

# BANGOR UNIVERSITY

## UNDERGRADUATE PROSPECTUS

# 2013



PRIFYSGOL  
BANGOR  
UNIVERSITY

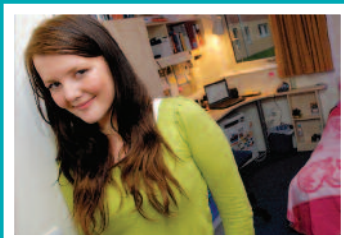


# INTRODUCTION & GENERAL INFORMATION



## Introduction

- 4 Advantages of studying at Bangor
- 12 Who chooses to study at Bangor?



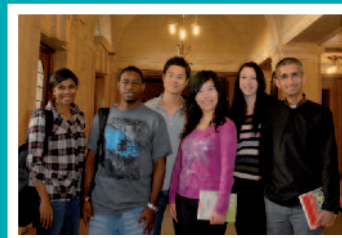
## Accommodation

- 18 Guaranteed accommodation
- 19 Why live in halls?
- 21 Where is the accommodation?
- 23 Accommodation costs



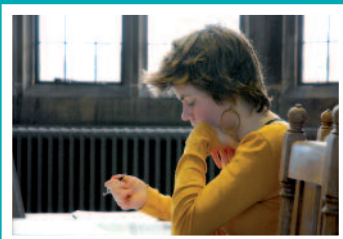
## Student Life

- 24 The Students' Union
- 28 Clubs & societies
- 30 Sports clubs & facilities
- 34 Location & surrounding area
- 36 Welcome Week



## International Students

- 41 Entry requirements & English courses
- 42 Fees for International students
- 43 Accommodation & funding
- 44 International Welfare Support
- 45 Study Abroad



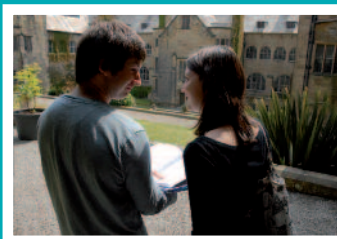
## Study at Bangor

- 46 Study at Bangor
- 48 Student support
- 50 Careers & Employability Service
- 52 Learning resources
- 54 Part-time study
- 55 Study overseas
- 56 Mature students



## Student Finance

- 58 Student finance summary
- 59 Tuition fees
- 61 Bursaries & scholarships



## Open Days

- 64 Opportunities to visit Bangor



## Applying to Bangor

- 66 Entry requirements
- 67 How to apply
- 68 When to apply

- 261 A-Z of courses / Subject Index
- 264 General Index
- 265 Useful contacts

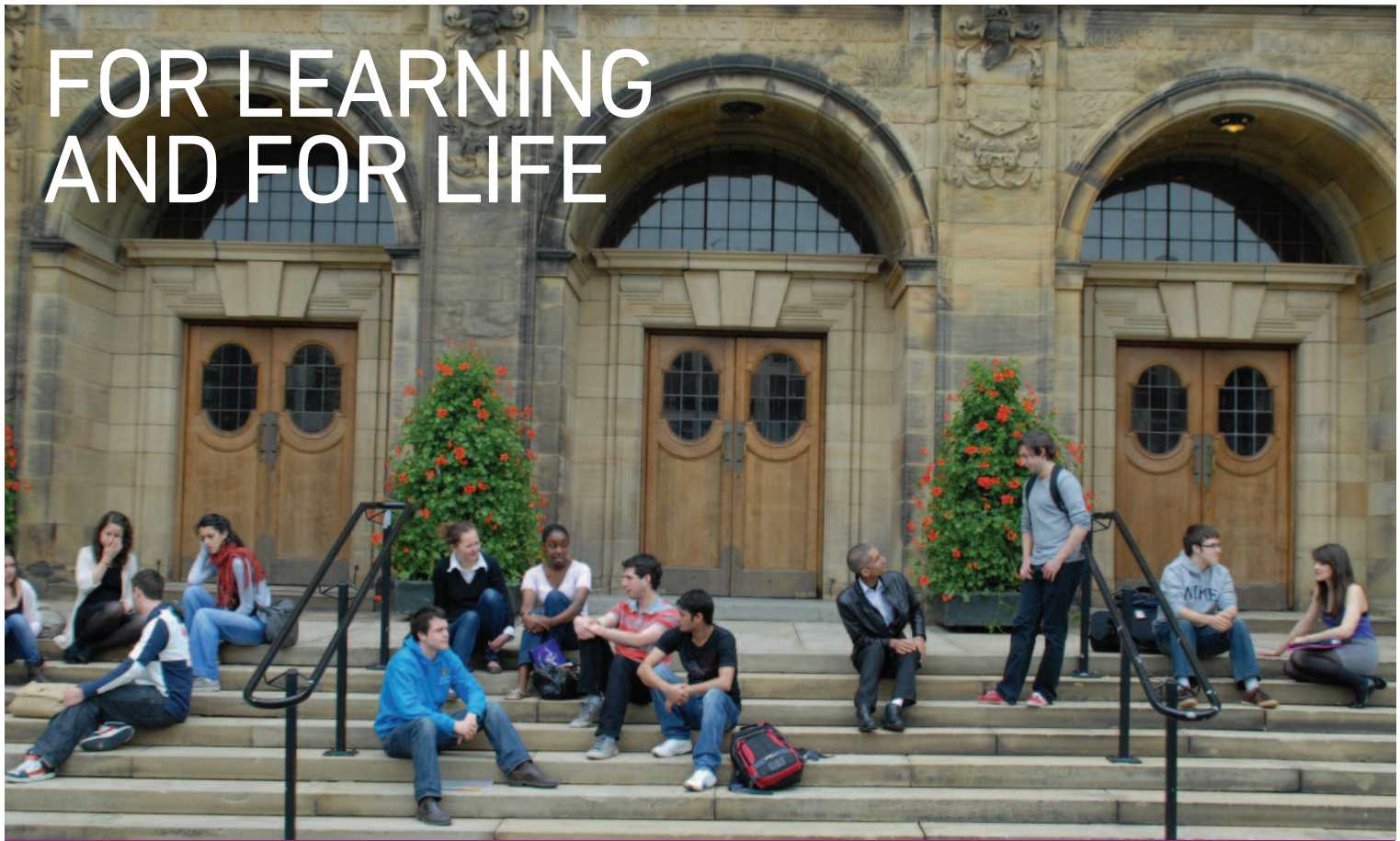
# 2013 COURSE DETAILS

71	ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES & GEOGRAPHY
85	BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
99	OCEAN SCIENCES
111	CHEMISTRY
121	COMPUTER SCIENCE
127	ELECTRONICS
135	MEDICAL & HEALTHCARE SCIENCES
141	PSYCHOLOGY
149	SPORT, HEALTH & EXERCISE SCIENCES
161	BUSINESS, FINANCE, MARKETING & MANAGEMENT
179	LAW
185	SOCIAL SCIENCES
191	HISTORY, WELSH HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY
203	LITERATURE, LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS, CREATIVE STUDIES, MEDIA & FILM
231	MODERN LANGUAGES
245	MUSIC
249	EDUCATION, CHILDHOOD STUDIES & PRODUCT DESIGN
255	LIFELONG LEARNING (PART-TIME COURSES)
261	A-Z OF COURSES

If you find it difficult to read the size of print in this book, please look at our website [www.bangor.ac.uk](http://www.bangor.ac.uk) for details of our courses and facilities.

**UCAS Code**  
**Bangr B06**

# FOR LEARNING AND FOR LIFE



Founded in 1884, Bangor University has a long tradition of excellence and exceeds expectations, both for academic standards and student experience.

The most recent Research Assessment Exercise shows that **world leading research** is being carried out at Bangor. Areas of particular excellence include Accounting & Finance which is rated as the best for research in the UK, and Electronic Engineering which is rated second in the UK. Sports Science is placed in the top 10 in the UK and Psychology is 11th in the UK.

Bangor is ranked the top university in Wales for quality of teaching (*Sunday Times University Guide*), and also performs well in a variety of student surveys where satisfaction levels and overall experience are consistently high. For instance, Bangor was ranked within the top 14 in the UK for **overall student experience** (*Times Higher Education*), and achieved top 20 positions in the National Student Survey in subject areas ranging from Education and Psychology to Sociology and Sport Science.

“ Bangor is a genuinely caring and supportive university community, and we take great pride in the first class services we offer our students. These include academic, financial, career and personal advice and support.

The quality of our teaching and research is world class, attracting students and staff from around the globe. In addition, there are numerous opportunities for students to get involved in a wide variety of activities. The stunning mountains of Snowdonia and miles of coastline provide the backdrop to a university experience which cannot be beaten. ”

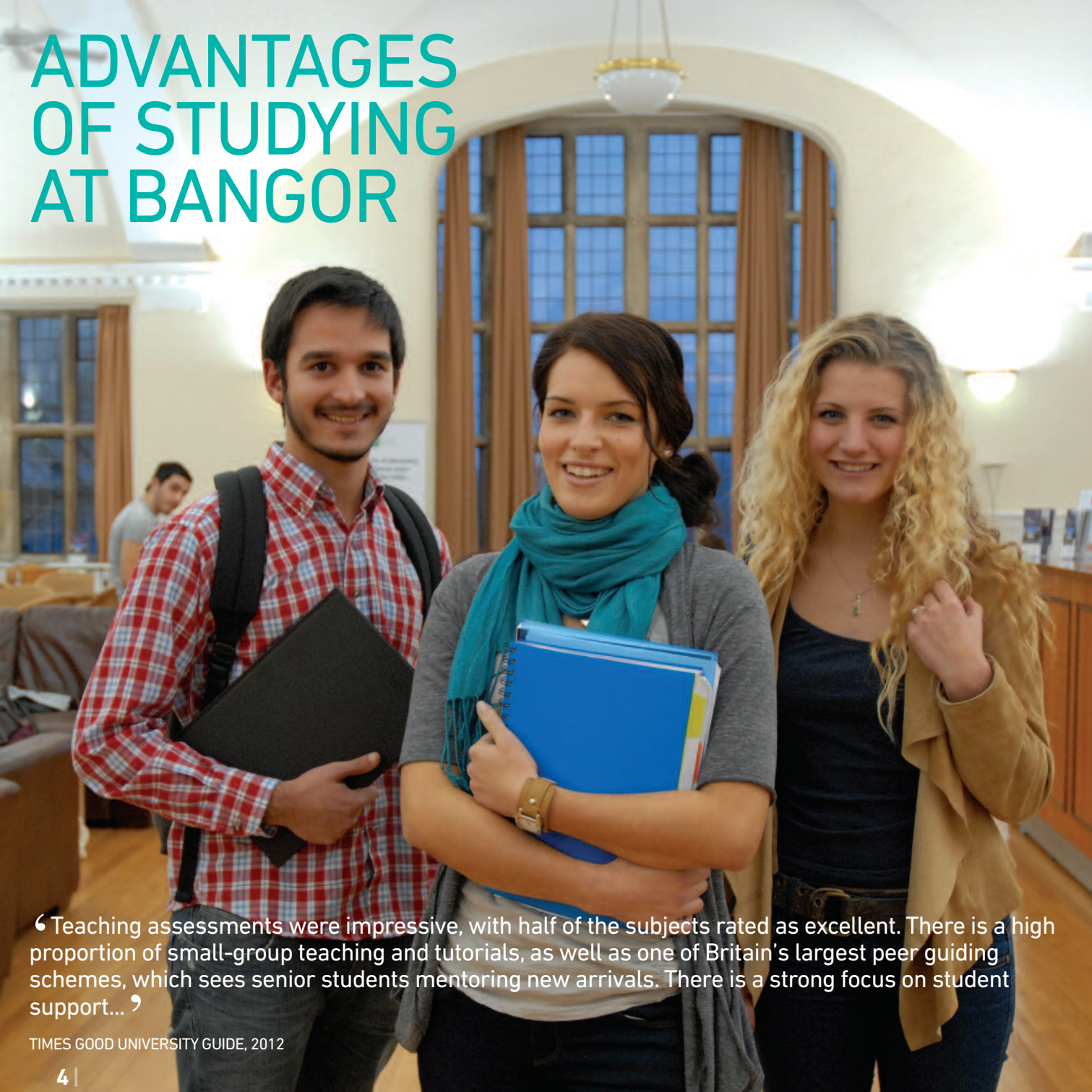
Prof JOHN G. HUGHES  
Vice-Chancellor, Bangor University

Academically, Bangor has a long tradition of excellence. Founded in 1884, the University's position as a first-class institution of higher education was reaffirmed by the most recent research assessment exercise, when 19 subjects were identified as having world-leading elements in their work... There are more than 2,200 rooms available, and Bangor has always recorded strong performances in the National Student Survey. 9

SUNDAY TIMES UNIVERSITY GUIDE



# ADVANTAGES OF STUDYING AT BANGOR

A photograph of three young adults, two women and one man, standing in a well-lit university hallway. The man on the left is wearing a red and white plaid shirt and a backpack, holding a black folder. The woman in the center is wearing a grey cardigan over a white top and a teal scarf, holding several blue folders. The woman on the right has long, wavy blonde hair and is wearing a tan jacket over a dark top. They are all smiling at the camera. In the background, there are large arched windows and other people in the distance.

‘Teaching assessments were impressive, with half of the subjects rated as excellent. There is a high proportion of small-group teaching and tutorials, as well as one of Britain’s largest peer guiding schemes, which sees senior students mentoring new arrivals. There is a strong focus on student support...’

TIMES GOOD UNIVERSITY GUIDE, 2012



## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Bangor University has a **long tradition of academic excellence** which continues to this day. Bangor prides itself on the quality of education offered, with the teaching quality in over half of the subject areas assessed rated as 'excellent'. Bangor's position as a **world-class research institution** was confirmed by the University's performance in the most recent Research Assessment Exercise, with world-leading research identified in all of the 19 assessed subject areas.

For undergraduate students, this means that excellence in teaching is informed by excellence in research. In the most recent report, the UK Quality Assurance Agency confirmed that staff research informs the teaching of students at Bangor, and concluded that "students can be confident that the teaching they receive operates at the threshold of available knowledge".

## GUARANTEED ACCOMMODATION

We guarantee accommodation for first-year students who apply within the given time frame. A £35M development project on the main accommodation site has meant the opening of many new halls and led to an increase in the number of en-suite rooms.

We have over 2,350 rooms available, which means that some of our second and third-year students can also opt to live in halls. All of the accommodation is within easy walking distance of the University, and includes some 2,000 en-suite study rooms on our main accommodation site (see page 18).

‘Over 86% of our students are satisfied with their overall experience at Bangor, with the quality of teaching and computer facilities rated particularly high.’

(Student Survey)

# STUDENT SUPPORT

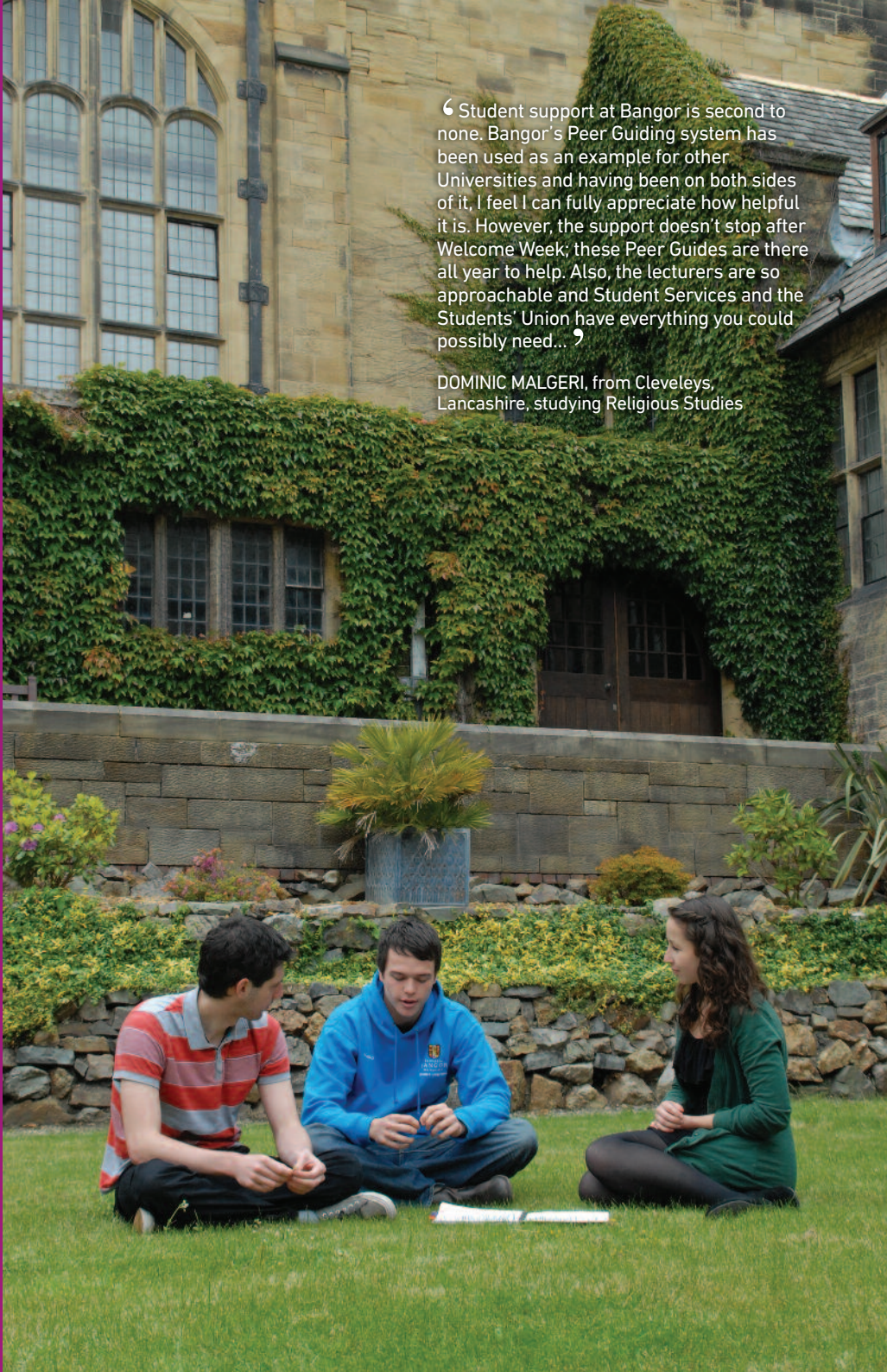
At Bangor, we place a high priority on caring for and supporting our students. This is reflected in the fact that Bangor is rated one of the top universities in the UK for student support (*Times Higher Education*). From the moment you arrive, you'll be given as much help and support as possible with health and welfare matters as well as your academic work.

Bangor has **one of the largest Peer Guiding schemes** of any university, with second and third-year students involved in a mentoring scheme to help new students settle in during their first weeks here. Bangor's Peer Guide scheme is recognised as one of the UK's most successful mentoring schemes, and has previously been shortlisted for the **Outstanding Student Support** award at the *Times Higher Education's Awards Ceremony*.

The Peer Guide scheme and the **Personal Tutor system** mean there is always another student or an academic member of staff you can turn to, while the University's **Student Services Centre** provides a professional support service for students (see page 48). Bangor's pioneering **Dyslexia Centre** is internationally known for its expertise, and provides valuable support for over 600 students a year.

“Student support at Bangor is second to none. Bangor's Peer Guiding system has been used as an example for other Universities and having been on both sides of it, I feel I can fully appreciate how helpful it is. However, the support doesn't stop after Welcome Week; these Peer Guides are there all year to help. Also, the lecturers are so approachable and Student Services and the Students' Union have everything you could possibly need...”

DOMINIC MALGERI, from Cleveleys, Lancashire, studying Religious Studies





# A FRIENDLY, STUDENT-CENTRED PLACE TO LIVE AND STUDY

The size and friendly nature of Bangor means it is **easy to get to know people** and our students settle in immediately. Student surveys show that a high proportion of students choose Bangor because of the small and **friendly nature of the University** and the town.

Most of our buildings and student residences are a short walk from the city centre where you'll find the longest High Street in Wales, a modern shopping centre and a good mix of national chain stores and smaller local businesses. Bangor has been recognised as one of the best places in the UK to be a student by various student surveys, and compared to many other university cities, Bangor is also considered to be a relatively safe place to study.

The Students' Union provides much of the focus for our students' social life and entertainment. A major plus at the University is that student membership of the Students' Union clubs and societies is free of charge.

‘Bangor is a small, friendly cathedral city set in a stunning location... The general consensus is that Bangor is a safe, clean and affordable place to live, and comes highly recommended.’

THE GUARDIAN UNIVERSITY GUIDE

‘A lot of students for a small place, so there's a strong community feel.’

THE INDEPENDENT'S A-Z OF UNIVERSITIES AND HIGHER EDUCATION COLLEGES



# SCENIC AND SPORTY LOCATION

Bangor is exceptionally well-situated and well-equipped for students interested in **sport – especially those involving the great outdoors**. Rock climbing, mountain biking, canoeing, sailing and surfing are just some of the activities available, as well as team sports such as rugby, hockey and football.

We also offer annual **Sports Scholarships** worth up to £2,000 each. However, don't think you need to be sporty to come here – many of our students just like the fact that Bangor is in such a **scenic location**, and that it tends to be **cleaner, safer and friendlier than many larger places**.

‘Wonderful position. On one side are the mountains of the Snowdonia National Park, on the other side is the Menai Strait... boasts the best university setting in the UK, with parts within 6 feet of the sea.’

THE INDEPENDENT'S A-Z OF UNIVERSITIES AND HIGHER EDUCATION COLLEGES





Situated close to the mountains of Snowdonia and the sea, Bangor is one of the most attractive study locations in the UK



We're far easier to get to than you might think – there are good road links to Bangor along the north Wales coast from the M56 & M6.


There are also direct trains from London, Manchester, Crewe and Cardiff.



## LOW COST OF LIVING – AND EXTRA HELP

Market research shows that the cost of living in Bangor is much lower than in other parts of the UK. Bangor has been described as “**one of the cheapest places in Britain**” to be a student (*The A-Z of Universities and Higher Education Colleges*) and is consistently ranked as **one of the most economical places to study** in the UK in various cost-of-living surveys.

As a university which places great emphasis on student support, we also offer extra help to new students by funding a range of scholarships and bursaries (see page 61 for details).



‘ An internationally significant centre for learning, innovation and the performing arts. ’

## INVESTMENT IN NEW FACILITIES

An on-going multi-million pound investment programme has already resulted in new student residences, a new Students' Union nightclub, and academic facilities such as the Management Centre and the Environment Centre Wales building. The next major project is an **ambitious new Arts and Innovation centre**, which will provide exciting arts and entertainment facilities for the University and the local community. The £36M Pontio project – which means 'to bridge' in Welsh – is set to become a world-class centre for innovation in science, technology and the creative arts. The centre – which is expected to open during the 2013/14 academic year - will include a theatre, lecture theatres, external amphitheatre, exhibition spaces, bar and cafe.

Bangor University's Vice-Chancellor Professor John G. Hughes said "This is a once in a generation chance for Bangor. We will create an internationally significant centre for learning, innovation and the performing arts that will be a potent symbol of regeneration and collaboration for the whole community."

## PREPARE FOR YOUR FUTURE

Bangor has been recognised as **one of the best universities in the UK for partnerships with business**. As a student here you'll be encouraged to take advantage of the many **personal and career development programmes** offered, so you can start planning your future career progression in plenty of time. These programmes include exchange schemes, work placements, workshops, summer vacation schemes and volunteering opportunities which **will enable you to make the most of your time at university**. You can gain accreditation for many of these activities through the **Bangor Employability Award**, which is designed to enhance your career prospects. We can also help you find part-time work when you're here, through the JobZone run by the Careers and Employability Service.

# WHO CHOOSES TO STUDY AT BANGOR?

With over 10,000 students from all over the world, Bangor offers you the chance to become part of a vibrant student community situated in one of the most attractive study locations in the UK and to study at a well-established university with an excellent reputation for both teaching and research.

The University is also situated in one of the most vibrant bilingual areas in the UK and promoting the Welsh language is integral to the University's vision. In Gwynedd (the county where Bangor is situated) around 70% of the population can speak Welsh, and both Welsh and English can be seen and heard in all aspects of life. The University is proud of the area's rich cultural and linguistic heritage and continues to play a leading role in fostering this cultural vitality.

While the University remains an important resource for local people, over half of our students come from outside Wales. This is a higher proportion than the average for all Welsh universities and colleges.

All our courses are taught in English, although for Welsh speakers there are opportunities to study a range of courses through the medium of Welsh. Around 25% of our students speak both Welsh and English, while 65% of staff are bilingual or are learning Welsh. Bangor is recognised as one of the **world's leading universities** in terms of research on bilingualism and language technologies.


Over half of our students are **female**, reflecting the national trend in growing participation in higher education by women. We recruit students from all sorts of backgrounds and are particularly popular with **students who value the smaller community feel** which the University and city of Bangor offer.

Around 20 per cent of our full-time students come from **26 European Union and 85 other countries worldwide**. Some come from as far as Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei, Chile, China, Ghana, Japan, Kazakhstan, Libya, Vietnam and the US. Those from the Republic of Ireland benefit from good travel links and are particularly attracted by our courses in psychology, sports science, law and education.

We welcome applications from **students who have taken a break from study**. The latest figures show that our proportion of **mature students** is higher than many other UK universities and colleges. More information for mature students can be found on page 56, and our entry policy is set out on page 66.

We offer various **part-time and lifelong learning** opportunities. For example, degrees are offered on a part-time (evening) study basis at several different locations and we have over 2,000 students registered on our courses across north Wales (many are based at their local colleges). See page 54 for more information about part-time study and lifelong learning opportunities, ranging from NVQs and HE certificates to part-time BA degrees and Masters awards. Information about other part-time options can also be found on page 47.

Around 1,100 of our students have **disabilities or special support needs** of some kind, including **dyslexia**. We will do all we can to provide access to our courses and to support you through your study. See page 48 for more details of the help and support that is available, and page 67 for advice on your application to Bangor.

A photograph of three students standing in front of a stone building entrance. The building features a large arched window and a wooden door. The student on the left is a young man with dark hair, wearing a light blue and white plaid shirt, holding a stack of books. The student in the center is a young woman with long brown hair, wearing a dark blue button-down shirt, holding a white folder with a pink and blue floral design. The student on the right is a young man with short brown hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt, with a black strap over his shoulder. The background shows the stone facade of the building with a large archway and a wooden door with a small window.

‘Bangor feels like a university that really cares for its students. The lecturers often offer extra help in understanding material, and everyone has a personal tutor to turn to. I can’t count the times I’ve used Student Services, mostly for careers advice... All the staff are very friendly.’

KATIE LLOYD-BAKER, from Medway, Kent,  
studying Zoology

One of the main reasons I chose Bangor was the beautiful location. There aren't many universities where you have a view of the mountains and the sea while walking to your lectures. In my first week of lectures we visited the botanical gardens and the beach as part of our field course – it's great having these locations on your doorstep and a rarity for most universities.

It was very easy to settle in here. My Peer Guide arrived within 20 minutes of me unpacking the car and let me know of everything going on to help me meet my course mates. When the parents had all left I got to know my flat mates very quickly and we soon became like family!

There is plenty of support for students. In my first tutorial I was told by my tutor that I could talk to him about anything – my personal life and problems as well as help with my course. The wardens are great as well, being there whenever you have problems in halls.

My advice to new students would be don't worry about Welcome Week, the Peer Guides help you with everything you need, even things like showing you where things are in Bangor. You'll get to know people really quickly...The highlight of being a student at Bangor is that everyone is so passionate about what they are teaching and studying, and everyone is so helpful, especially the Peer Guides who make you feel so welcome! 🐾

ELIZABETH HOPKINSON  
from Worcestershire, studying Biology







‘I chose to study at Bangor because I got a good impression of the place during the Open Day, and knew instantly that I would be at home here. I was attracted to the area because there are a variety of things to do here, and the academic departments made a lot of effort to welcome us all to the Open Day. The fact that I won a scholarship worth £3,000 also helped me to make my decision, and the financial support has been crucial in the last two years.’

LLINOS ANN WILLIAMS, from Ceredigion, studying Welsh and Welsh History

‘It was Bangor and its surroundings which really drew me to study here. It felt like the perfect size place for me with everything I needed close by but not too big that it felt daunting.

I came to the Autumn Open Day and enjoyed looking around the University and city. I was impressed by the organisation of the day and the helpfulness of staff and students – I was made to feel right at home!

The social life can be fantastic here – it’s a matter of going out and getting involved. There’s always lots to see and do whether it be walking in Snowdonia, learning ballet, or volunteering and working with local people. I was involved in lots of societies and clubs in my three years here – maybe too many at times – there’s so much to choose from!’

KLOE WOOD LYNDORFF, from West Cork, Ireland, studying Zoology with Conservation

‘It’s a reputable university, with a very friendly and fresh environment. The English department is very approachable if I ever have any problems. It is also situated on the coast which makes for great days out... Bangor is a small city, but small isn’t necessarily a bad thing. Everything is within walking distance and there are also a lot of different shops and places to eat.

My advice to prospective students would be learn how to cook, clean and do the washing. Your parents won’t be there to bail you out!’

SAM COMERY, from Shropshire, studying English Literature



‘it’s impossible to get bored in Bangor... the social life is brilliant’

‘After living in London, I loved the idea of a small city, with a smaller community. The environment and scenery did it for me, it’s so beautiful and to wake up to it every day is amazing!

I came to an Open Day in February. The friendliness of the staff and Peer Guides really impressed me, they were all so helpful and really welcoming. They explained the course and the University really well too!

Welcome Week was good, we were really busy with different events to introduce us to the course, as well as meet lots of different people. Settling in was easy as everyone was in the same boat and having to start from scratch.

There’s a personal tutor system, so we’re each assigned a member of staff from our respective School who we regularly meet up with to review our progress and discuss any problems.

The halls are really good to live in, it’s all in very good condition and everything you could want is included in the flat. We’ve got 6 people in our flat and we’ve grown so close, it’s like living with a second family. 🐾

ELIZABETH STONE  
from Romford, Essex, studying Business Studies



‘I love the small and friendly city environment – and being into both watersports and mountaineering, I could not find a more ideal university. It’s also a bonus that my course is very good here.

The social life is brilliant. There is a wide range of clubs and societies that suit all tastes and hobbies. The local clubs and pubs organise competitions such as fancy dress, which creates a close and friendly Athletics Union. There is always something to do or somewhere to go, so it’s impossible to get bored in Bangor.

Everybody gets on in the halls of residence, everyone wants to make friends and you don’t only get to know your whole flat, you actually make friends with the entire building. It creates an amazing social life as you are living with your friends, so there is always someone to talk to...

There’s all kinds of support for students at Bangor University. If you have any problems at any point there is always someone to talk to – even in the middle of the night there is Nightline, a confidential service. If you need help with finding a job, finance or accommodation, there is a department ready and waiting to help you.

My advice to any prospective students is visit the University before applying, only then will you realise how beautiful it is. Build up as much experience as you can and show your passion for the course you wish to study, that is the key to a successful application. 🐾

ALEX HUNTER  
from Northampton, studying Primary Education



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from Northampton, studying Primary Education



‘ When I visited Bangor on the Open Day everyone was so welcoming. I loved the atmosphere and culture here as well as the beautiful surroundings. Music is a relatively small department, which gives the chance to get to know many people in a friendly environment and that attracted me.

It’s a brilliant place to study. There is everything from the wonderful views and surroundings to the clubs and nightlife. It may be a small city but that doesn’t mean a small amount of fun! I am a member of the Music Society, taking part in the orchestra as well as big band and concert band. I’m also in the dance society, taking ballet classes but there are many more societies on offer... I love studying in a beautiful, friendly place. I am not a fan of big, noisy cities so Bangor is perfect. ’

HEPHZIBAH LEAFE  
from Loughborough, studying Music

‘ I came to an applicant Open Day and was impressed by the friendliness of the lecturers. They are interested in you as well as their research. As well as this, there was the enthusiasm of the Peer Guides – which made it a place you wanted to be part of...

One of the highlights of studying here is the close community feel, everything is only a 5 minute walk away so there’s no need for transport. The local shops nearly all have student discounts and in general it’s cheaper. Every society has socials, and every week the sports clubs all go out together to the SU’s club Academi. There is always something to do, every night if you wanted. ’

JENNY PRICE  
from Derbyshire, studying Zoology

‘ The School of Ocean Sciences is brilliant, with all staff approachable and willing to help. When I was looking at universities, Bangor stood out from other universities in all areas and it hasn’t disappointed... Studying Ocean Science at Bangor means I have access to some of the best UK academics in the field. Our research vessel, the Prince Madog, allows us to gain essential experience which makes us stand out as potential employees. ’

ALAN KAVANAGH, from Essex, studying Marine Biology & Oceanography