

B.A./B.S.

Sociology



Our Students

Student testimonials about sociology at Radford University:

“During my time at Radford, the Department of Sociology felt like home. Faculty members are dedicated to their students and provide hands-on experience outside of the classroom. I feel so lucky to have earned my bachelor's degree from the Department of Sociology.”

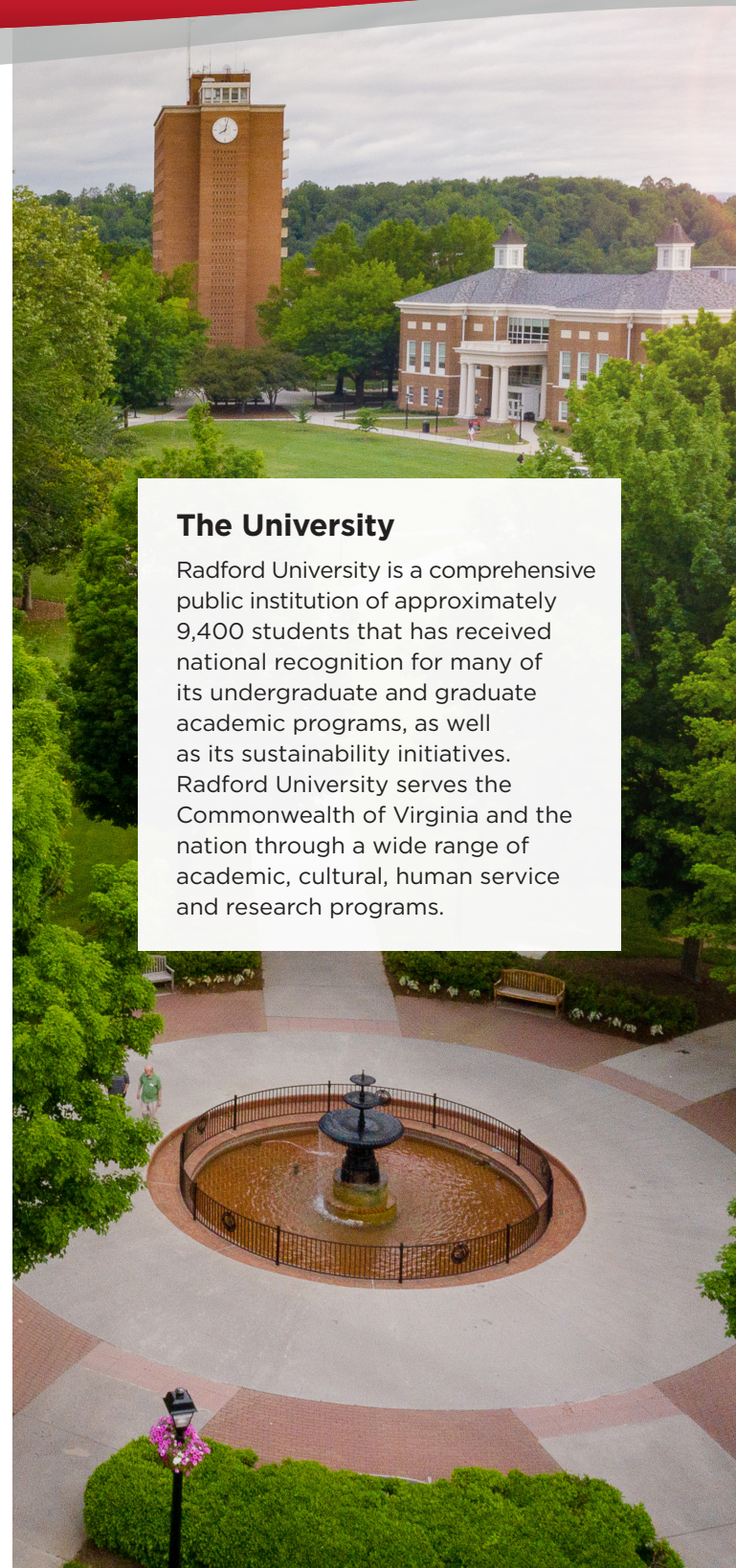
— Amanda Burroughs '19

“Working in the Center for Social and Cultural Research was everything I could have wished for. It was so rewarding to work on hands-on projects and applicable real-world problems.”

— Eileen Lagos '18

“My decision to study sociology at Radford was influenced by the fact that it provides a concrete foundation to build on multiple fields and career paths. Ultimately, the quantitative reasoning, data analytics and statistics skills that I received helped to carve my path forward into the field of financial analysis and management.”

— Alex Williams '10



The University

Radford University is a comprehensive public institution of approximately 9,400 students that has received national recognition for many of its undergraduate and graduate academic programs, as well as its sustainability initiatives. Radford University serves the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation through a wide range of academic, cultural, human service and research programs.



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RADFORD UNIVERSITY

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Department of Sociology



Why Sociology?

It is the scientific study of social life. Sociologists study the way people live, how societies are structured and how people interact with one another. Sociology deals with many facets of social life, including social change, inequalities, families, the environment, crime and deviance.

Sociology is a powerful 21st Century major for students of every background and situation, including first-generation and transfer students. It offers an analytical framework with which to understand the world and a variety of skills useful in any career field.

Conduct Research and Analyze Data

Radford University students gain valuable qualitative and quantitative research experience in the classroom and beyond with research methodology courses, student-tailored internships and opportunities for research assistantships in our Center for Social and Cultural Research (CSCR).

Develop a Global Perspective

Diversity in the United States is ever increasing and changing. Are you prepared to work with diverse and global populations? The core elements of sociology will teach you how to identify culture, race, class and gender inequalities and what we can do about them.

Think and Write Critically

Students learn how to think and write critically as they develop the capacity to be discerning consumers of information, interpret data and analyze public discourse. Students develop strong writing and other communication skills through oral presentations and writing technical reports.

Be a Steward of Social Justice

Sociologists develop a keen eye for identifying systems of oppression and inequality. Students use these perspectives as they learn how to solve problems and identify new ways of conducting business. Studying sociology can be both professionally important and personally satisfying.

Prepare for Graduate and Professional Degrees

A bachelor's degree in sociology is good preparation for a master's degree or doctorate in many graduate programs. Sociology is an excellent foundation for law school. In addition, sociology is a required component of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT).

Why Sociology at Radford University?

The Department of Sociology at Radford University offers a unique and top-notch undergraduate program in Public Sociology. Radford University's program is accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Programs in Applied and Clinical Sociology (CAPACS). CAPACS accreditation ensures that students get a unique undergraduate experience as applied and clinical sociologists, one in which they are able to employ traditional sociological knowledge by developing solutions for today's real-world problems, a valued skill in any workplace. The Department is heavily involved with the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACCS), offering students professional development and networking opportunities to prepare them for life after college.

The Center for Social and Cultural Research (CSCR)

Radford University students have the unique experience of working on research projects with faculty and clients throughout the New River Valley. The CSCR's mission is to:

- Give students experience in applying sociological knowledge and skills, as well as a professional identity as practicing sociologists;
- Offer social research services for University, community and regional clients; and
- Support opportunities for scholarly research among the sociology faculty.

Our Expertise

Sociology is a broad field with many subdisciplines. Radford University's faculty have expertise in a number of sociological specialty areas.

- Appalachian Studies
- Applied/Public Sociology
- Crime, Law and Deviance
- Cultural Anthropology
- Economic Sociology
- Environmental Sociology
- Gender and Identity
- Inequality, Poverty and Mobility
- Medical Sociology
- Race and Ethnic Minorities
- Rural Sociology
- Social Psychology
- Visual Sociology

Careers for Sociology Majors

- College Administrator/Counselor
- Community Services Board Case Worker
- Data Analyst
- Domestic Violence Victims Advocate
- Emergency Services Clinician
- Events Coordinator
- Grant Writer, Grants Management
- Human Resources Assistant/Director
- Human Services and Community Planner
- Local Nonprofit Director
- Marketing Associate
- Public Relations
- School-Based Mental Health Clinician
- Schoolteacher, Elementary and Secondary
- Social Media/Marketing Analyst
- Therapeutic Day Treatment Counselor