Radford University
Department of Criminal Justice

Graduate Programs

Graduate Program Mission

The Mission of the Criminal Justice Graduate Program is to stimulate, encourage and support students as they pursue the Master of Arts or Master of Science degrees. The program will be academically rigorous, serving those students: who will go on to pursue a Ph.D.; who are criminal justice and social science professionals seeking further study and analysis of the field; who are seeking academic preparation for leadership positions in criminal justice; and who are seeking preparation for community college teaching positions. The Criminal Justice Department maintains its commitment to providing excellence in graduate-level teaching, learning, and scholarship that is also characterized by increasing contributions to the professional and technological needs of the state and region.

Graduate Program Goals

The Criminal Justice Graduate Program will strive to:

1. Provide students with an academically rigorous learning experience that provides an advanced understanding of criminal justice as an area of inquiry and as an academic discipline; and
2. Provide students with the advanced knowledge, skills and abilities required for leadership positions, highly specialized criminal justice positions, pursuit of further education in doctoral or law school, and/or community college teaching positions.

Graduate Program Learning Outcomes

The following learning outcomes underlie the Criminal Justice Graduate Program:

1. Students should have a thorough and advanced understanding of the American criminal justice system and the legal, theoretical, and public policy issues that are relevant to it;
2. Students should be able to articulate an understanding of diversity (including, but not limited to, ethnicity, culture, issues pertaining to gender, religion, and other universals that link all humans), and demonstrate orally and/or in writing, effects of diversity on the lives of people within the context of contemporary issues of justice.
3. Students should appreciate and utilize ethical decision making in criminal justice;
4. Students should be able to construct a research design that would either evaluate an agency program or investigate an empirical or theoretical issue relating to the criminal justice system; and
5. Students should have opportunities to acquire experience with the criminal justice professional community through internships, service learning activities, research collaborations, and/or experiential learning activities.

Criminal Justice Graduate Faculty

For information about faculty teaching in the criminal justice graduate program, please consult the Criminal Justice Department Webpage: http://crju-web.asp.radford.edu/crjufaculty.htm

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