‘Queen Mary University of London is dedicated to the public good, pursuing the creation and dissemination of knowledge to the highest international standards, thereby transforming wider society and the lives of our students and staff.’

Queen Mary University of London Strategy 2014 – The Next Five Years
From a living wage for Londoners, to participative drama in Brazil; from setting the agenda on the UK’s economic policy, to maintaining our precious urban rivers – our research changes lives, economies, perceptions and policies.

The results of the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) confirmed our status as one of the UK’s leading research-intensive faculties, and underlined the quality, impact, and global reach of the work that we do.

This publication serves as a snapshot of the research that takes place across the Faculty. It seeks to visualise the impact of our work, communicate the diversity and composition of our community, and illuminate some of the stories behind our research.

Above all, this publication seeks to communicate the immense value of disciplines and research in the humanities and social sciences. Every dimension of our lives can be illuminated, contextualised and better understood with the insights of the humanities, social, and environmental sciences.

Queen Mary University of London has made tremendous strides in recent years, and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences is immensely proud to contribute centrally to one of the UK’s top ten research-intensive universities. We believe that our ethos, collegiality - and our physical location in the rapidly and ever-changing East End of London – shapes positively the excellent research that takes place here. We look forward to continuing and building upon that work in the months and years ahead.
Research in Humanities and Social Sciences

We aim to create original knowledge that is judged to be internationally excellent, including contributions that are world leading; a significant element of which is also of benefit to society broadly defined.

The Faculty is strongly committed to maintaining research excellence and to expanding further its capacity to undertake world leading research. To ensure this, the Faculty will plan to invest strategically in the expansion of research activity, excellent academic staff appointments, research support services, and the further development of collaborative, disciplinary, and inter-disciplinary research foci.

Leadership of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences:
Vice-Principal and Executive Dean
Dean for Research and Deputy-Dean
Dean for Taught Programmes and Deputy-Deans
Faculty Operating Officer
Faculty Administrative Officer

Academic units within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences:
The School of Business and Management
The School of Economics and Finance
The School of English and Drama
The School of Geography
The School of History
The School of Languages, Linguistics and Film
The School of Law (including the Department of Law and the Centre for Commercial Law Studies)
The School of Politics and International Relations
Global Shakespeare (with the University of Warwick)
Students in the ArtsTwo Building, which houses a 300-seat lecture theatre, a film and drama studio and includes innovative environmental features such as ground source heat pumps, which reduce the building's energy load by up to 13 per cent.
Humanities and Social Sciences in numbers

8 SCHOOLS & 21 RESEARCH CENTRES & INSTITUTES

STUDENTS
4954 UNDERGRADUATE
1934 POSTGRADUATE
368 PG RESEARCH

AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMMUNITY

4061 UK
2103 Non-EU
1092 EU
OVERALL STUDENT SATISFACTION
(National Student Survey 2014)

436 ACADEMICS

RESEARCH INCOME 2014
£6.75 MILLION

89%
The global reach of research in Humanities and Social Sciences

AHRC-funded research by Professor David Adger (Linguistics) seeks to enable the development and survival of the Kiowa language in Oklahoma.

Preserving endangered languages

People’s Palace Projects performance-orientated research, led by Professor Paul Heritage (Drama), works to link UK arts practitioners with Brazilian performance and cultural policy.

Cultural practice tackling social exclusion

Working with Uruguayan state agencies and international development organisations, Professor Marco Manacorda (Economics and Finance) has supported – through research – a poverty alleviation programme.

Policy for poverty alleviation

Raising the profile of Latin Americans in London
Influencing policy on security

Global health in sub-Saharan Africa

Working with charities, NGOs and lobbyists, Professor Cathy McIlwaine (Geography) has led research on the Latin American community in global cities such as London to enhance their visibility in policy communities.

Dr Lee Jones’ (Politics and International Relations) research on sovereignty, intervention and security has shaped policy communities’ understanding of Southeast Asia.

Improving employment and labour conditions

Working with Tanzanian NGOs, Dr Sophie Harman (Politics and International Relations) has researched how people living with HIV/AIDS require free transportation to access care and treatment.

Research and consultancy work by Dr Liam Campling (Business and Management) has contributed to the improvement of working conditions in the Papua New Guinea tuna industry.
The primary outcome of the assessment was to determine an overall quality profile to each submission, showing the proportion of the submission that meets each of the following levels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Four star</td>
<td>Quality that is world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three star</td>
<td>Quality that is internationally excellent in terms of originality, significance and rigour but which falls short of the highest standards of excellence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two star</td>
<td>Quality that is recognised internationally in terms of originality, significance and rigour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One star</td>
<td>Quality that is recognised nationally in terms of originality, significance and rigour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unclassified</td>
<td>Quality that falls below the standard of nationally recognised work. Or work which does not meet the published definition of research for the purposes of this assessment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The primary purpose of REF 2014 was to assess, through a process of subject panel peer review, the quality of research for each submission made by institutions.

In forming the overall quality profile, sub-panels developed a sub-profile for each of the three elements of the assessment – outputs (65 per cent), impact (20 per cent) and environment (15 per cent).

More information about grading, assessment, and weighting is available at: [www.ref.ac.uk/panels/assessmentcriteriaandleveldefinitions](http://www.ref.ac.uk/panels/assessmentcriteriaandleveldefinitions)
Inside the Lock-keeper’s Cottage Graduate Centre, an award-winning refurbishment of a Victorian lock-keeper’s cottage on the Regent’s Canal. The Centre provides dedicated postgraduate-only study and seminar space for our humanities and social sciences students.
QMUL and REF 2014

Institutional highlights

“QMUL’s performance in REF 2014 is a tremendous credit to the researchers responsible for producing such outstanding work. It is also something that all those working for QMUL should take pride in, and their share of responsibility for, through the role they play in supporting this work.”

Professor Bill Spence, Vice-Principal (Research)

Overall, out of 154 universities, QMUL was ranked:

- 9th in the UK amongst multi-faculty institutions
- 8th in the UK for “world-leading” (4*) research outputs
- 5th in the UK (at 83 per cent) for “world-leading or internationally excellent” research outputs (4*/3*)

Faculty highlights

“The significant increases in overall GPA (grade point average scores) across so many disciplines in the HSS Faculty are particularly gratifying, and underline again the quality of research that takes place across our Schools. It was also pleasing to see that in the clear majority of our disciplines, the research environment was judged to be 100 per cent of 4* or 3* quality, and that more than 90 per cent of impact was judged to be of 4* or 3* quality.”

Professor Morag Shiach, Vice-Principal and Executive Dean (Humanities and Social Sciences)

- Drama and Linguistics ranked 1st overall in the UK
- English ranked 5th overall in the UK
- History was ranked 4th in the UK for environment, and 8th in the UK for impact
- Law, Drama and Economics – 100 per cent of research submitted for impact was 3* or 4*
- For 4*/3* research outputs:
  - Geography was ranked 5th
  - Politics was ranked 8th
  - Law was ranked 9th
  - Economics was ranked 10th
- Politics and International Relations has experienced substantial growth in the amount of research considered world-leading or internationally excellent, from 45 per cent in 2008 to 74 per cent in 2014
- Business and Management experienced a 10 percentage point rise in the amount of research judged to be 4*/3* since 2008
The Queens’ Building, Mile End has a proud association with not one, but four Queens: Queen Victoria; Queen Mary (wife of King George V); Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother; and our Patron, Queen Elizabeth II.
Making an impact

Setting standards and changing policy in the global tuna industry

Whether people in developing countries actually benefit from the extraction of natural resources has long been a concern of development policy. Dr Liam Campling’s research on the multi-billion dollar global tuna industry has changed lives, exposed exploitation, and shaped policy as far away as Papua New Guinea. His work has directly influenced trade policy regulation and legislation to support developing countries, improved conditions for tuna workers in Papua New Guinea, and has had a substantial and continued impact on public understanding of the fisheries industry.

Transforming labour economics in Portugal

Professor Pedro Martins’ research directly influenced the lives of millions when, from 2011 to 2013, he was seconded from QMUL to the Portuguese government as Secretary of State for Employment. Informed by his research on wages, dismissals, and social returns of education, Pedro implemented an ambitious programme of labour market reform to help stimulate Portugal’s social and economic recovery. The reform programme included major policy changes on working time, collective bargaining, training and active labour market policies. Following the reforms, unemployment fell from 17.7 per cent to 15.6 per cent, and GDP increased by 1.3 per cent, between the first and third quarters of 2013.
Dr Liam Campling’s (School of Business and Management) research on the global tuna industry
Making an impact

Setting the agenda on monetary policy in the UK
Professor George Kapetanios’ research on macroeconomic modelling and forecasting has had a significant impact on the UK’s economic strategy and post-recession policies. George’s acclaimed research has influenced both the operational practices of the Bank of England and its conduct of UK monetary policy. As a consequence of his work, a novel forecasting tool has been adopted by the Bank to inform the Monetary Policy Committee on macroeconomic trends. In addition, George’s research influenced the Bank’s decision to adopt quantitative easing (QE) by estimating the effects of this policy on GDP growth and inflation, and provided the main source of scientific support for the effectiveness of the QE policy in the UK during the Great Recession.

Assessing the determinants, costs, and consequences of child labour
In less developed countries, reducing child labour and increasing school attendance are essential for growth and the eradication of poverty. However, neither the way to achieve these goals, nor even the precise relationship between child labour and schooling, is immediately clear. Professor Marco Manacorda’s research in this critical area has influenced policy and led to a more nuanced understanding of the issue on the part of governments and international organisations. Marco’s work has led to more reliable cross-country comparisons, and underpinned the criteria for evaluation of interventions carried out by the US Department of Labor’s Education Initiative. More broadly, his research has significantly enhanced public understanding of child labour and the effectiveness of different policy responses.
Cristian Dima, BSc Economics, in a computing lab discussing financial data supplied via our Bloomberg terminals.
Making an impact

Mapping knowledge and the cultural history of cartography

The history of cartography research group at QMUL has used its research on the cultural history of maps to enhance public understanding of map-making and the knowledge that maps create. Led by Professor Jerry Brotton, the group’s acclaimed research has reached an international audience through authored television and radio programmes, research council-funded books, public lectures and reviews across a range of media. As a result, the research has generated significant economic impact, contributing to the economic prosperity of the creative sector, including trade publishing, print media journalism, television, and literary festivals, and improving the quality of evidence, argument and expression in public discourse on contemporary map-making.

New understandings of Brazil’s transformative arts practices

Through practice-based arts projects, Professor Paul Heritage’s research over the last two decades has opened up new understandings of Brazil’s innovative and transformative arts practices within the UK cultural sector. He has also forged new opportunities for UK arts practitioners to develop their work in Brazil and shaped new policy exchanges between governmental and third sector organisations in the UK and Brazil. His research engages with a diverse range of artists and cultural institutions, reaching more than 50,000 people in the period since 2008 through performances, screenings, seminars, exhibitions and events.

Highlights

- 1st in the UK for Drama
- 5th in the UK for English
- 1st in London for English

Our research

The School of English and Drama brings together two of QMUL’s outstanding departments. The Drama Department is a leading centre of research in drama, theatre, and performance studies. Its research shares a spirit of intellectual and creative enquiry and an ethical commitment to social justice. Expertise in the English Department ranges from medieval to contemporary literature, including British, American, and Irish literature, postcolonial studies and world literature in English, Renaissance and early modern literature, eighteenth-century studies, Romanticism, nineteenth-century studies, modernism and twentieth-century literature, history of the book, contemporary writing, contemporary poetry, critical theory, and cultural history.
Research in action: Professor Paul Heritage's (School of English and Drama) work in Brazil
Making an impact

A living wage for low-paid Londoners

For nearly 15 years, Professor Jane Wills’ research has explored the problem of low pay in London and the role of the living wage in challenging in-work poverty. Her research has supported the development of the successful living wage campaign by London Citizens, an alliance of community organisations. There are now over 1,000 accredited employers who pay a living wage and more than 45,000 workers across the UK whose wages have increased as a consequence of the campaign. In 2008, QMUL became the first university in the UK to adopt the living wage, and now almost all higher education institutions in London do the same. Jane has presented her research at the House of Commons, the Marmot Enquiry, to political parties, and policy makers in the UK and further afield.

Understanding and protecting our urban rivers

Professor Angela Gurnell’s ground-breaking research has made a distinct contribution to urban river improvements in Britain and Europe. Her work on the geomorphology, hydrology and plant ecology of urban water courses has led to the development of important new tools for the assessment and improved management of urban rivers. Known as the Urban River Survey (URS), these tools are used by trained surveyors, including members of the Environment Agency and Rivers Trusts, and their application is supported by workshops and on-line guidance, data entry, visualisation and management software. The URS has been used to deliver morphological quality indicators for rivers across the UK, particularly in London and Birmingham; to monitor river restoration schemes; to support development of catchment management plans; and to track medium-term changes in rivers.
London: the focus of Professor Jane Wills (School of Geography) research on the living wage
History

www.history.qmul.ac.uk
@QMHistory

Highlights
- 11th in the UK for research power
- Joint 4th in the UK for research environment
- 92 per cent of research impact activity deemed world-leading or internationally excellent

Our research
Research in the School of History ranges from the medieval to the contemporary, including African, American, Asian, British and European history. The School's historians practice well-established and innovative forms of historical investigation, as individual scholars, and in research groups. While they cross many historical borders and approaches, they carry out their work broadly under three major research themes: society, culture and belief; emotions, medicine and science; and political ideas and practice.

Making an impact
Influencing constitutional affairs and governance
Professor Peter Hennessy is one of the UK’s foremost scholars on constitutional affairs and modern British history. Lord Hennessy’s historically-informed understanding of constitutional and governance issues has enabled him to make direct interventions in key debates in the House of Lords and affect public debate and parliamentary democracy. The establishment at QMUL of the award-winning Mile End Group has played a critical role in generating popular and public interest in modern and contemporary history of British constitutional affairs and government. From its inception through to 2014 – when it was relaunched as the Mile End Institute – the Group acted as a trusted environment in which historians, civil servants and politicians could frame decision-making with a proper appreciation of precedent, contingency and comparative studies.

Understanding the emotions
How do emotions affect contemporary art, public policy, culture and well-being? This is one of the questions explored by researchers – led by Dr Thomas Dixon – at QMUL’s acclaimed Centre for the History of the Emotions. The Centre, the first of its kind in the UK, has developed into one of the leading international fora for research into the history of emotions, with a particular emphasis on the effects of science, medicine, and technology; on the history of expression; and the implications of these histories for public policy in health and education. The Centre’s work has led to practical interventions in schools, radio and television broadcasts, an artist in residence scheme, an international email list and blog, and policy discussions with think tanks such as the Young Foundation.
Professor Peter Hennessy (School of History) speaking at the launch of the Mile End Institute
Making an impact

Transforming our courts with Online Dispute Resolution
Professor Julia Hörnle’s research into Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) has had a significant impact on government policy and legislation in the UK and internationally. ODR is a new, emerging field and Julia’s research addresses a lack of expertise among lawyers, government and other policymakers. The research examines how domestic and cross-border commercial and consumer disputes can be solved using internet technology as a low-cost and efficient alternative to national courts. Outcomes and recommendations have had a significant impact on legal practitioners and governments and have informed the approach taken by policy-makers in the UK. Julia’s work is well-known internationally, and has shaped the discussion of ODR in European, regional and national organisations.

Promoting equality and diversity
Professors Kate Malleson and Lizzie Barmes’ research on mainstreaming equality and diversity has shaped agendas and influenced legislation at the highest level of UK government and policy-making. In 2009, Malleson and Barmes established the Equal Justices Initiative (EJI), which brought together academics, practitioners, judges and policy-makers to work for gender parity on the bench. Research from the EJI ultimately informed changes in the judicial appointments system, and influenced the Crime and Courts Act 2013. As founder members of the Arts and Humanities Research Council network, ‘Promoting Equality and Diversity through Economic Crisis’ (PEDEC), their research has also informed public and policy understanding of equality and diversity issues in the UK and internationally.

Our research
Research in the School has as its focus the role of law and its institutions in contemporary international society. Researchers adopt a wide spectrum of approaches to legal research, including doctrinal, theoretical, applied, comparative, historical, sociological, empirical and interdisciplinary perspectives. Members of the School help set the agenda for research in a number of key areas including commercial law, criminal justice, public and international law, and legal theory. The School of Law’s commitment to society and the public good is underlined by its award-winning Legal Advice Centre.

Highlights
- 9th in the UK for world-leading or internationally excellent research
- 86 per cent of all research deemed world-leading or internationally excellent
- 100 per cent of submitted research deemed 3* or 4* for impact
Students have the opportunity to offer free legal advice to members of the public.
Languages, Linguistics and Film

www.sllf.qmul.ac.uk
@SLLFQMUL

Highlights
- 1st in the UK for Linguistics
- 16th in the UK for Modern Languages
- 100 per cent of linguistics research deemed world-leading or internationally excellent for impact and research environment

Our research
Research in the School is broad and diverse. Modern Languages investigate aspects of the literary, visual and intellectual cultures of the world, focusing on those areas where Catalan, French, German, Portuguese, Spanish and Russian are spoken. Comparative Literature extends its focus, incorporating these emphases and bringing them into comparative perspective with the literatures and cultures of the wider world. Research in Linguistics focuses on the nature of language itself, and how it is used, while research in Film Studies investigates how culture and film interact and how we can understand film as a fundamental part of the modern world.

Making an impact
Linguistics research for English language teachers
London has long been a destination for immigrants; generations of new arrivals have settled in the city and made it theirs. The offspring of these arrivals grow up speaking English – sometimes as their first language, and sometimes as their second or third. These new groups mean that spoken English is changing. Professor Jenny Cheshire’s research has revolutionised our understanding of Multicultural London English (MLE), and has substantially contributed to the delivery of the GCE A level English language curriculum. An English Language Teaching Resources Archive addresses difficulties faced by teachers in delivering the spoken English curriculum. Teachers and students benefit from new teaching resources including accurate linguistic commentaries on MLE sound clips and accessible summaries of linguistic research published in recent journals.

Recasting and demythifying Chekhov
Professor Donald Rayfield’s biography of Anton Chekhov has transformed Russia’s understanding of its cultural icon. The biography has challenged myths about the great humanity of the playwright and stimulated public debate in Russia and further afield. Professor Rayfield’s meticulously researched book unearthed facts about Chekhov’s tumultuous private life, which had been excised from Soviet editions of his works and correspondence. The publication of his biography has inspired filmmakers, theatre directors and actors to create original works that disseminate new interpretations of Chekhov’s personality and of the relationship between his writings and his life.
Students gathered in Library Square at our Mile End Campus
Making an impact

Security, sovereignty and intervention in Southeast Asia
Dr Lee Jones’ area of expertise is the Asia-Pacific, especially Southeast Asia. His research, which focuses on sovereignty, intervention and security in the region, has significantly influenced decision-makers, civil society groups, and the wider public in the UK and internationally. Lee is a leading expert on Myanmar, and his work has recently helped policymakers and NGOs reorient themselves at the critical juncture of Myanmar’s emergence from decades of military dictatorship. His research, which explores interactions between social, economic and political processes, is based on regional expertise, and generates policy-relevant findings.

Women’s representation in politics
Why are women consistently under-represented in politics? Are gender quotas the answer? What role does the media play in shaping attitudes towards women in politics? These are among the questions explored by Dr Rainbow Murray’s research, which has influenced policy, governments and civil society in Europe, China and Israel. With a particular focus on French politics, Rainbow has produced numerous influential works on equality, gender and politics. Users of her research include parliaments, intergovernmental organisations, political parties, public bodies, and NGOs. Rainbow also engages the public with her ideas and research through regular appearances and articles in the national and international media.
Dr Rainbow Murray (School of Politics and International Relations) speaks about her research on women in politics
For further information or to request additional copies please contact:
June Ryde, Faculty Administrative Officer
Humanities and Social Sciences
Queen Mary University of London
Mile End Road
London E1 4NS

Tel: +44 20 7882 7005
e-mail: j.ryde@qmul.ac.uk

WWW.QMUL.AC.UK