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

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. A degree in criminal justice also prepares students for professions such as law and academic degrees for those interested in teaching.

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, historical perspectives in CRJU, diversity issues in CRJU, comparative criminal justice systems, research methods, and critical perspectives in CRJU along with many other electives such as rural crime, juvenile justice, criminal investigative theory, 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 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 considered core curriculum and are therefore required courses for all criminal justice majors.

-B.A. ( Bachelor of Arts): 120 hours
The B.A. program consists of 24 hours of Core Curriculum coursework, six to 12 hours of study in one foreign language, and 42 hours in Criminal Justice coursework

-B.S. (Bachelor of Science): 120 hours
The B.S. degree consists of 24 hours of Core Curriculum coursework, six hours of additional related courses in psychology, sociology and 42 hours in Criminal Justice coursework.

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 Masters of Science Degree.
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.

Study Abroad Opportunities: The Criminal Justice Department does occasionally sponsor study abroad trips check the study abroad website for more details.

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.

Internship Opportunities: CRJU Department offers two course for internships undergraduates CRJU 484 and 483 and one course for graduates 684 see CRJU website for more information.

Extracurricular Experiences: Alpha Phi Sigma is the National Honor Society in Criminal Justice contact Dr. Stephen Owen for more details. Lambda Alpha Epsilon is a professional criminal justice fraternity contact Dr. Tod Burke 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 & Science 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 at http://admissions.asp.radford.edu/forms/transferguide.pdf).

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

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.

Extracurricular Experiences: Alpha Phi Sigma is the National Honor Society in Criminal Justice contact Dr. Stephen Owen for more details.

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Faculty:

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- Nicole Hendrix
  Assistant Professor
  Ph.D., University of Albany

- Lucy Edwards Hochstein
  Associate Professor
  Ph.D., Washington State University

- Stephen Owen
  Associate Professor
  Ph.D., University of Missouri–Saint Louis

- Isaac Van Patten
  Professor
  Ph.D., Virginia Tech