A newsletter created by postgraduates for postgraduates
Hello everyone,

First, we would like to wish you all good luck with any exams or deadlines you may have and second, we would like to extend a warm welcome to prospective students perusing this magazine. We are looking forward to welcoming you to the University in September.

We are delighted to bring you this term’s copy of the GradPost and this issue has a distinctly international vibe. The University of Kent is called ‘The UK’s European university’, with campuses in Athens, Rome and Paris to name but a few. We have a feature written by Chioma Amadi on the University’s European status, a wonderful piece on our centre in Rome and we catch up with two of our Master’s students, Jenny Swindell and Olivia Thissen, who have just returned from a term abroad in Paris. Continuing the international theme, Pip Gregory has compiled a piece on the International Students of History Association and Lara Horton has written a piece on her experience of coming to the University of Kent as a student from the USA.

Turning our eye to our regular features, Prajay Gaghda looks at the charismatic Nelson Mandela in his ‘Face Behind the Building’ piece and we also have updates on the work the Kent Graduate Student Association has been doing as well as on the Global Skills Award. Appropriately our ‘Try Something New’ feature includes learning a new language with the Centre for European and World Languages ‘Language Express Course’ as well as taking a look at Kent’s First Aid Society.

We hope you enjoy reading this publication as much as we enjoyed writing and compiling it. We can safely say that this edition contains plenty of brilliant pieces that make us feel incredibly proud of our wonderfully international university. As always, do not hesitate to get in touch by either emailing grad-editors@kent.ac.uk or by visiting our Facebook group GradPost 2013-2014.

Hello,

It has been a busy year for the KGSA. We have been putting on events since the start of the academic year and will continue to do so over the summer. The next big event is the Edinburgh trip, taking place in the middle of June, with 50 postgraduate students having signed up. We have never organised a trip outside England, so this will be a first for the KGSA.

Another first was holding a charity pub quiz for Porchlight, a local charity for the homeless in East Kent. It was a great event, and it is the first time that the KGSA has raised money for charity, something we want to carry on.

As the exam season is coming up, we will be looking to hold some events to try to make sure that everyone is not too stressed, so watch this space. The KGSA is also working with the Vice-President (Education) and Graduate School to ensure that provision of study spaces and resources are not disrupted by the library extension works taking place over the summer.

In the next month or two, we will also begin to plan Welcome Week for the students starting in September, so if anyone has any comments about how last September went, please do get in touch. Additionally, if you would like to be a volunteer Welcome Week helper then please do contact Kent Union.

The KGSA and I would like to wish you all the best for exams, deadlines and the summer months ahead.

Vid Čalovski
PhD in Social Policy

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**Postgraduate Experience Awards 2013-14**

**Second round winners**

Following a successful first round during the spring term, the Graduate School recently announced the winners of the second round of the Postgraduate Experience Awards. As part of the awards, funding of up to £1,500 may be awarded to postgraduate students who wish to run an innovative event or project with an interdisciplinary focus, with the aim of enhancing the postgraduate student experience.

Congratulations to the following postgraduate students, who were successfully awarded funding for their events and projects following the second round of the Awards: Francisca Stangel and Rebecca Pope (Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies) for their event ‘Take the Floor’, a workshop focused on improving presentation skills, Katharine Peddie and Clare Hurley (School of English) for a two-day event entitled ‘Female Tradition and Community in the Avant Garde’, and Susanne Masters and Amy Hinsley (School of Anthropology and Conservation) for their inventive ethnobotany garden project next to the Marlowe building.

The 2013-14 Awards have seen a wonderful range of events and exciting projects. Well done to all the participants and winners.

**Editors**

Frances Reading
MA in English and American Literature
Maria Christine Sveidahl Sommer
MA in Curating
Jian Wei-Jeanson Gan Lim
MA in the Contemporary

Hannah Huxley
MA in English and American Literature
Mandela’s legacy

The face behind the building: Nelson Mandela

It is now hard to imagine, but there was a time when Nelson Mandela was not a name recognised all over the world. It was only after his first trial in South Africa that the world began to take notice of the man from Mvezo, South Africa; a man who would go on to change the future of his native land and inspire millions around the world.

Much of this worldwide recognition and adoration grew during his time in prison – a staggering 27 years. To put that in perspective, in 1964 (the year he went to prison) The Beatles were yet to record a hit song; while in 1990 (the year he was released) the world’s first web server and search engine were launched. There is no doubt that prison was a huge blow to Mandela. Here was a man that had lost the prime years of his life, which also had lasting damage to his family, so it is a huge testament to the character and fortitude of Mandela that his time did not turn him into a cynic or in any way discourage him. Prison merely reinforced the facets of his character that would define him, his extraordinary powers of reconciliation, his grace and his dedication in the face of opposition.

While serving his sentence, Mandela used his time to help prisoners win concessions. At first prisoners were not allowed books or radios, and apart from occasional visits, were not allowed contact with the outside world. With Mandela’s help the prisoners gradually won concessions: first came books and magazines, then the ability to enrol in correspondence courses, and finally the ability to take degrees. In prison, his already strong leadership qualities flourished and he frequently fostered lively, engaging political debate among inmates.

Despite spending the majority of his time in prison surrounded by Afrikaner warders, he learned that it was to be reassurance, reconciliation and dedication that would end apartheid. In 1985 Mandela was offered release by President PW Botha, provided the ANC renounced violence; showing his unwavering dedication to the cause, Mandela instead responded by dictating terms, imploring Botha to first abandon the violence of apartheid. He would go free entirely on his terms or not at all. Upon being sentenced, Mandela famously said ‘I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die.’ After 22 years in prison, Mandela’s ideal had only been strengthened.

Unfortunately, Mandela’s own family life suffered as a result of both his commitment to the cause, and his time in prison. At age 25, Mandela married the first cousin of a close friend. He had four children with Evelyn Mase. His first son Thembu unfortunately died in a car accident while Thembu’s younger sister died aged nine months. In 2005, after retiring from public life, Mandela announced Makatho, his son, (who had moved away from him as a young man), had suffered from Aids and died. His death inspired Mandela to raise awareness of Aids throughout Africa, and for people to start treating it like other illnesses. His daughter, Maki, has often talked about her distant relationship with her father. Talking to a reporter, Mandela recounted a story where one of his children had confided in him ‘You are a father to all our people, but you have never had time to be a father to me.’

Mandela, unlike many leaders who had such widespread support, did not encourage a cult of personality. Monuments, museums and statues were alien to him. On holiday he, would return to his childhood town, even constructing a house there based on his living quarters at Victor Verster prison. For a politician he enjoyed such admiration that now seems entirely alien to our culture. From filling out 75,000-person stadiums in London to being driven down Broadway, New York, engulfed in a blizzard of confetti, Mandela was seen as a bastion of peace and reconciliation at a time when the world needed these qualities most.

Perhaps most typical of the man was his insistence on wearing the traditional Xhosa leopard skin cloak when appearing in court. He knew it would ‘emphasise the symbolism that I was a black African walking into a white man’s court’. This was Mandela: powerful, dedicated and dignified. He died on December 5 2013. The world will miss him.

Prajay Ghaghda
MA in Comparative Literature
Education and Wanderlust

Do I study or do I travel? Why not both!

‘The UK’s European university’. That is not an easy moniker to live up to but the University of Kent does so in leaps and bounds. Why is Kent the UK’s European university, you ask? Many know of the university campuses in Canterbury and Medway, but Kent also has centres in Tonbridge, Brussels, Paris, Athens, and Rome.

With many courses offering a foreign language option or a year abroad, thanks to over 100 Erasmus exchange agreements with other European universities, the University of Kent is leading the way in an interactive and culturally satisfying Higher Education experience. But do not just take our word for it; even The Guardian University Guide refers to Kent as ‘the UK’s top European university’, and The Sunday Times University Guide says ‘Kent can claim to be Britain’s only international university.’

The locations of the UK campuses, in the south-east of England, have excellent transport links to London and continental Europe, so travel is never difficult. All options are covered with high-speed rail lines, international airports, the Channel ports, and Eurostar terminals highly accessible and within easy reach. As mentioned earlier, there are a variety of ways you can get with the European vibe at the University of Kent with numerous programmes covering a range of topics from culture and languages, politics, drama, law, economics, business, social policy and migration. You could do a joint honours degree, have a year or a term abroad, and incorporate these experiences not only into your degree but also into your life. Some of the programmes offered at Kent offer dual UK and European qualifications (international double awards) at Bachelor, Master’s and Doctoral levels, and Kent is the only UK University selected to host two prestigious Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctoral programmes.

The university centres located in Europe offer programmes that relate to their cities’ strengths as sites of cultural, political and historical significance. So when one is spoilt for choice, where does one go? We will start with Paris, where the university offers a selection of interdisciplinary postgraduate degrees in the Humanities. Students start their year at the Canterbury campus and relocate in the spring term to the heart of the Montparnasse district of Paris, near the famous Latin Quarter, the Sorbonne University, and the glorious Jardin du Luxembourg.

The Brussels School of International Studies (BSIS) is another multidisciplinary postgraduate school of the University of Kent and brings together the disciplines of politics, international relations, law, and economics. Being located in Brussels, it provides students with exposure to worldwide issues and the workings of major international organisations such as the EU and NATO plus other international and non-governmental organisations based in Brussels with the added opportunity of potential internships.

An MA in Heritage Management can be obtained in Athens, Greece. Athens is one of the world’s oldest cities and is known as a centre for the arts, learning and philosophy as well as being the home to Plato and Aristotle. Modern Athens is central to economic, financial, industrial, political and cultural life in Greece and the programme in Heritage Management is a unique blend of business and archaeology, equipping students with the skills needed to manage heritage sites across the world. The teaching centre is situated in Eleusina which is a fairly large town with all the necessary amenities and only a bus-ride away from central Athens where you can have access to major historical sites including the Parthenon, Ancient Corinth, Nemea and Thebes. If you are thinking that all this sounds really cool, we are not quite done yet.

Last, but not least, the University of Kent also has a postgraduate centre in Rome offering Master’s programmes in Classical and Archaeological Studies and History and Philosophy of Art. The teaching combines research with the American University of Rome. It is, of course, also an opportunity to immerse oneself in the research culture, arts scene and local community in Rome.

At the heart of the University of Kent are its available to the enquiring mind. The University courses, short courses and study days are excellent facilities, research, and lectures across all its centres, and the student environment is always friendly and inviting. So if you want to answer to your inner explorer while studying for a degree, the University of Kent is just the place for you.

Chioma Maureen Amadi
MSc in Developmental Psychology
The city is my classroom

Postgraduate study with a term in Rome

The University of Kent has started two Master’s programmes this year in which the spring term is spent in Rome. The programme is hosted by the American University of Rome, which has a small but lovely campus located on the Janiculum Hill where you can enjoy spectacular views of the city. Near the campus is the American Academy, a beautiful 19th-century building with large gardens and rushing fountains built against the third-century Aurelian Walls, containing a magnificent library, which gives unbeatable access to scholarship on Rome’s history and archaeology.

For my programme in ancient Roman history and archaeology, my campus is not limited to classrooms and libraries but encompasses the whole city of Rome. Learning takes place in structured settings such as archaeological sites, or museums, but also while walking about the city enjoying the many wonderful aspects of Italian culture. A typical day may include a site visit to an underground aqueduct, or a world-famous museum such as the Vatican Museums, an Italian class at the American Academy, an afternoon of research at the Academy and a dinner out with friends in a restaurant on one of the cobbled, winding streets of Rome.

Julia Peters
Master’s in Roman History and Archaeology (with a term in Rome)

MAs, museums and madly in love with Paris

Spring term in Paris was an amazing experience. I would say that, aside from getting to live in one of the most beautiful cities in the world, the amazing French food and the fantastic shopping, the best thing about the Kent in Paris course was the trips the university organised for us. We got queue-jump entry and free guided tours of so many fantastic galleries, historical landmarks and tourist attractions. The places we went to include the Musée Rodin, the Espace Dali, the Pompidou Centre, Shakespeare and Company bookshop, the Covered Arcades, the Catacombs (everyone’s favourite) and even the Paris sewers. Reid Hall is a lovely place to study; located in the pretty area of Montparnasse, where there is a beautiful courtyard garden, library, seminar room and plenty of laptops and printers to work on. There is a great choice of modules including history, art, creative writing, American and English literature, and the teaching on courses was very good. Lecturers travelled in to teach us from Kent and we got a different teacher each week specialising in their own subject area. This was good because you could talk to someone in depth about your area of interest, focusing on your work and writing, which you might not get at undergraduate level.

My favourite place to go in Paris was the Musée d’Orsay. Free entry for those under 25, its doors are open Tuesday-Sunday so you can get your fine art fix whenever you like. Just a few of the artists exhibited in the d’Orsay are Renoir, Cezanne, Van Gogh, Monet, Manet, Degas and Sisley. This was perfect for me as I chose the art history module, so I came in here often to see the works in real life I was writing about. This was very helpful when it came to writing my essays. The great thing about living in Paris for four months was not just the work aspect, but the social side and the downtime too. There are so many brilliant places to relax, drink and sunbathe when the sun is shining. Paris is home to world-famous cemeteries such as Père Lachaise Cemetery, where you can go to see the tomb of Oscar Wilde and other important literary and historical figures. There are lots of beautiful parks and gardens to walk in or have a picnic, my favourite being the Jardin du Luxembourg, just a stone’s throw away from the University. This garden is popular with families, children playing football, joggers and people wanting to escape with a book. It was lovely to come here after a lecture to relax with friends. I’m so happy that I decided to take the Paris option; it was a daunting prospect at first but I learnt so much while I was there. Not just in an academic sense, but I also learned about life in France, improved my French and I learnt a lot about myself too. I would definitely recommend the Paris option.

Jenny Swindell
MA in English and American Literature (Paris Option)

Abandoned railways and art communes

A Kent student at the Paris centre – an alternative perspective

Everyone knows Paris, they know the Eiffel Tower, Ladurée macarons and the Mona Lisa. There is, however, so much more to see – the forgotten, overgrown and often overlooked Paris. Armed with my camera, the spirit of Baudelaire’s flâneur and some pretty sturdy boots, we set off to find as many hidden parts of Paris as possible. Hidden artists communes, ghost towns, derelict railways, it is all there waiting to be discovered.

Perhaps the best known, to the observant local, is La Petite Ceinture, literally ‘The Little Belt’, 23km of abandoned railway that circles the circumference of Paris. Glimpses of it can be caught all over the city, (getting in is another story). A place that can only be described as eerily silent and distinctly non-Parisian, walking down the railway tracks alone is starkly unnerving. However, despite the attempts made to keep people out, it is clear that many people frequent the railway. During my many walks, I have seen street artists, amateur film directors, a college fashion shoot and even a permanent inhabitant based down there.

Next on our hit-list was Le Château Rothschild, located in Parc de Boulouge – Edmond de Rothschild, a truly stunning remnant of Louis XIV architecture but, unlike Versailles, it has been barricaded from the public and left to deteriorate yet still attracts many aspiring photographers and graffiti artists. It can be seen clearly from the park, but getting up close requires ingenuity and a sharp eye. There are many more such places to explore and we are only just getting started.

Olivia Thiessen
MA in Comparative Literature (Paris Option)
Travel and Train

In Schiller’s footsteps

Postgraduate internship opportunity in Germany

Postgraduates who study the MA in Modern German and Comparative Literature or the MA in Modern European Literature can participate in a one to two months international internship scheme at the ‘Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach’ (DLA). The DLA is one of the most important literary institutions in the world and is home to innumerable collections that portray the literary and cultural life in Germany from 1750 to today. The city of Marbach itself is an excellent starting point from which to discover German literature, as it is the home town of the writer and playwright Friedrich Schiller.

Antje Bennefeld
MA in Comparative Literature

Global Skills Award

Summer term

Following the conclusion of the Global Skills Award, this term the Graduate School will be hosting an award ceremony for all participants who successfully completed the open lecture and workshop series.

Dr Tim Hopthrow recently went to Przno in Montenegro to deliver the Networking and Teamwork module as part of the “Train the Trainers” activities and explained that effective teamwork and networking skills were essential to academic success.

Dr Hopthrow said that he had been delighted to support the work of the King Baudouin Foundation which was investing in academic development in the Western Balkans and that participating in the TRAIN project had been both a challenging and rewarding experience. The academic newcomers involved in the programme were keen to transfer their newly acquired knowledge and training skills to their own institutions and they had greatly appreciated the opportunity to meet with academics from across western Europe.

The development work was completed in 2013 and since that date academics from Kent, Ghent University and Uppsala University have been working with the Universities of Belgrade, Montenegro and Sarajevo to develop, implement and evaluate a structured professional training programme through which new academics in the Western Balkans can build the knowledge and skills to become as successful academics.

The training programme is based on seven modules including Research Methodology, Scientific Writing and Result Presentation; Preparing Funding Applications & Project Management; Presentation & Research Skills; Entrepreneurial Skills; Networking & Teamwork and Designing Higher Education Curricula.

The training programme is available online at www.kds-frb.berlin/trainawards?sid=307056&back=2060&langtype=1033.

Training new academics in the Balkans

Over the last three years the Dean of the Graduate School, Professor Diane Houston has been working with Ghent University and the King Baudouin Foundation in Belgium to develop a programme of ‘Training and Research for Academic Newcomers’ (TRAIN) in the Western Balkans.

The training programme is based on seven modules including Research Methodology, Scientific Writing and Result Presentation; Preparing Funding Applications & Project Management; Presentation & Research Skills; Entrepreneurial Skills; Networking & Teamwork and Designing Higher Education Curricula.

The training programme is available online at www.kds-frb.berlin/trainawards?sid=307056&back=2060&langtype=1033.

Coming to America England

A perspective on the big transition from America to England

Coming from America to England, I had to adjust to many things. One such important adjustment was the change in meaning of the word ‘pants’.

All else is trivial in the adaptation process, but no less interesting. I was wholly surprised that it was legal to have bars and alcohol on a university campus. Normally bars congregate outside of campus boundaries of the universities. As in America the minimum legal drinking age is 21.

One of the greatest differences is location. England is an island very near the rest of continental Europe while the States are expansive and nestled between Canada and Mexico. Our vacations consist of visiting family in another state or, especially during spring break, taking a cruise to Mexico and the Caribbean islands. For us, England is elusive. It is foreign. European travel is something to dream of, like some big life-changing experience. One of my classmates was taking a few days holiday and flying to Spain like it was no big deal. A downfall of the distance that America has from the rest of the world is that sometimes we get caught up with what is happening within our own borders and we forget there are bigger events that happen across the oceans. Stepping out of my country, I feel connected to whatever bigger picture is being constructed.

Lara Horton
MA in Creative Writing
A global perspective

International Student of History Association at the University of Kent

ISHA, the International Students of History Association, is a group of predominantly history students that was set up in 1990 following the fall of the Iron Curtain, when students of history across Europe sought to share ideas and make their studies more international.

There are member sections across Europe and at the moment ISHA International contains a web of more than 30 sections scattered across European universities. The current International president, Mišo Petrović, has said that ‘ISHA is a student organisation that promotes international co-operation and understanding, encourages the exchange of ideas across geographical and intellectual borders and improves and complements the ways and means of historical education.’

Every year a minimum of four meetings are held, one large conference in the spring time and three smaller seminars held over five to seven days for between 50 and 100 participants. In recent years, smaller weekend events have also been held, all of which cost a student the maximum of 100 euros (approx £81) for the entire event plus travel expense. Each event offers a main historical topic into which the workshops are set up where groups of students meet to present and discuss their element of the overarching topic from their own personal, national or periodical perspectives.

The Kent section of ISHA was set up in December 2012 as the first UK section, although the international language used by all contributory sections is English. Following a slightly slow start, ISHA Kent has begun to take off and is open to the entire history department, and anyone else with any interest in history.

Our initial committee was created out of a small group of postgraduate students, overseen and prompted by two international alumni from ISHA Leuven and ISHA Rome.

The Association is not solely a postgraduate affair however; it is open to all students and holds itself as a student-run association for students of history, which happens to have a number of international patrons and scholarly alumni. The networking potential for this group is huge, and many students today come away from the seminars with an inundation of Facebook friend requests for new people met there. Academically, the Association is able to open the minds of modern history students to more worldwide perspectives. Views of other nations are constantly revealed and new methodological and historiographical ideas constantly arise. ISHA also provides opportunities for students at any stage in their academic careers to write articles for the international journal Carnival that is published annually as a result of the presentations made at seminars and conferences.

Today, nearly 25 years on, the Association has grown and continues to do so. The International Board changes every year and keeps on developing its work so that nothing is allowed to stagnate. In the most recent amendments to the formal protocols ‘history’ has been broadened to encompass all ‘historical sciences’ so that students of other disciplines may also have the potential to contribute and join seminars across Europe.

ISHA is not strictly all about the academic side of things, there is far more to it than just that. True, there is an academic aspect to every meeting, but further to this the Association seeks to offer cultural and social networking for everyone involved. To this end, there are always tours and visits in each host country to museums and significant places of memorial or historical narrative.

Then there are the social aspects of ice-breaking parties to help new members get to know one another, and the all-important National Food and Drinks Party (NFDP) which is generally reserved for the last day of a seminar or conference. At this there is a mixture of all aspects involved: academic, social and cultural. Every nation available at the seminar presents a food or (more commonly) an alcoholic beverage that has cultural significance and meaning to their nation. In presenting it, there is an academic element of sharing the significance and understanding with the group, and then finally the social bit of sampling the food and drink with everyone present.

ISHA Kent has had members go to Leuven in April 2013, Berlin in the summer, and an even larger contingent participated in Helsinki over New Year. We also had a group of around 10 students go to Budapest, Hungary for the 25th anniversary celebrations in April. Further to this, application periods for Ljubljana (Crisis and Development: July 14-20 2014), Pula (Revolutions!: Sep 29-Oct 4, 2014), Maribor (Love and War: Dec 29-Jan 4 2015) and Olomouc (February 2015) all open a couple of months prior to the events.

Future prospects for ISHA Kent include potentially sending more of our students abroad to partake of these seminars and conferences in the forthcoming years. We would also hope to be able to set up our own conference by 2016 when we could host an event and welcome our international friends to this university. ISHA Kent has also been able to offer its services to the international board as proofreaders for the 2012 edition of Carnival as well as numerous formal documents, and hopes to continue to do so.

For more information about the international association see: www.isha-international.org/

For ISHA Kent contact: www.facebook.com/ISHAKent and feel free to like us on Facebook and come and join in our meetings just to see what it going on, regardless of your subject specialism.

Pip Gregory
PhD in History
U OK? Try First Aid

Are you interested in helping others? Or looking for a fun new skill to add to your CV? Maybe it is something as simple as knowing the right way to clean and bandage a wound, being able to correctly apply cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), but knowledge of First Aid is infinitely useful in any given circumstance.

Without meaning to sound ‘heavy’, recognising the signs of an ailment and providing primary First Aid before the emergency services arrive could mean the difference between life and death. A First Aider’s main goals are to preserve life, to prevent further harm and to promote recovery. The First Aid Society at the University of Kent aims to raise awareness of the importance of a basic knowledge of first aid as a life-saving skill, and to provide opportunities for people to learn these techniques from qualified trainers. By joining the society, one can gain useful and applicable life skills, plus it looks good on any CV.

The society provides a safe and fun environment for its members to learn and practise First Aid, and the course is run by the Red Cross, which means that you get a basic First Aid qualification on completion. After one becomes an accomplished First Aider, there are a number of opportunities to carry out duties both on and off campus, a typical example being at a sports event. The First Aid Society also provides continued training for members who are already qualified. Members are encouraged to participate in volunteering as First Aiders to practice their skills, and to help the wider community. All of the training and any duties you do counts as volunteering and can be used towards the Kent Student Certificate in Volunteering (KSCV).

The society is not all work and no play though, there are a variety of socials and events to look forward to, and you know that at least one of you on a night out will know what to do if the need arises. The University of Kent First Aid Society meets every Thursday at 7pm in KLT4, Keynes. Sessions last three hours, and are a mixture of lectures and simulated situations. Assessments are carried out regularly to refresh our memories. Membership is free, so all you have to do is show up and be willing to learn. For more information, check out the Facebook group University of Kent First Aid or email jk389@kent.ac.uk

Chiomma Maureen Amadi
MSc in Developmental Psychology

Challenge yourself – learn a new language

The Centre of English and World Languages (CEWL) Language Express courses

Learning a foreign language is beneficial in many ways. It widens your cultural horizons, improves your employability, and it can help you to make the most out of your postgraduate student experience here at Kent. But most important: it is fun.

The Centre of English and World Languages (CEWL) offers multiple language learning opportunities. Whether you want to learn an entirely new language or to enhance your existing language skills, at CEWL you will find the course which is just right for you. Experienced teachers will do their best to help you enjoy developing your language skills in a relaxed, yet professional learning environment.

If you are an international student, whose first language is not English, and want to improve your English for academic purposes, they offer the English Language Development Programme which takes place for two hours every week throughout the autumn and spring terms.

It consists of four taught modules: Essay Writing, Grammar, Seminar Discussion and Presentation Skills and Note Taking, as well as including a series of individual tutorials. Moreover, CEWL offers Language Express, an opportunity to start learning, or improve, your Arabic, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian or Spanish.

So why not try something new? You can choose between courses that start in October and last for 20 weeks (autumn and spring term), courses that start in January and last for ten weeks (spring term only) and courses that start in May and last for five weeks (summer term only).

Antje Bennefeld
MA in Comparative Literature