

School of Dentistry

Undergraduate
Degree Programmes 2025



CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD

Top 5

in the UK for
Dentistry

The Complete University Guide
2025

**Connected to
the NHS and
local health
boards,**

giving you access
to a range of
patients and clinical
scenarios

**Immersed in
a real dental
hospital,**

which we are lucky
enough to call our
home

97%

of our graduates
were in highly
skilled jobs and/
or graduate-level
further study 15
months after the
end of their course

Graduate Outcomes 2020/21

Top 50

in the world for
dentistry

QS World University Rankings by
Subject 2024

Accredited by the
General Dental
Council (GDC)

£2.2m

clinical simulation
suite where you
can safely practice
your clinical skills

Transforming the future of dental care

‘Croeso’ is the Welsh word for welcome, and you’ll feel it everywhere you go in our Dental School.

We’re united by one goal – to improve the future of dental care across Wales, the UK and beyond.

Thanks to our strong links with the NHS, you’ll be immersed in real-world clinical experiences where you’ll put your skills to the test in a supportive, safe environment. And it’s not just about becoming a dental professional. You can shape the future of oral health through research too.

Join our collection of brilliant minds all working to make the world a better place, from preventing tooth decay in children and making dentistry more patient friendly to - believe it or not - reducing violent crime on the streets of Cardiff and changing attitudes towards alcohol.

Whether your goal is to work as a dental professional helping people on a daily basis, shape the future of dentistry through research, or specialise in a particular area of dentistry, we’re here to support you every step of the way. **Together we can tackle some of society’s greatest challenges.**



Placing people at our heart

Imagine yourself as a dental professional, equipped with the clinical experience and confidence to make a real difference to the lives of people across Wales, the UK, and beyond.



Learning beyond the classroom

Studying at Cardiff is so much more than lecture theatres and textbooks.

You'll safely practice your clinical skills in our dental simulation suite, on mannequins that are fondly known as 'phantom heads', before getting stuck into real clinical scenarios with a range of patients thanks to our strong links with the NHS.

You'll also embark on clinical placements in Wales, where you'll be surrounded by an experienced team of clinicians, supporting you to become the best dental professional you can be.

These practical, real-world experiences will make sure you're fully prepared for life as a dental professional, and have the clinical skills and confidence to excel in whatever career route you choose.



Take a sneak peek inside our dental school.

“ Starting clinical rotations and treating my own patients has been an incredibly rewarding experience.

It's refreshing to step away from the university environment occasionally and gain practical experience in real-world settings, working alongside experienced dental nurses. Since beginning clinical practice, my patient communication and clinical skills have improved significantly!

Laura
BDS Dental Surgery student



“ A stand out feature for me was the new state of the art clinical skills lab where we can confidently practise dentistry before moving onto treating patients.

Early patient contact sets us up well and ensures we have practised dentistry for a number of years before graduating!

Stephen
BDS Dental Surgery student



Our Programmes

We offer three undergraduate degree programmes, which will fully prepare you for your career as a dental professional.



To fully explore what each programme offers, review their entry criteria, and dig deeper into the topics you will study, visit our website.



Dental Surgery (BDS)

UCAS code: A200

As a Dentist, you'll lead a dental team, diagnose and treat dental diseases, and repair dental and related facial injuries.

You'll build a strong knowledge of human anatomy and oral diseases, develop your clinical skills in real-world scenarios, and eventually manage and look after your own patients.

When you graduate, you can register with the General Dental Council and treat patients across a range of settings, such as community clinics, general practice, dental hospitals, and the armed forces.

This course is also the perfect launchpad for a career as a specialist in a particular area of dentistry, or as a researcher, exploring some of the biggest challenges facing our society.



“ I really liked the idea of a career that combined hands-on work with science, where you can interact with people all day.

Dentistry seemed to combine all of these things, and most importantly, helps improve lives, which is something I value a lot.

**Shreeya
BDS Dental Surgery student**



Find out more about this course.

Dental Therapy and Hygiene (BSc)

UCAS code: B752

As a Dental Therapist and Hygienist, you'll be an integral member of the dental team.

You'll carry out a range of procedures such as fillings, scaling, polishing, gum disease treatments, placing crowns on primary teeth, and extracting primary teeth.

You'll also play a key role in supporting patients during their treatment journey, and giving them the knowledge and confidence to look after their oral health.

From your first year of study, you'll be immersed in real clinical scenarios with a variety of patients, where you'll put your clinical skills into practice.

When you graduate, you can register with the General Dental Council and treat patients across a range of settings, such as community clinics, general practice, dental hospitals and schools, and the armed forces.

If you're committed to working in Wales for two years after you graduate, you can apply for NHS funding to support your studies.



“ This course offers early access to real patients which was a big plus for me - I wanted to get stuck into practical work with patients as soon as possible!

**Rosa
BSc Dental Therapy and Hygiene student**



Find out more about this course.

Dental Hygiene (DipHE)

UCAS code: B750

As a Dental Hygienist, you'll support patients during their treatment journey, and give them the knowledge and confidence to look after their oral health.

You'll also be able to carry out procedures such as scaling, polishing, gum disease treatments, and prevention.

From your first year of study, you'll be immersed in real clinical scenarios with a variety of patients, where you'll put your clinical skills into practice.

When you graduate, you can register with the General Dental Council and treat patients across a range of settings, such as community clinics, general practice, dental hospitals and schools, and the armed forces.

If you're committed to working in Wales for 18 months after you graduate, you can apply for NHS funding to support your studies.



“ The highlight for me has been the people that I have met along the way.

I've met some amazing friends, and patients from all walks of life - you know that they are so grateful for the work you do.

**Sophie
DipHE Dental Hygiene student**



Find out more about this course.



University
Dental Hospital

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Forging lifelong friendships

Our Cardiff Dental Student Society (CDSS) is led by dental students, for dental students.

When you start your journey with us, you'll join this close-knit community of dental surgery, hygiene, and therapy students, and forge friendships and connections that will last a lifetime.

You'll get stuck into loads of activities, from ski trips, summer balls and sports days with other dental schools, to charity events and outreach projects in local communities where you'll make a real difference.

As a first year student, you'll also be given dental 'parents' - students in other years who will be there to support and mentor you every step of the way.

The journey to becoming a dental professional is both exciting and challenging, and we're in it together.



CDSS, created for dental students, supports you throughout your studies and enriches your extra-curricular life.

It's a fantastic way to socialise with people across all years whilst forming long-lasting relationships. With events on the social calendar including the annual CDSS ski trip, winter ball, charity events, and many more - there is something for everyone to get involved with!

Kyle
BDS Dental Surgery student



A warm welcome awaits



The chance to change lives

As a student with us you can get involved with community projects and outreach initiatives that make a real difference to people's lives, and may even have the chance to embark on overseas study opportunities, where you'll be immersed in a new community, absorb another language, and develop your clinical skills.

From visiting local schools and teaching children about oral health, to delivering dental hygiene care packages to homeless communities across Cardiff, our students are making a lasting change, and working to build a better tomorrow.

If there's an issue or topic that matters to you, or you feel needs attention, we'll support you in undertaking a research project of your choice.

You'll work with the brightest minds to find solutions to real-world challenges. An ideal launchpad for a future career in research.



With the support of the school, I completed a laboratory project on antimicrobial resistance, a highly relevant subject in dentistry due to the concerns of antibiotic overprescribing.

This project has made me excitedly consider a future in academic research - I would highly recommend taking part if you get the opportunity!

Jess
BDS Dental Surgery student



Get a flavour of life with us

We understand that choosing your course and university is a big decision.

From taster days and summer schools designed to prepare you for university life, to work experience opportunities in our dental hospital, there are loads of opportunities to get a taster of life as a dental student before you apply.

Get in touch with our friendly team to see what's coming up.

dentalcentralenquiries@cardiff.ac.uk



I undertook work experience at a dental practice

shadowing a dentist, hygienist and therapist, which opened my eyes to the world of dentistry.

Steffan

BSc Dental Therapy and Hygiene student







**To find out more about
the School of Dentistry
please visit our website:**



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