Undergraduate students majoring in Criminal Justice have an opportunity to select a course of study suitable for a variety of educational goals.

Criminal Justice majors have a wide range of diverse employment opportunities at the local, state, and federal levels of government. They include but are not limited to the various occupations that are associated with law enforcement, courts, the correctional system, probation and parole, and juvenile justice. The private sector also employs criminal justice majors in private security, loss prevention, and investigation.

Students majoring in criminal justice may also plan to go to law school or to pursue graduate study in criminal justice. The program is designed to provide a basic foundation for entry into graduate programs in criminal justice, criminal justice research, and careers involving Corrections, Law Enforcement, and Courts.

**Undergraduate Program:**

An overall survey of criminal justice is provided through the course: CRJU 100: Introduction to Criminal Justice. In addition to being a prerequisite for all upper-level criminal justice courses, this course exposes students to the major issues confronting the criminal justice system in America and to the principle parts of the system—police, courts, and corrections. Students who find the material in this course interesting are likely to find the rest of the criminal justice curriculum interesting as well. More focused coverage of specific areas is obtained through a wide variety of courses; these courses include courts and criminal process, police and society, corrections, diversity issues in CRJU, crime and criminal behavior, research methods, and critical perspectives in CRJU along with many electives such as rural crime, juvenile justice, criminal investigative theory, emergency management, deviant sexual behavior and criminal activity, forensic evidence, and criminal law and evidence, just to name a few.

The department of criminal justice offers both the bachelor of arts and the bachelor of science degrees to over 500 undergraduate students and the master of arts and master of science degrees at the graduate level. A criminal justice undergraduate degree consists of 42 semester hours covering a wide range of interdisciplinary issues and topics. 24 of those 42 hours are Criminal Justice coursework that is required of all students who have declared the major.

- **B.A. (Bachelor of Arts):** 120 hours
  
  The B.A. program consists of 43-45 hours of Core Curriculum coursework, six to eight hours of study in one foreign language, 36 hours in Criminal Justice coursework, and six hours in additional related requirements in psychology or sociology.

- **B.S. (Bachelor of Science):** 120 hours
  
  The B.S. degree consists of 43-45 hours of Core Curriculum coursework, six hours of study in coursework for the bachelor of science requirements, 36 hours in Criminal Justice coursework, and six hours in additional related requirements in psychology or sociology.

Students who do internships as part of their academic coursework have very high placement rates with criminal justice agencies after graduation. Alumni surveys suggest that those students wishing to become employed in criminal justice agencies are successful in obtaining professional positions if they are both focused in their job search and realistic regarding their expectations.

To apply for admission:

For undergraduate programs contact the Office of Admissions, Box 6903, Radford, VA 24142 or you may apply online. For specific information on admissions and financial aid, see the RU website at www.radford.edu.

**Graduate Program:**

Radford offers a Master of Arts and Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice.
Department of Criminal Justice

Accelerated Bachelors/Masters Program: Designed to help students complete both a Bachelor’s and a Master’s Degree in five years.

Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Crime Analysis: Provides a 15 hour program of graduate coursework focuses on issues pertinent to the study and practice of crime analysis.

Forensic Studies Minor: Designed to provide a background in criminal investigation, criminal evidence, and criminalistics. Requires 18 hours of interdisciplinary coursework to achieve the minor.

Study Abroad Opportunities: The Criminal Justice Department occasionally sponsors study abroad trips. Check the study abroad website for more details.

Travel Study in DC: The Criminal Justice Department offers a summer travel course that allows students to visit criminal justice agencies in the Washington, DC area.

Internship Opportunities: The Criminal Justice Department offers two courses for undergraduate internships, CRJU 484 and 483, and one course for graduate internships, CRJU 684. See the CRJU website for more information.

Transfer Opportunities: Students wishing to transfer from the VCCS should complete an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or Associate of Arts & Sciences degree and include courses that will transfer to RU as POSC 120, PSYC 121, SOCY 110, & STAT 200 in their studies (check the online transfer guide on the Registrar’s Office webpage).

Facilities: The criminal justice department is located in the 307 Adams building next to the Bonnie.

Extracurricular Experiences: Alpha Phi Sigma is the National Honor Society in Criminal Justice; contact Dr. Nicole Hendrix for more details. Lambda Alpha Epsilon is a professional criminal justice fraternity; contact Dr. Tod Burke for more details. The RU Criminal Justice Club sponsors many events criminal justice related activities, field trips, and social activities; contact Dr. Lori Elis for more information.

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