LIBERAL ARTS
Canterbury
CHARTING YOUR COURSE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Astrolabes served navigators, scientists and philosophers throughout the Classical World, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance as tools for orienting themselves in time and space.

The devices were also used to predict the future through astrology. In time more sophisticated devices, such as the mechanical clock, developed out of and supplanted astrolabes while divination, at least in the mystical form, was abandoned by scientists and scholars.

Today, however, we still need to chart life courses through the complexities of time and space, and to do so must devise tools for accurately modelling our changing universe and our places in it, both now and in the future. Conventional discipline-focused degrees carve out domains to be investigated and teach methods for that specialised investigation; they work, in other words, by exclusion. Liberal Arts at Kent embraces the world, engaging humanities, social sciences and physical sciences.

Kent’s Liberal Arts programme enables you to see the complexity of the world from a range of perspectives – political, cultural, historical, scientific and economic – and develops your critical understanding of how these interact with, each other.

As Kathryn Yatrakis, Dean of New York’s Columbia College, Columbia University, wrote: ‘The University of Kent’s new Liberal Arts programme will be very attractive to those high achieving students who well understand that interdisciplinary study and thinking, combined with disciplinary training, is the way to best prepare for the professional world of the 21st century.’

If you are selected to join this small and ambitious programme, you will work with a vanguard of academics and students committed to developing the navigational devices of the future.

Indo-Persian brass astrolabe, 1666

The brass Islamic astrolabe, pictured left, was made by Jamal al-Din at Lahore, Pakistan. An astrolabe is in essence a model of the universe that an astronomer could hold in his or her hands. From its origins in the Ancient World, Islamic astronomers developed the astrolabe and its use spread. Popular in Medieval and Renaissance Europe, its many uses included timekeeping, astrology and surveying.

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ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING

Kent is one of the UK’s leading universities and is ranked 23rd in The Guardian University Guide 2017.

Our Liberal Arts programme draws on academics from schools across all three faculties at Kent. It incorporates teaching from the Q-Step initiative, funded by the Nuffield Foundation, the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), to support quantitative as well as qualitative skills.

World-leading research
Kent’s excellent performance in the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014 confirmed our position as one of the UK’s leading research-intensive universities. Kent was ranked 17th for research intensity by the Times Higher Education, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities.

Centres of research excellence within the University include the Centre for Critical Thought which is linked to the Liberal Arts programme and aims to consolidate, sustain and develop cutting-edge research on critically oriented theory within the humanities and social sciences.

Kent encourages original ideas and independent thinking, and hosts regular research events including conferences, seminars and lectures, which you are invited to attend.

Wide-ranging expertise
The academic staff who have chosen to launch the Liberal Arts programme are leading scholars in the Humanities, Sciences and Social Sciences. They are committed not only to work in their specialist areas but also to the creativity that interdisciplinary engagement produces.

They include: a prize-winning DNA bioscientist; a scholar of poetry in its relation to politics and philosophy; an historian examining science’s relation to culture; an anthropologist looking at violence and identity; a political scientist researching theories and practices of resistance; a film scholar working on modernity and cinema; a former BBC journalist and editor of The Scotsman investigating journalism and democracy; a literary scholar concerned with the roles of reason, logic, rhetoric and evidence in constructing arguments; a theologian interrogating the place of the sacred in modern society; a composer offering insights into listening to contemporary music; a sociologist concerned with disability and inclusion; a professor of computer logic; an art historian discussing the avant-garde and populism; a philosopher interrogating rights and the dilemma of refugees; and an astrobiologist talking about how to reconstruct our world after apocalypse.

Inspirational teaching
Kent’s Liberal Arts degree enables you to see the complexity of the world from a range of perspectives – political, cultural, historical, scientific and economic – and develops your critical understanding of how these impact on, and interact with, each other. This is in contrast not only to conventional discipline-focused study but also to more traditional Liberal Arts programmes which focus on the humanities, incorporating some social sciences, and disregard the sciences.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
The degree combines compulsory Liberal Arts modules with student-selected modules in a programme structured to develop your particular interests, preparing you to intelligently and enthusiastically engage in future employment or research. The compulsory modules are taught in small group seminars, addressed by a number of expert guest lecturers. Throughout your degree, you engage with other students, bringing the group’s varied experiences into continuous debate and discussion.

Supportive academic community
We want you to feel part of the academic community at Kent and welcome the contributions you make. Core lecturers on the programme, as well as our cohort of guest lecturers, are available inside and outside the classroom to discuss and advise. When you arrive, you are assigned an academic adviser who is available as an academic guide and for general help with pastoral issues.

A global outlook
Kent has a great international reputation, attracting students and academic staff from around the world. Last year, 28% of our students came from countries outside the UK, creating a cosmopolitan atmosphere on campus and a global learning environment. We encourage all our students to develop their studies within an international perspective and many of our programmes, including Liberal Arts, tackle issues of global significance.

The UK’s European university
Kent is known as the UK’s European university because of our strong partnerships across Europe, our UK locations close to the European mainland and our postgraduate centres in Brussels, Paris, Athens and Rome. There are students from 37 European countries on campus.

A successful future
We want you to be in a good position to face the demands of a challenging economic environment. During your studies you develop key transferable skills considered essential for a successful career. An important aspect of the programme is the development of quantitative literacy which is linked to the Nuffield Foundation’s Q-Step programme. For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, please go to p9 or see our Employability webpage at www.kent.ac.uk/employability

Who should apply
The Liberal Arts degree programme is for you if you:
• are academically ambitious
• actively enjoy encountering new subjects and approaches
• have a lively and critical curiosity which drives you to learn all you can about issues that interest you
• dislike traditional education’s push to specialise in a single subject
• are aware of the importance (for your future career) of knowledge of a second language as well as developed quantitative and qualitative skills
• care about the significance of your study and career for the global good.

Language learning
As a Liberal Arts student at Kent, you develop a high standard of capability in a language of your choice by taking two language modules in each of your first and second years. This is used during the year abroad in engaging another culture and developing research for your final-year dissertation.

A year abroad
This is an integral part of the degree, which you spend either at one of Kent’s top-ranking partner universities throughout the world or on a work placement. Living and studying abroad is an exciting opportunity that expands your academic horizons and provides you with a wonderful cultural experience. Students arrange their own work-study placements with advice from staff. See www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad for more information.
SUPERB STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Our Canterbury campus provides a stunning location for your studies and offers first-class academic and leisure facilities. The campus benefits from a multicultural learning environment and is within easy reach of both London and mainland Europe.

Excellent study environment

Liberal Arts students have the option of living in the same accommodation block during their first year on campus. There they have their own en-suite rooms and are able to socialise, study and cook together in common living spaces.

The general study resources on campus are excellent. The Templeman Library has extensive printed and electronic collections specifically to support the subject areas at Kent and there are also over a thousand PCs on campus and a range of support services for help or advice. Kent’s Student Learning Advisory Service provides information and advice on all aspects of effective learning and study skills. For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/learning

Kent Extra

Kent Extra is an excellent way to get more from your time at university. It provides opportunities to enhance your knowledge, learn new skills and improve your CV. You can do this in many ways, for example by attending one of our summer schools; by volunteering; or by taking a Study Plus course in an area that interests you. For details see www.kent.ac.uk/kentextra

International community

Kent offers an incredibly diverse and cosmopolitan campus – 37% of our academic staff come from outside the UK and we have students representing 148 nationalities here. We also have strong links with universities and research centres around the world.

Beautiful green campus

The campus is built on 300 acres of parkland, overlooking Canterbury, with a view of the city and Canterbury Cathedral. For entertainment, the campus has its own cinema, theatre and student nightclub.

Kent has a reputation for being a friendly university with a cosmopolitan environment. There are many restaurants, cafés and bars on campus and there is also a sports centre and gym. Everything you need on campus is within walking distance, including a general store, a bookshop, two banks, a medical centre and a pharmacy.

Attractive location

Canterbury city centre is only a 25-minute walk or a short bus or cycle-ride from the centre of campus. It is a beautiful city with many stunning medieval buildings, lively bars and atmospheric pubs, as well as a wide range of shops.

The attractive coastal town of Whitstable is close by and there are sandy beaches further down the coast. London is under an hour away from Canterbury by high-speed train while the Eurostar service from Ashford and Ebbsfleet can take you to Brussels and Paris in just over two hours.
Abigail Hofmann is in her second year studying Liberal Arts.

Why did you choose Kent?
Liberal Arts courses are fairly new in the UK. When I applied there was a limited number of universities that offered the programme. I received offers from Exeter, Kings College London, Winchester and UEA as well as Kent, which offers a well-rounded approach to Liberal Arts, across different schools. The fact that I received a personal email from Professor Glenn Bowman, the director of the programme, telling me all about the course made such a difference. I felt that someone really cared about the programme and I thought that was brilliant.

How is the course going?
It’s much more advanced this year; I’m having to work a lot harder. I am enjoying the huge variety of modules on the programme. This term I am studying Astrophysics, Space Science and Cosmology, Museum Studies, and Decadence in Fin-de-Siècle Europe alongside our Liberal Arts compulsory module: Connections. The range of topics available to study is amazing; I get to study sciences beside humanities. We have to study a language as part of the programme and I thought it would be useful and interesting to learn Mandarin. I’ve also just been elected as course representative, and I am excited to help make positive changes to the Liberal Arts course, and communicate what is great about it.

What is the level of support like in your studies?
It’s very good, if you don’t understand an essay title, for instance, you can make an appointment to see your tutor during their office hours and sit down face-to-face with them and they will explain what is required. My fellow students are also easy to talk to; because there aren’t that many of us we all know each other and we live together as well as study together so we are comfortable talking to each other about anything.

Which modules have you enjoyed the most, and why?
I am really enjoying learning Mandarin because it’s practical and skill-based, which adds variety to the way in which I study. I have also enjoyed the Liberal Arts modules, such as Roots of Transformation, Modes of Reasoning, Understanding the Contemporary, and Connections, because they move between topics quickly and make you look at things from all angles. We have small seminars, which means your voice is heard and the guest speakers are specialists in their topics and some have taught in esteemed universities. It is a fantastic opportunity to be taught by them and ask questions.

Where will you choose to spend your year abroad?
I chose to study Mandarin because I wanted to go to China. I am going to study in Hong Kong, where although the main language is Cantonese, I will have daily opportunities to practice my Mandarin. It will be an amazing experience.

How would you describe your fellow students?
There are only 12 of us, which has made us really close. We are a diverse group and it’s fascinating getting to know people from different backgrounds.

What do you do in your spare time?
I love listening to music – I am a jazz singer and I would like to start a jazz club – but I am focusing on my studies this year, so maybe in my fourth year. I also play rugby for Kent and I love to cook.

What kind of career do you hope to follow when you leave, and why?
The Careers and Employability staff are amazing! They gave me lots of information on the different careers I could choose from after studying Liberal Arts, it was inspiring. I’m really excited about going to China, maybe something will come from that. I’m also considering doing a Master’s because I’m really enjoying my time at Kent.

Any advice for other students coming to Kent?
Be excited. It’s going to be great! You will make some good friends along the way. Join societies and get involved – make sure you enjoy the whole university experience.
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

Kent equips you with essential skills in research, qualitative and quantitative data analysis and all around critical and creative thinking to give you a competitive advantage when it comes to getting a job. Most of our students are highly successful after graduation.

Good career prospects

According to recent employment statistics, Kent graduates are doing better than ever in the changeable job market. More than 95% of Kent students who graduated in 2015 were in work or further study within six months. Liberal Arts will give you a strong edge in this competitive market.

Employers look for intelligence and adaptability, and the ability to think, make connections, engage with and master new knowledge. In our rapidly changing world, a Liberal Arts education prepares you for a wide range of career opportunities within NGOs, international consultancy firms, business and the civil service, among others.

Agile creativity is what a Liberal Arts programme fosters, and such agility needs to be supported by a solid grounding in the skills of communication and of analytical and critical thinking.

Studying Liberal Arts at Kent gives you interdisciplinary experience, shaped around your particular interests, and teaches you to deal with both qualitative and quantitative data analysis, develops your communicative and reasoning skills to a high standard, and provides you with a solid grounding in a second (or third) language.

Postgraduate study

The versatility of Liberal Arts graduates not only makes them highly desirable to prospective employers but also qualifies them for postgraduate study. Having enjoyed the experience of researching and writing up your final-year dissertation on a topic of particular interest, you may wish to continue onto postgraduate study and a possible career as an academic or researcher. Most institutions are keen to accept postgraduate research students with the type of critical and analytical skills the Liberal Arts programme fosters. We can advise you on your module selection to prepare you for postgraduate study.

Careers advice

Kent’s award-winning Careers and Employability Service can give you advice on how to choose your future career, how to apply for jobs, how to write a good CV and how to perform well in interviews and aptitude tests. It also provides up-to-date information on graduate opportunities before and after you graduate.

For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, see www.kent.ac.uk/employability

“To be able to think as broadly and as deeply as you can is the key to success in this world, the world that’s coming into being.”

Jon Meacham
Executive Editor,
Random House publishing
Kent’s Liberal Arts degree is a four-year programme with an integrated year abroad.

Programme structure
You are taught to see the world from a range of perspectives – political, cultural, historical, scientific and economic – and are encouraged to be creative in developing alternative approaches to the challenges facing societies around the world.

Compulsory modules provide interdisciplinary skills for analysing and understanding how and why we think, and act, the way we do – and why society behaves as it does. They develop your expertise in the following areas:

- communication, language and reasoning
- culture, civilisation and creativity
- information, literacy and research methods
- numeracy and well-developed, highly functional quantitative skills
- social and behavioural sciences
- leadership, ethics and social responsibility.

Through collective discussion and debate around key readings, you engage with the social sciences, natural sciences, arts and humanities. You develop an understanding of the impediments to communication between different academic disciplines; of the technological and economic revolutions that configure human cultures; and of the wide range of forces shaping events.

You acquire a high standard of quantitative skills and competency in another language (European or non-European) which is enhanced during your year abroad, and choose further modules from a wide range offered across the University so as to foster individual interests and career trajectories.

You take 120 credits in each of Stages 1, 2 and 4, with a year abroad at Stage 3.

Please note: the non-compulsory modules listed below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

Stage 1
Stage 1 represents the first year of your programme. All students take the following:

- Modes of Reasoning 1 and 2
- Roots of Transformation
- Understanding the Contemporary
- Two beginner or intermediate-level language modules
- 30 credits of optional modules chosen, with the approval of your tutors, from across the University.

Year abroad
You spend the third year of your programme studying or working abroad.

Kent has strong links with top-ranking continental European institutions (French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Finnish, Norwegian, Polish and Portuguese) as well as with institutions in a wide range of non-European countries including Brazil, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Turkey and the USA.

While studying at overseas universities, you can pursue your studies in both English and the local language while improving your language skills in everyday life. Alternatively, you may find an internship with a non-governmental organisation (NGO), research centre, business or industry.

Tuition fees will be paid to the University of Kent rather than the host institution and will be reduced from the full Kent tuition fee. For details, see www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad

Your year abroad is integral to the programme and is assessed by the Kent Liberal Arts team.

While abroad, you have contact by Skype and/or email with an assigned supervisor and will, when appropriate, be visited on site.
Stage 3
Stage 3 represents the final year of your programme. All students take the following:
- Landscapes of the Future 1 and 2
- 60 credits of optional modules chosen, with the approval of your tutors, from across the University
- Dissertation.

Language learning
You may enter the programme with no second language and begin learning a language from the first year. Students with pre-existing non-English language ability may continue that language at a more advanced level, or begin another language. Kent provides a wide range of European and non-European language modules, and students wishing to learn a language which is not formally taught may be accommodated.

You will not, after the second year, be required to study a language formally, although the students’ year abroad functions as language training on the ground. There is no required language training in the final year.

Language teaching is provided by both the School of European Culture and Languages (French, German, Italian, Spanish, Catalan and Portuguese) and the Centre for English and World Languages (Arabic, Danish, Greek, Japanese, Mandarin, Russian and others by arrangement).

Dissertation
Your final year of study includes a dissertation module, enabling you to focus on a topic related to your year abroad or on a research question of your choosing. You work under the guidance of at least one supervisor, developing the ability to carry out and communicate a sustained piece of research.

Teaching and assessment
You are taught by a combination of lectures, seminars, tutorials and field trips. You usually have ten to 12 hours of contact time with staff each week and are expected to spend additional time reading and researching to supplement your knowledge and understanding.

Compulsory modules are assessed by 100% coursework. Assessment of optional modules is either 100% coursework or a combination of examination and coursework.

Field trips
Students go on field trips to sites that are not only interesting in themselves, but may also serve as locales to research for their first-year projects. In the past two years we have gone to the 11th Century Church of St Thomas the Apostle on the Isle of Sheppey and to the Shell Grotto in Margate, pictured left. Optional group outings to, for instance, the Folkestone Triennial are arranged to suit the programme.

“I was not sure what I wanted to study at university because I was interested in so many fields. The Liberal Arts programme offers me the freedom to focus on anything that interests me.”
Dominik Dubovsky
Liberal Arts
PROGRAMME MODULES

Over the following pages, we have listed a selection of the modules currently being taken by students on the Liberal Arts degree programme.

In addition to the compulsory modules listed below, you must take modules in your chosen language at Stages 1 and 2 of your studies.

Optional modules can be drawn from departments and schools across the University and across all three faculties (Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities), and Liberal Arts tutors will help you to set up a ‘bespoke’ programme tailored to your interests and ambitions. In some cases, modules will be chosen from a single discipline while, in others, they will be chosen from a number of disciplines bridging faculties.

We are aware that there may, in certain instances, be clashes between compulsory modules, language modules and/or optional choices. We will endeavour to work out solutions to these, although in certain cases first choice optional modules may prove untenable.

A number of higher-level second and final-year modules have first year prerequisites and Liberal Arts students are advised to take these introductory modules in their first or second year. Some schools may demand A-level prerequisites of students wishing to take their modules. You are advised to check to ensure you qualify for these if you wish to take them during your degree.

The programme director and our admissions team will be happy to discuss these issues with you before you apply.

Please note: the optional module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

Compulsory modules

Modes of Reasoning 1 and 2

A primary impediment to communication between different academic disciplines is their uses of different tools to make, and validate, arguments and proofs, often preventing cross fertilisation and creative thinking. This module examines the ways various discourses present data and set out arguments to enable you to understand and communicate across various modes of quantitative and qualitative reasoning.

You are introduced to basic themes in logic and critical thinking as well as studying visual thinking, narratology, statistics and the issue of cognition and its unconscious shaping by both social and psychological forces. You use these skills in designing a research project submitted in the summer term of year one.

/ DID YOU KNOW? 
The University of Kent was shortlisted for the University of the Year Award by The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2016.
Roots of Transformation
In this module, you examine the technological and economic revolutions that shape human cultures, focusing on the 19th and early 20th-century roots of modernity and the impacts of recent and developing technological innovations in science, communications and medicine.

You look at basic issues in scientific and technological developments impacting upon the contemporary world and investigate their ramifications in social practices and ideations, in philosophical discourse and in the fields of aesthetic (visual arts, film) and literary production. You are expected to think critically about the ways different disciplines respond to and are shaped by technological and social developments, and are encouraged to engage these from a cross-disciplinary perspective.

Understanding the Contemporary
This module enables you to think critically about your own period, and analyse the forces and events shaping contemporary culture and society. You consider texts from a range of disciplines and are introduced to key ideas in contemporary theory and philosophy. You apply insights drawn from your readings and discussions to practical analysis of contemporary situations, not only through developing awareness of current events but also through designing and carrying out field analysis of social and historical changes in local communities (linked to Kent’s major grant from the Nuffield Foundation for teaching quantitative social sciences).

Focusing on the period since 2000, you engage closely with current events, think critically about the ways different disciplines formulate representations of the contemporary period, and discuss themes and ideas that cross disciplines.

Connections 1 and 2
One of the core concepts behind the Liberal Arts degree is maintaining communication and debate between the diverse groups of students the programme attracts. Through collective discussion and debate around seminal readings, introduced by visiting academics and Liberal Arts staff, this module equips you with a broad-ranging grasp of social sciences, natural sciences, arts and humanities. The topics covered depend on the optional modules and particular knowledge streams chosen by that year’s cohort of students. A concern with politics and current developments continues to influence debate and discussion throughout the year.

Landscapes of the Future 1 and 2
What is the terrain of the world we are moving into and what does it demand? In the final year, students come together to think about how the multidisciplinary perspective developed over the previous years can be projected into the future.

Not only does the module cover issues of what you might do with your training after graduation (which involves bringing in speakers from the various sectors you will be approaching) but it also looks into: questions of environmental challenges and responses; politics, the state and the meaning of democracy; the potentialities of scientific development; the necessity of innovation and intervention; and the imagining of crises and responses to these. The module also provides a forum for discussion and preparation for your individual research projects.

Dissertation
Under the guidance of at least one supervisor, you focus on a topic related to your year abroad or on a research question of your choosing and produce an extended piece of writing based on this research.

Optional modules
Liberal Arts students have the exceptional opportunity of being able to register for modules across all three faculties, so long as they are not prevented either by timetable clashes or prerequisites.

“It’s exactly what I wanted from an undergraduate degree. With enthusiasm as its core value, you can’t help but appreciate being a part of Liberal Arts.”

Luigi Aumento
Liberal Arts

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
The following are some of the modules that students in the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 cohorts have registered for (the programme began in September 2014). Please note: non-compulsory modules are subject to change.

**Stage 1 (first year)**

**Biosciences**

**Genetics and Evolution (BI324)**
Covering the basics of Mendelian genetics to the role of DNA, this module explores the historical views on evolution, the action of DNA, population genetics and speciation. You gain an understanding of Mendelian inheritance and the ability to predict the outcomes of mono- and dihybrid crossbreeding, as well as an insight into Darwin’s observations on the role of genetics in evolution.

**Classics**

**Aegean Archaeology (CL336)**
A great many aspects of the Greek world in Archaic and Classical times can be traced back to the great European Bronze Age of the second millennium BC. This is the world of Mycenaean palaces, of Minoan Crete and the Greek heroic age of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. This module examines the Minoan and Mycenaean world by studying its religion, art and architecture, and its politics and script. You assess the influence this world has had on the world of later antiquity.

**Classical Mythology: Themes and Approaches (CL315)**
This module is a general introduction to the heritage of myth in the ancient world and to making sense of myth as a means of expression. You study some of the best-known myths and learn theories to explain the ‘workings’ of myth offered from a variety of disciplines, ancient and modern.

**Business**

**Managers and Organisations (CB302)**
Here, you are introduced to theories of management, from classical management systems through to contemporary management concepts.

**Comparative Literature**

**Freedom and Oppression in Modern Literature (CP305)**
The 20th-century imagination was marked by a spirit of doubt, especially of the Enlightenment faith in Reason’s capacity to advance mankind to happiness and freedom. This module focuses on some classic fictional and non-fictional explorations of these themes. You consider the texts as works of literature in their own right and also as vehicles for the ideas they interrogate and propagate: happiness, morality without God, personal and political freedom, the self and its responsibilities.

**Guilt and Redemption in Modern Literature (CP306)**
The ‘knowledge of good and evil’ is unique to human beings. It informs the individual’s conscience and determines the moral systems on which societies are based. The violation of moral codes is expected to induce the experience of guilt, while the lack of any sense of guilt is considered to be psychopathic. You analyse literary texts that explore the experiences of guilt and redemption as a human quandary and as perceived against changing conceptions of morality. Texts engage with questions of personal and collective guilt in relation to hubris, cruelty, the violation of animal rights and genocide.

**Introduction to Contemporary European and Hispanic Cinemas (CP318)**
This module introduces you to a wide range of films produced in different European and Latin American countries between the late 1980s and the present day. You focus on prevailing trends and dominant themes in contemporary European and Hispanic cinemas. This makes you aware of the role that cinema has played and continues to play in the cultural life of Europe and Latin America, its importance in establishing national and supranational identity, and the ways in which international relations are expressed through film production.
Post-War European Cinemas (CP319)
You examine the principal production and aesthetic trends of cinema in Europe from 1945 to the late 1970s in this module. Among the topics covered are: the notion of European ‘art’ cinema; the notion of the ‘auteur’; European realism; and the relationship between European cinema and Hollywood. You also become familiar with basic film terminology as well as with basic tools for cultural analysis.

French
Twentieth-Century France in Crisis (FR310)
France underwent four major ‘crises’ in the 20th century: the First and Second World Wars, the Algerian crisis, and the events of May 1968. You discover how these events were explored through the country’s cinema. A dossier of textual materials provides you with background historical and cultural documents, and suggests further reading. Some films are made soon after the events, whereas others were made decades later. You explore themes such as realistic depiction, socio-political agendas, and collective or individual memory.

Hispanic Studies
State-Building in Latin America (LS319)
This module provides an introduction to Latin America through the lens of state formation. It examines the 19th century from the end of the colonial period and independence through to the decolonisation of Cuba. It has a particular focus on the cases of Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, and Venezuela. Topics include the recurrence of internal and external wars, tensions in both philosophical and literary forms. Texts include: Kierkegaard’s Fear and Trembling; Nietzsche’s Twilight of the Idols; Dostoyevsky’s The Grand Inquisitor; Camus’ The Outsider and Sartre’s Existentialism and Humanism.

Politics and International Relations
International History and International Relations (PO305)
You explore some of the key events in the history of the 20th and early 21st centuries, as well as several issues and challenges that recur across the period. These include war, conflict, violence and terror; international reformism; the nature of international order under conditions of anarchy; the balance of power; the influence of ideology on international affairs and on theorising; and the nature of imperialism and its effects. A central theme is the pursuit of global justice over the last 100 years.

Introduction to International Politics (PO310)
The interaction between different political entities was studied in ancient civilisations and has been a subject of political thought in various historical and cultural contexts. However, it was not until the early 20th century that "I really can’t say how perfect this course is for me. I couldn’t possibly have designed it any better.”

Carys Wall
Liberal Arts
PROGRAMME MODULES (CONT)

international relations (IR) emerged as a separate academic discipline. This module introduces you to the most important ways in which international politics have been understood, from antiquity to the most recent developments in IR theory.

**Introduction to Political Thought (PO314)**
You are introduced to the study of political concepts that are central to thinking about political life: justice, liberty, equality, rights, the state, multiculturalism, power and the nation. The module enables you to develop a set of conceptual tools with which to interrogate the political world in which we live.

**Presidents, Parliaments and Democracy (PO646)**
This module looks at the debates about the influence of different executive formats on democratic government. You consider the differences between and within presidential, parliamentary and semi-presidential constitutions and examine their consequences for the quality of democracy and for policy outcomes. The central focus is on understanding the extent and the ways that formal political institutions may shape how politicians respond to citizen preferences, bargain with each other to resolve political conflict and choose policies.

**Psychology Introduction to Psychology 1 and 2 (SP304-5)**
These modules provide an introductory understanding of some key topics within psychology and seminal psychological research. No prior knowledge of psychology is expected nor assumed. In Part 2 you focus on how psychology can inform controversial issues in society, such as mental illness and treatment, self and personality, understanding emotions, identity development and crises, and use of language.

**Religious Studies Introduction to Asian Traditions (TH346)**
This module provides a historical introduction to the philosophical, religious and cultural traditions of South and East Asia. It offers a foundation for understanding the historical development, key concepts and important practices of the major world views of India, China and Japan with specific reference to the Hindu, Buddhist, Confucian, Daoist and Shinto traditions.

**Social Anthropology Social Anthropology (SE301)**
Social and cultural anthropology attempts, among other things, to challenge our ideas about what we consider to be natural about ‘human nature’ and encourages us to take a fresh look at what we take for granted, using insights gained from studying other cultures to illuminate aspects of their own society. By studying people’s lives at ‘home’ and ‘abroad’, social and cultural anthropology attempts to explain what may at first appear
bizarre and alien about other people’s ways of living while questioning what goes without saying about our own society and beliefs.

Sociology
Modern Culture (SO334)
This module is for anyone who has an interest in the sources, forms and contexts of culture and cultural debate in the contemporary West. You look at how culture has been defined and at the, often, fierce political contests over the value and significance of cultural difference and the cultural implications of developments in literature, the arts and mass media in recent times.

Stage 2 (second year)
Business
Business Analysis Tools (CB364)
Here, you discover rudimentary spreadsheet functionalities, data management, facilities, what-if analysis and basic financial analysis. It develops spreadsheet skills essential for those seeking a graduate career in any area of management.

Introduction to Marketing (CB680)
Focusing on both the consumer and the needs of companies, this module demonstrates the importance of marketing in competitive environments. You look at the marketing concept, brand development, new product development and gain an overview of internationalisation.

Classics
Gods, Heroes and Mystery Cults: Religion in Ancient Greece (CL652)
You are introduced to the major gods and goddesses of ancient Greece: their spheres of influence, character, relationships, exploits, and worship. You analyse religious festivals, cults, beliefs, and the development of religious architecture. The aims of Greek religion are compared to those of early Christianity, in order to discuss the development of religious thinking and Greek cosmology. Through such contrasts, you investigate the needs that ancient Greek religion fulfilled, its problems and aims, using materials drawn from the ancient Greeks: archaeology, Greek poets, artists, playwrights, mythographers and philosophers from the tenth to second centuries BC.

Museum Studies (with internship) (CL700)
This module runs on alternate years (with Cultural Heritage Studies) for those who wish to study museum studies as an academic subject, and for those who may want to work in this sector. Modules include class-based seminars during the autumn term, which introduce you to the literature in the field of museum studies, so you become familiar with the main theories, issues and practices in the field. The seminars have been devised to give you the tools to prepare yourself for your museum internship, taken in the spring term, which enhances your employability and improves your CV.

Comparative Literature
Travel Literature (CP594)
Everybody travels in one way or another. This module asks what it means to ‘travel’. In so doing, it addresses fundamental concerns, such as identity, foreignness, time, home, gender, power and ethics. By looking at texts from a wide range of periods and places, it considers how these might be compared in their treatments of the shared theme of ‘travel’. It also addresses the ways in which this theme affects and is affected by the genre of writing.

Postmodernism (CP611)
Postmodernism defies conventional definition, critiquing commonly held ideas of progress and knowledge and exposing reality as an artificial construction. In this module, you study early postmodern writers such as Samuel Beckett, Vladimir Nabokov and Alain Robbe-Grillet and follow up your understanding with a comparative study of later writers such as Italo Calvino and Thomas Pynchon. You also engage with postmodernism in other genres, including Pop Art and the Free Cinema movement.

Decadence in Fin-de-Siècle Europe (CP650)
Exploring the development of decadence as an artistic response, a philosophic expression and a social critique, this module takes the work of Charles Baudelaire and the failed revolutions of 1848 as its starting point. Decadence was both a symptom of political and artistic
frustration and a psychological investigation. Key themes include the role of the artist, death, nature versus artifice, fantasy and desire, sexuality and social morality versus personal freedom.

**English Language and Linguistics**

**Tackling Text: Explaining Style (LL307)**

This module examines the way literary effects are created through language, by providing you with a precise vocabulary for describing and analysing the language of literature through a sub-field of linguistics known as ‘stylistics’. Stylistic analysis is empowering, it not only helps us to account for the mechanisms that prompt the effects we, as readers, discern but also to appreciate craft and the expressive potential of language. These skills are equally useful in the production of writing. We primarily concentrate on short texts, poems, short stories and extracts.

Writing in the Media: A Practical Approach (LL530)

This module is for students who are considering a career in journalism, freelance writing, publishing and related fields. It enables you to put into practice the linguistic theories and methods of analysis you have explored by producing your own portfolio of journalism and media-related writing, in which you demonstrate your ability to use the English language and your ability to structure your writing with an audience in mind. The impact of new media on the field is a major part of the content of this module.

**History**

**Marvels, Monsters and Freaks, 1780-1920 (HI5075)**

Society has always been fascinated by those deemed different and, over time, unusual people have been viewed and constructed in myriad ways. The changing nature of difference from the 1780s to the 1920s is covered in this module. You consider the establishment of normality versus deviance; the changing conceptions of difference over time; relationships between unusual people and the wider society. Using a broad range of sources, from novels to film, you trace the shifting cultural constructions of difference.

**Physics**

**Astrophysics, Space Sciences and Cosmology (PH304)**

This module provides a basic background in astrophysics, covering subjects ranging from the sun and the solar system, to stars and stellar systems. It introduces you to particle physics and cosmology. The space sciences aspect concentrates on space missions and the exploration of the solar system.
Philosophy of Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence (PL609)
Are machines capable of intelligence? If so, how can one construct an intelligent machine? If not, what are AI researchers doing? The philosophy of artificial intelligence addresses such questions. This module examines proposals for building intelligent machines and the key philosophical arguments that bear on the prospects of machine intelligence.

Aesthetics (PL610)
You are given an overview of contemporary work in philosophical aesthetics and an understanding of the issues this work addresses. Topics include: the definition of art; aesthetic qualities; the ontology of art; aesthetic experience; art, emotion and expression; truth and representation; art, society and morality; the evaluation of art; and criticism and interpretation.

Normative Ethics (PL640)
Here, you are introduced to a number of approaches in what is often referred to as ‘normative ethics’. We face and hear about moral problems every day, ranging from life and death matters such as abortion and euthanasia to other dilemmas, such as whether to tell a lie to prevent hurting someone’s feelings. Normative ethics contains a number of theories that provide us with a set of principles to help steer us through these problems. In particular, different normative ethical theories are attempts to articulate reasons why a certain course of action is ethically best. In all of this, you examine these theories by starting with their historical roots, particularly focusing on the work of Mill, Kant and Aristotle.

Politics and International Relations
Contemporary Politics and Government in the United States (PO617)
You examine the governmental structure and political processes of the United States, focusing on contemporary US politics. Topics include the nature of presidential power; the fragmented character of Congress; the role of the unelected but potent Supreme Court; the tangled state of US federalism; the often chaotic nature of city politics; and the American electorate.

Terrorism and Political Violence (PO629)
In this module, you consider the problems involved in defining the concept of ‘terrorist’ and assess the various theories that seek to explain the causes of political violence in its different forms. You look at the history of political violence, tracing its origins far back in history before focusing on the emergence of political terrorism during the second half of the 19th century. You go on to study state and dissident terrorism, and address the relationship between religious radicalism and different forms of political violence, including ‘new terrorism’ and the possible use of weapons of mass destruction.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
Finally, you focus on the implications of various counter-terrorism strategies for democracy and human rights. Throughout, you discuss the methodological problems involved in the study of terrorism and political violence.

**Psychology**

**Freud and Post-Freud (SP639)**

This module provides a critical introduction to Freudian and post-Freudian psychoanalytic psychology. It includes a critical evaluation of fundamental concepts in psychoanalytic psychology (for example, the unconscious and infantile sexuality) and reviews the application of these concepts to specific clinical conditions, such as neurosis, depression, autism, schizophrenia), to adult and child psychotherapy and, more generally, to society (including social and cultural issues, such as sexism and art).

**Culture and Psychology**

**Culture and Psychology (SP642)**

You explore how culture influences human experience, including behaviour, thoughts and emotions, by providing a comprehensive introduction to general theories related to culture and diversity. The module covers areas in psychology such as motivation, human development, and cognition from a cultural perspective and explores the methodology used by cultural psychologists. It develops your critical thinking and analytic skills, and encourages you to think about your own values and norms from a cultural perspective.

**Sociology**

**Contemporary Culture and Media (SO335)**

Contemporary culture is ‘now-time’ culture, but when did ‘now’ begin – and, will it be over before the course starts? This module analyses contemporary culture and looks at how it can be viewed from aesthetic, political, ethical and economic perspectives. We take a case study approach, looking at a range of cultural objects, media and institutions, and postmodern practices of communication. These include maps and satnavs; social networks such as Facebook and Twitter; conspiracy theories; plastic surgery and tattooing; and interactive video games, such as Nintendo’s Wii. You learn about the transformation of culture and the way it changes who we are.

**Sociology of Everyday Life**

**Sociology of Everyday Life (SO336)**

Sociology offers insight into how society works. Sociologists question and look behind the ‘common sense’ view of everything in the social world. We look at a range...
Literature and Society (SO737)
This module provides you with a sociological understanding of the changing and central importance of literature for contemporary society, including the emergence of specific genres which reflect the changing demographics and social and political concerns of Britain, as well as other societies. These genres and concerns have been articulated through a diverse array of protagonists in contemporary literature, varying in terms of gender, sexuality, religion and class. Not only do we talk of ‘chick lit’, but we read and consume books about vampires and zombies as symbolic vehicles of social otherness. Contemporary literature enables us to examine the ways in which texts address the past, changing social norms, the process of self-disclosure and revelation, and the changing boundaries of private and public, in increasingly diverse societies. While most of the texts are relatively recent, the module includes some older works of ethnography.

Emotion, Media and Culture (SO742)
Here, you explore the critical links between emotion, media and culture in the context of contemporary cultural, socio-political and economic relations. You investigate how social, cultural and media theorists have addressed the relationships between emotion, power and identity in the context of postcoloniality, multiculturalism, neoliberalism and various social justice movements. Attending to contemporary cultural debates concerning happiness, empathy, hope, fear, hate, disgust and melancholia, the module explores how personal feelings are linked to social norms and power structures and considers how we might disrupt an assumed division between ‘good’ and ‘bad’ emotions. It explores how emotions, feelings and affects are produced, mediated and circulated through a range of cultural forms, practices and technologies, paying particular attention to the role of film, television, news media, digital culture, literature and popular science.

Final year
In your final year you take the compulsory modules Landscapes of the Future 1 and 2 and a research thesis and choose optional modules approved by your tutors.
VISIT THE UNIVERSITY

Come to an Open Day or an Applicant Day and see for yourself what it’s like to be a student at the University of Kent.

Open Days
Kent runs Open Days during the summer and autumn. These provide an excellent opportunity for you to discover what it is like to live and study at the University. You can meet academic staff and current students, find out about our courses and attend subject displays, workshops and informal lectures. We also offer tours around the campus to view our sports facilities, the library and University accommodation. For further information and details of how to book your place, see www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Informal visits
You are also welcome to make an informal visit to our campuses at any time. The University runs tours of the Canterbury and Medway campuses throughout the year for anyone who is unable to attend an Open Day or Applicant Day. It may also be possible to arrange meetings with academic staff, although we cannot guarantee this. For more details and to book your place, see www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Alternatively, we can provide you with a self-guided tour leaflet, which includes the main points of interest. For more details and to download a self-guided tour, go to www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Applicant Days
If you apply to study at Kent and we offer you a place (or invite you to attend an interview), you will usually be sent an invitation to one of our Applicant Days. You can book to attend through your online Kent Applicant Portal. The Applicant Day includes presentations in your subject area, guided tours of the campus, including University accommodation, and the opportunity to speak with both academic staff and current students about your chosen subject. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/visit

Scholarships and bursaries
For details of scholarships and bursaries at Kent, please see www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding

More information
You can contact our admissions team at: polirugadmissions@kent.ac.uk

If you would like more information on Kent’s courses, facilities or services, or would like to order another subject leaflet, please contact us on:
T: +44 (0)1227 827272
Freephone (UK only): 0800 975 3777
www.kent.ac.uk/ug
Location
Canterbury

Award
BA (Hons)

Programme type
4 years full-time
UCAS code: LV99

Single honours programme
Liberal Arts BA (Hons)

Offer levels
ABB at A level; IB Diploma 34 points overall or 15 at Higher.

Required subjects
GCSE Grade B in Mathematics or IB Mathematics 4 at HL or SL (Mathematics Studies 5 at SL) and grade B in a modern foreign language other than English. Students who can show evidence of learning a second language to a competent level will be considered, regardless of qualification.

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug

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www.kent.ac.uk/visit