The Social Science program is an interdisciplinary major administered through the History Department whose faculty act as advisors. The social science disciplines of history, political science, geography, and economics provide for the systematic study of human behavior and relationships across time, cultures, and space. Its broad-based, comparative approach equips students with a wide knowledge base in a variety of subject areas. The teaching licensure for this major gives students the ability and skills needed to teach in each of the disciplines that comprise the program of study.

Interdisciplinary study in the social sciences provides students with the opportunity to engage issues of racial, class, and gender diversity, while equipping them to function effectively in a world that increasingly demands good global citizenship. Graduates in this area demonstrate the ability to understand and engage the world in its many facets, and appreciate fast-paced changes in economics, values, and technology.

**Undergraduate Program:**

The Social Science program provides teaching licensure at the secondary grade level for students intending to teach in the public schools. Requirements in this option total 45 semester hours distributed as follows: History 21 hours; Political Science 12 hours; Geography 6 hours; Economics 6 hours.

Social Science majors upon graduation will have substantial awareness of social science methodology, content, and research. The major enhances the graduate's reading, writing, and oral skills and the ability to process diverse information into a coherent whole. In particular, the Social Science major will develop an understanding and appreciation of the interconnectedness of the various social science disciplines. Graduates will also have been exposed to a wide diversity of cultures and develop a keen appreciation for the aesthetic and intellectual life.

**Teacher Licensure:**

In addition to completing requirements in the Social Science major, those intending to teach in the public schools must also complete all specified courses and requirements in the department of Education.

Those intending to acquire teaching certification should make application for admission into the Teacher Education Program during their junior year and must go through Teacher Screening. In preparation for this, students must put together a portfolio for presentation to the review committee.

**Advising:**

Each major will be assigned an advisor from among the History faculty. Every student is expected to meet with their adviser periodically (at least once each semester) to discuss their overall program of study and to assess their progress toward a degree. Students pursuing the teaching licensure will also work with members of the College of Education and Human Development.

**Additional Majors/Minors:**

The Department strongly encourages majors to consider a second major in a complementary field of the social sciences (Political Science, Geography, Economics), and if not a double major, then at least a minor in one or more of those fields.

**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.
Department of History, Social Science Major

Study Abroad Opportunities
The department of History sponsors several European study abroad experiences. In addition, the International Education Center offers many programs on a semester, summer, or academic year basis that can be tailored to fit any student’s need.

History Internships
The History Department at Radford University strongly recommends History Majors pursue internships while they are students at the University. Students can earn academic credit for 3-15 credit hour internships through a local museum, archive, or historical society, as well as other institutions that utilize skills developed as History Majors. The History Department currently has relationships with several museums in the New River.

Extracurricular Experiences
Membership in the Radford University chapter of Pi Gamma Mu, the International Honor Society in the Social Sciences, is open to students who have completed 20 semester hours in any combination of social science courses with a minimum 3.0 GPA in those courses.

The History Club provides a variety of activities ranging from social gatherings to formal sponsorship of speakers.

The History Department has a chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the International Honor Society in History. To apply for membership, the student must have completed 12 credit hours in history with a minimum 3.1 GPA in those courses and a 3.0 GPA in all other courses attempted.

Facilities
The Department of History is housed in the new College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences (CHBS) building.

Transfer Opportunities
Students wishing to transfer from the VCCS should complete an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or Associate of Arts & Science degree and include courses that will transfer to RU such as HIST 101, 102, 111, 112 in their studies (check our transfer information at www.radford.edu/registrar “Transfer Credits” link).

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