

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Ranked in the top 6% of Criminal Justice programs in the United States, our interdisciplinary Criminal Justice program prepares students for success after graduation in any justice-related field. The Criminal Justice system is made up of law enforcement, attorneys, courts, and corrections. Whichever path you choose, you will learn not only how the legal process works, but also how to communicate and work side-by-side with the public to guide them through the system.

## STUDENT EXPERIENCE

### Learn and Do More at RWU

With a focus on experiential learning at RWU, Criminal Justice majors:

- Experience the Criminal Justice system up close through field visits. For example, RWU students have toured all areas of the Louisiana State Penitentiary, the world's largest prison, which included speaking with inmates and prison staff.
- Participate in the Cultural and Legal Studies summer program, which explores how the historical cities of London and Paris were critical to the early concepts of law and justice.
- Present research at conferences on topics like eyewitness testimony, how police departments work with their communities, and the systems for juveniles under court supervision.



- + Do you enjoy watching the detectives on TV shows like *Law & Order* and *NCIS*?
- + Do you want an interdisciplinary study including law, psychology, and sociology?
- + Would you like to work at a police department, courthouse, social service agency, or prison?

## CAREER OUTLOOK

RWU Criminal Justice Alumni are working as:

- Police officers
- Court system advocates
- Family support services caseworkers
- Correctional officers
- Child Protective Services workers

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



*The university really prepared me well to get me where I am now. I credit a lot to the professors, friends, other contacts and colleagues and peers at the university for getting me where I am today.*



Nicholas Dillon '17 '18M  
B.S./M.S. in Criminal Justice 4+1 major  
Special Investigator at  
Perspecta, Hartford, CT

## Get a Great Internship

Criminal Justice students complete a variety of internships with agencies and organizations at the local, state, and federal levels. Examples include: police departments, courthouses, corrections facilities, U.S. Marshals, and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

## Professional Networking and Resources

Roger Williams University is home to the Justice System Training & Research Institute (JSTRI), which provides professional development training to justice system practitioners across the country and fosters government and community partnerships. RWU students network with professionals in the field, learning best practices from all justice disciplines.

## CURRICULUM

### Structure

You'll begin your study with an introduction to Criminal Justice, policing, research methods, and the connection between Criminal Justice and Law. You will take introductions to Psychology, Sociology, and Political Science, and will then choose one of those areas to complete your free electives.

### Special Courses

In addition to the required Criminal Justice courses, students can choose from a variety of electives according to their interests. Examples include:

- Sports and Crime
- Crime Prevention
- Homeland Security
- Gangs
- Legal Advocacy
- Social Justice
- Juvenile Justice

### Justice Studies Capstone

Whether it's working to train police officers on interview techniques or researching responses to opioid use, the *Justice Studies Capstone* project gives students the chance to apply their classroom learning to real-world issues. This final project combines knowledge of writing, theory, and research methods.

### Faculty

Our faculty are comprised of experts in areas such as police culture and behavior, investigative interviewing and interrogation, violence reduction, youth gangs, the juvenile system, and domestic violence. Through one-on-one faculty advising over the course of your four years at RWU, your advisor will get to know you on an academic, personal, and professional level. Many faculty members have lasting connections with industry professionals and connect students with internships and jobs in their areas of interest.

### 4+1 Criminal Justice Program B.S./M.S.

This accelerated Master's program allows undergraduate Criminal Justice majors the opportunity to earn six graduate credits during their senior year. They then complete the remainder of the course requirements for the Master of Science in Criminal Justice in a single, post-graduate year.

### 3+3 Legal Studies Program, B.S./J.D.

Outstanding students who qualify for this special program complete all requirements for a baccalaureate degree and the Juris Doctor degree in six years. Qualified juniors may apply to the RWU School of Law, and complete their Legal Studies major during the first year of Law School.

**OVER 80% OF  
RWU STUDENTS  
GRADUATE WITH  
MORE THAN JUST  
A SINGLE MAJOR**

Design your experience with your passion and have a unique career advantage with a minor or double major. Many students combine **Criminal Justice** with:

- Psychology
- Anthropology + Sociology
- Political Science
- Foreign Language

*Last Updated: July 2021*