers in the workplace.





# Astudiaethau Cyfieithu Proffesiynol

MA (Hons) Certificate Diploma

This course is taught through the medium of Welsh and uses Welsh and English as a specific language pairing. This dynamic postgraduate course looks at all aspects of the professional translator's work in contemporary Wales. This course will prepare students for a career in the field of translation and will provide an insight into the translation industry as well as the opportunity to pursue individual interests and specialize in areas such as general translation, legislative translation, translation technology and simultaneous translation.

The course is not only aimed at current students. One of the main features of the course is that it also offers further training to those already working as translators and who wish to develop professionally and gain a further recognised qualification in the process.


The course therefore provides training and is suitable for students of all backgrounds, including translators who are already working within the industry or those who are eager to take the first steps towards a career in translation.


#### This course is suitable for:


- students who have recently graduated in a relevant subject
- individuals who wish to develop a career in translation
- experienced translators who wish to gain further qualifications, develop professionally or gain further specialisation in a particular aspect of translation.

#### Certificate / Diploma / MA

One of the main advantages of the course is that it offers a very flexible approach. Consequently, students may choose to study only for a Certificate qualification or they may choose to continue to complete a Diploma and then a full MA. Students may study part time or full time, and it is also possible to study individual modules only.

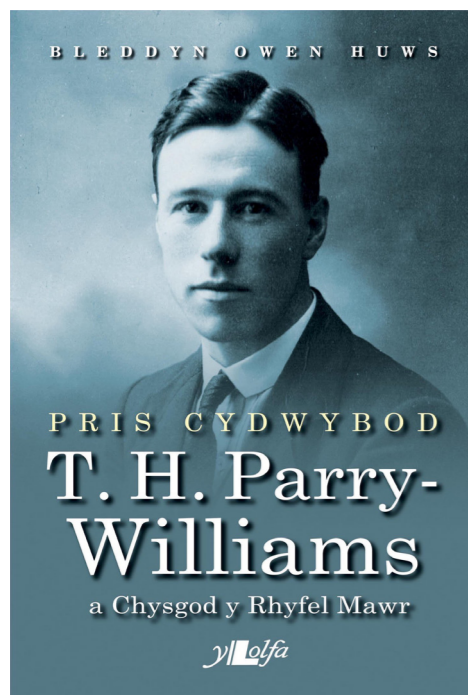
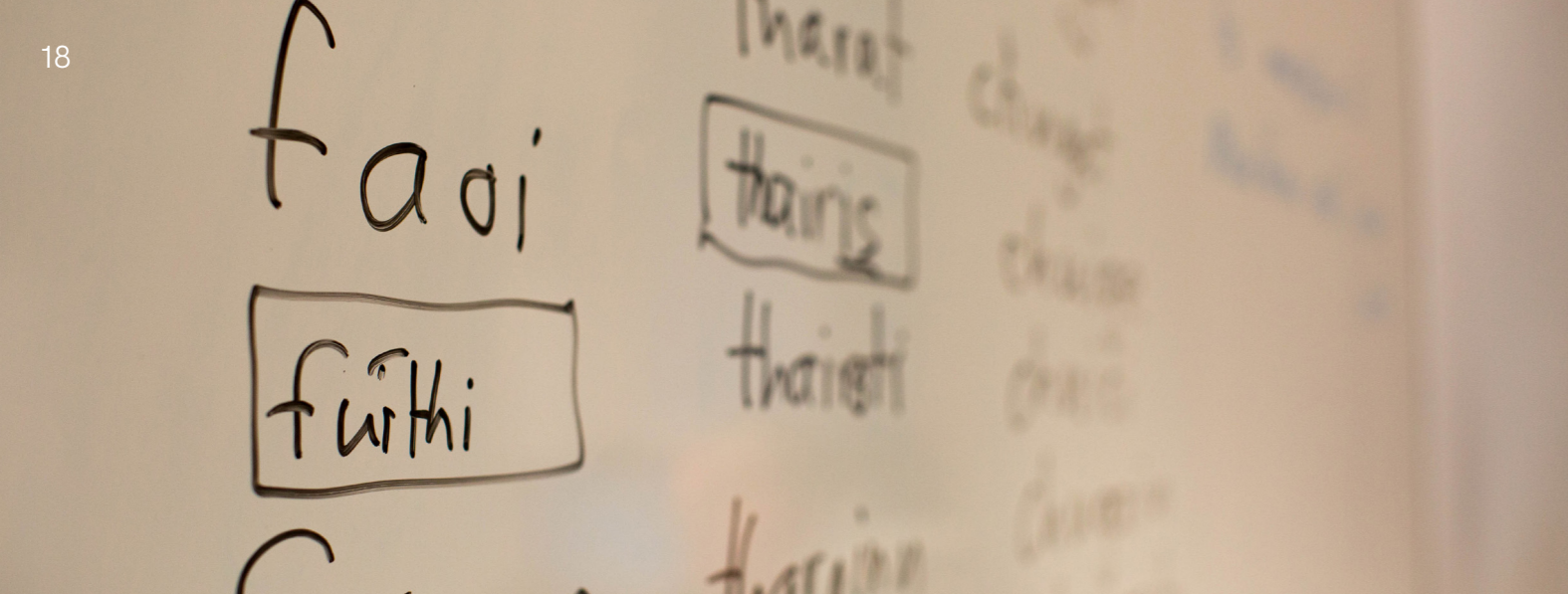
 Degree type: MA.

 Course code: Q596

 Duration: 1 year (full-time).







Dr Bleddyn Owen Huw's book on T.H.Parry-Williams was winner of the 2019 Ellis Gruffydd Memorial Award.



Dr Rhiannedd Jewell, winner of the 2018 Dillwyn Medal and Ellis Gruffydd Memorial Award 2018 for her volume on Saunders Lewis's literary translations.

## Research

The Department of Welsh and Celtic Studies is a research-led department specialising in the language and literature of Wales and the other Celtic countries: Ireland, Scotland and Brittany. Our research on aspects of Welsh and Celtic Studies extends from the ancient period to the twenty-first century, and encompasses the following specialist fields:

- textual scholarship and editorial skills; manuscript and literary culture
- translation and literary adaptation (theory and practice, including medieval);
- linguistics and philology;
- critical theory, notably feminism and gender studies, eco-criticism, reader response theory;
- literary history and criticism;
- creative writing;
- biography and life writing;
- women's writing and literary culture;
- literature of the landscape and the environment;
- regional and national identity in early modern and contemporary Welsh literature and culture;
- 'four nations' and 'archipelagic' literature;
- comparative Irish and Welsh literature.

We welcome applications from MPhil and PhD candidates.

In the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF2014) the Department maintained its reputation for research publications of world-leading and internationally excellent standard. 25% of the department's publications were deemed world-leading (4\*) and a further 30% was judged 'internationally excellent' (3\*).

The following subject-defining journals are edited by members of staff:

- **Dwned** (Dr Bleddyn Owen Huws)- a journal dedicated to the study of medieval Welsh literature
- **The Journal of Celtic Linguistics** (Dr Simon Rodway)

For research interests of individual members of staff, please see the staff profiles.

Over the years the Department has received external grants for collaborative projects. These include:

- A transcript of the Welsh Law manuscript that escaped the 1858 Wynnstay fire.
- Llenyddiaeth Cymru ac Ewrop (The literature of Wales and Europe)
- 'Women's Poetry in Ireland, Scotland and Wales 1400-1800' (Leverhulme Trust)
- 'Gohebiaeth Carneddog a Rhai o'i Gyfoedion'- (the Correspondence of Carneddog and some of his contemporaries)

We also have another great advantage. Aberystwyth is home to many key institutions, not least of which is the National Library of Wales, one of only five copyright libraries in the UK that is a five-minute walk from the Department.



# Global Opportunities

There are several ways in which you can study or work abroad at University. Traditionally, students spend a period of time abroad after the second year for one semester or the entire academic year.

## Europe

### France

- > University of Rennes 2
- > University of Western Brittany

### Germany

- > University of Marburg

### Ireland

- > Galway University
- > Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
- > Maynooth University
- > Trinity College Dublin

### Netherlands

- > Utrecht University

## Rest of the World

### Australia

- > Deakin University
- > Griffith University
- > Murdoch University
- > University New South Wales
- > University of Newcastle
- > Queens University of Charlotte
- > University of Alabama

### Japan

- > Rikkyo University

### Thailand

- > Thammasat University

### USA:

- > American University
- > Boise State University
- > Bowling Green State University
- > Carroll University
- > Purdue University
- > Queens University of Charlotte
- > University of Alabama
- > University of Georgia
- > University of Louisville
- > University of Montana
- > Utica College
- > Washington State University
- > Westminster College
- > Willamette University

### China

- > University of Nottingham, Ningbo

### Canada

- > Dalhousie University
- > McGill University
- > Thompson Rivers University
- > University of Guelph
- > University of Ottawa
- > University of Victoria

### Hong Kong

- > Hong Kong Baptist University

Utrecht University



# How to apply

Once you have decided what course you want to study and where, you'll be able to start the university application process. Here's a brief overview of the process and our procedures here at Aberystwyth.

## 1 Apply through UCAS.com

Deadline 15 January. Aberystwyth University institution code: A40.

TOP TIP: You'll be given a 10 digit UCAS ID number. Keep this to hand as you'll be asked for it many times.

## 2 The university will consider your offer

TOP TIP: Use UCAS Track to keep an eye on your application. At Aberystwyth we aim to make a decision within 4 weeks.

## 3 The offer will show on UCAS track

## 4 Decide where to go

Once you've received all your offers, you'll need to decide which university you want to go to, within a set time. This is when you'll need to note which universities will be your firm and insurance choices.

## 5 Accommodation

Once you've chosen your firm/insurance choice you'll be able to apply for your accommodation (April 1<sup>st</sup> onwards).

## 6 Results day

UCAS Track will confirm your offer of a place. If you're not clear what the offer is, contact the university directly. Make sure you're not on holiday on results day. If you don't get the grades you've hoped for, you may want to consider entering Clearing.

## 7 Start Packing









