

# SOCIAL SCIENCE

## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

The major in Social Science is interdisciplinary involving coursework in a variety of different departments. 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.

Radford University offers a broad range of Social Science courses in the designated departments. Many of those courses taken to meet the Social Science General Education requirement at the university also count toward the major requirements.

Two options are offered in the major: Teaching & Non-Teaching. Students intending to teach in the public schools should choose the Teaching Option. Requirements in this option total 45 semester hours distributed as follows: History 18-24 hours; Political Science 12-18 hours; Geography 6-12 hours; Economics 3-9 hours. Students choosing the Non-Teaching option will complete 51 semester hours in the major including the following: History 18-24 hours; Political Science 12-18 hours; Geography 3-12 hours; Economics 3-12 hours; and Sociology/Anthropology 0-9 hours.

The Social Science program is administered through the History Department whose faculty act as advisers. Curriculum development is supervised by the Social Science Program Oversight Committee (SSPOC) consisting of representatives from each of the following departments: History, Political Science, Geography, Economics, and Education.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates with a Social Science major have a wide variety of career options. Although not an absolute requirement, students intending to be certified to teach in middle or secondary schools are advised to take the Social Science major. The interdisciplinary nature of the major tends to make the graduate more attractive than one who majors in a single discipline.

Study in the Social Sciences also is a good preparation for individuals wanting to follow careers in law or paralegal studies, archival or museum work, politics and government, retail, administration and management, and the civil service. Depending upon career choice, close consultation with your department adviser for course selection and more generally with the Career Services Center is strongly recommended.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

<b>Teaching Option:</b>	<b>45</b>
History: HIST 101, 102, 111, & 112	12
History: upper-level courses*	6
Political Science: POSC 120 + 9 hours at upper-level, chosen from approved list.	12
US Geography: GEOG 101, 201, 202, or 203	3
Non-US Geography: GEOG 102 or 280	3
Economics: ECON 105	3
Concentration: hours in one discipline (History, Political Science, Geography [SS designation only] Economics)**	6

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\* One American, one Non-American both chosen from approved list.

\*\* No more than three semester hours at 100-level

<b>Non-Teaching Option:</b>	<b>51</b>
History: HIST 101, 102, 111, & 112	12
History: upper-level courses*	6
Political Science: POSC 120 + 9 elective hours**	12
Core Concentration: additional hours in one field (HIST or POSC)***	6
Geography: GEOG 101 or 102	3
Economics: ECON 105	3
Concentration: additional hours in one discipline (Sociology, Anthropology, Geography [SS designated courses only], or Economics)****	9

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\* At least one non-American course

\*\* Excluding POSC 290; 6 hours must be at 300-400 level.

\*\*\* If History concentration, courses must be divided between American and non-American.

\*\*\*\* At least six hours must be at the 300-400 levels

## TEACHER LICENSURE

In addition to completing requirements in the Social Science major (Teaching Option), those intending to teach in the public schools must also complete all specified courses and requirements in the department of Education. See the RU Catalog for a detailed description of courses.

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. A description of the required materials for the portfolio can be obtained at the History Department offices or through the student's adviser.

## B.S./B.A. DEGREE

Social Science majors with the Non-Teaching option will pursue either a Bachelor of Science or a Bachelor of Arts degree. The B.S. option requires selection of 6-8 additional hours of coursework from the department approved list. Coursework must be within the same discipline and selected in consultation with one's adviser. The Bachelor of Arts option requires 12 hours in a foreign language; credit for up to 6 hours, based upon proficiency level, can be gained from secondary school foreign language courses.

The Department strongly encourages its majors to consider the Bachelor of Arts option.

# RU

## RADFORD UNIVERSITY

### COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

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*Radford University does not discriminate in regard to race, color, sexual orientation, ability, age, veteran status, national origin, religious or political affiliation in the administration of educational programs, activities, admissions, and employment practices.*

Social Science majors with the Teaching Option will receive a Bachelor of Science degree with no additional coursework requirement. They may choose to pursue the Bachelor of Arts degree, but in this case they must meet the Foreign Language requirement for that degree.

### ADDITIONAL MAJORS/MINORS

The Teacher Education Program strongly encourages Social Science majors with the Teaching Option to consider a second major or a minor as part of their academic preparation. Majors/minors in Social Science areas (History, Political Science, Geography, Economics or some other Social Science) are encouraged to strengthen one's teaching credentials and to make the student more employable. All such additional majors/minors must be officially declared. Students should recognize that the taking on of additional majors or minors in the Teaching Option may require additional time at the university.

Social Science majors with the Non-Teaching Option are also strongly encouraged to consider a second major in a complementary field. Social science fields are those that can be added as a second major or a minor with the least investment of additional time.

Students should discuss these possibilities with their major adviser.

### ADVISING

Each major will be assigned an adviser 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. These meetings also provide excellent opportunity for discussion of career goals and objectives.

### EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

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 (including History, Political Science, Geography, Economics, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology, Criminal Justice, Social Work, or Social Philosophy) with a minimum 3.0 GPA in those courses.

In addition, students have an opportunity to join other discipline-specific honor societies including Phi Alpha Theta (History), Psi Chi (Psychology), Phi Alpha Delta (Pre-Law).

### PRE-LAW ADVISING

For students intending to enter law school upon graduation from RU, frequent consultation with the pre-law adviser is encouraged. Contact Dr. Robert Gill, Department of Political Science, P. O. Box 6945, Radford University, Radford VA 24142 or via email at [rgill@radford.edu](mailto:rgill@radford.edu)

### INTERNSHIPS

Depending upon department, students can earn 3-15 semester hours of credit for a one-semester internship through a local museum, historical society, public/private/governmental agency. Individual social science departments can provide general advice in this area and arrangements can be made through the Center for Experiential Learning & Career Development. Students should work in close consultation with the department granting credit for the internship since it will approve and supervise the internship.

### STUDY ABROAD

The department of History sponsors a study abroad experience in the summer to Scotland/Ireland. To learn more about this program and other Study Abroad and Student Exchange Programs sponsored through Radford University or other academic institutions, contact:

Dr. Jon Stauff  
Director, Office of International Education  
P. O. Box 7002  
Radford University  
Radford VA 24142

### FINANCIAL AID

Scholarship and loan funds are available through the Radford University Financial Aid Office. For further information about work-study, work fellowships and Other aid, contact

Office of Financial Aid  
P. O. Box 6905  
Radford University  
Radford VA 24142  
(540) 831-5408

### ADMISSION

Application for admission to Radford University should be made to:

Director of Admissions  
P. O. Box 6903  
Radford University  
Radford VA 24142  
(540) 831-5371  
Toll-free (800) 890-4265  
Email: [ruadmiss@radford.edu](mailto:ruadmiss@radford.edu)

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information about Radford University can be found at the university's website [www.radford.edu](http://www.radford.edu)