

OPEN STUDIES TO JUSTICE STUDIES DIPLOMA RED DEER POLYTECHNIC- SCHOOL OF ARTS AND CULTURE

UPDATED: APRIL 2022

You are responsible for ensuring that your registration is complete and appropriate and that your course choices comply with the program to which you have been admitted at Red Deer Polytechnic and/or to the university to which you wish to transfer (if applicable). You are cautioned that any changes to your courses, your major or your transfer destination may adversely affect your transferable credit (if applicable), admission requirements for future programs, or eligibility to graduate from Red Deer Polytechnic. Please consult with an Advisor if you have any questions.

Students in university transfer programs are strongly advised to refer to the calendar of the university to which they wish to transfer and should contact appropriate university departments as required.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- ELA 30-1 or 30-2 or equivalent is required for admission to Open Studies.
- Open studies provides you with an opportunity to:
 - Explore topics of interest to help you determine which program is right for you.
 - Start taking courses that count towards another program, prior to being admitted to your goal program.
 - Take upgrading courses, if needed, in addition to post-secondary level courses.
 - You can take any course for which you have the pre-requisites, and which are not restricted to a specific program.
- Check the admission requirements for your goal program in the [Academic Calendar](#).
- Completion of courses in Open Studies will result in a lighter course load in the Justice Studies program; however, it will not impact the overall length of the program as it will still take two years to complete once admitted.
- Completion of courses in Open Studies does **not** guarantee admission into your goal program.
- Applications for admission open on October 1, 2022 for Fall 2023. You are encouraged to apply to your goal program as early as possible.

WHAT IS THIS GUIDE?

- This is an Academic Planning Guide, prepared by the Student Connect Centre to help you register for courses towards your desired program.
- If you are transferring to another institution to complete your degree, we strongly advise that you read the Academic Calendar of your destination institution for full information.

WHAT IS A TERM? TERMS ARE THE PERIOD IN WHICH YOUR STUDIES TAKE PLACE. AT RDP, WE OFFER FOUR TERMS.

- **Fall** term (September through December)

- **Winter** term (January through April)
- **Spring** term (May through June): Spring term is an optional, condensed term. Course offerings are limited.
- **Summer** term (July through August): Summer term is an optional, condensed term. Course offerings are limited.

HOW MANY COURSES SHOULD I TAKE A TERM?

- For Fall or Winter, the maximum course load is:
 - 5 post-secondary courses
 - OR 2 upgrading courses and 2 post-secondary courses
 - OR 1 upgrading course and 3 post-secondary courses
 - OR 3 upgrading courses
- For Spring or Summer, the maximum course load is:
 - 2 courses, regardless of whether they are upgrading or post-secondary level.
- We encourage you to find the best course load for you to be successful in your courses and your program! Open Studies is very flexible and you can choose a course load that matches your goals and the demands of your life.
- When determining your course load keep your funding in mind, if applicable. For course load requirements for funding purposes, please visit www.rdpolytech.ca/psfunding.

WHAT IF I COMPLETED COURSES AT ANOTHER POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION?

Once you are admitted to RDP, you can then apply to have your post-secondary courses assessed for transfer credit through our [Recognition of Prior Learning Office](#). Once admitted to RDP you can complete an [RPL application form](#), provide the Polytechnic Assessors with any and all transcripts, course outlines/descriptions, or other documentation necessary to support your PLAR application.

NOTE: To qualify for a Red Deer Polytechnic program credential, students must complete at least 50% of the credit requirements for the credential through enrolment in RDP courses.

REGISTRATION AND PROGRAM AUDIT

- Refer to the **Registration** tab on your Loop account to view **Registration Tips and Tricks** for information on:
 - Registering in classes
 - Waitlisting
 - Checking Prerequisites and Corequisites
 - Courses listed as **prerequisites** must be completed before you start the course in question.
 - Courses listed as **co-requisites** must be taken at the same time as the course in question.
 - Viewing Your Schedule
 - And much more!
- After you have completed your registration, if you would like an advisor to review your registration please submit a [Registration Review Form](#).

SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCE

FIRST TERM	SECOND TERM
ENGL 219- Essay Composition & Critical Reading (3 credits)	Open Elective PSYC 261 is recommended (3 Credits)
PSYC 260 – Basic Psychology Processes (3 credits)	Open Elective (3 Credits)
SOCI 260 – Sociological Concepts and Perspectives (3 credits)	Philosophy Requirement (3 credits)

This is just one example of how to arrange your schedule. Your schedule may look different depending upon the courses you choose to fulfill each requirement.

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. The Justice Studies Diploma program has the following electives that can be completed outside of the program:
 - One (1) [Fitness/Wellness Requirement](#) (3 credits)
 - One (1) [Indigenous Knowledge Requirement](#) (3 credits)
 - One (1) [Philosophy Requirement](#) (3 credits)
 - One (1) [Sociology Requirement](#) (3 credits)
 - Three (3) [Open Electives](#) (9 credits total)

You may notice that there are more electives in the Justice Studies Diploma program than are suggested above. The reason that we do not suggest taking all of the electives is that if you are admitted to the diploma program, you may not have enough courses/credits in first term to be considered a full-time student for funding purposes.

If you will be pursuing full-time funding in the Justice Studies diploma, it is recommended to not have more than 6 courses that will count for credit towards the Justice Studies diploma, in order to best maintain chances for full time enrollment in diploma.

2. Please ensure you check for pre and co-requisites.

REQUIRED NON-JUSTICE AND ELECTIVE LIST

***Please note, these courses may be offered in numerous terms and may be offered online or on-campus. Not all courses are offered every year. Please plan your program accordingly.**

Fitness/Wellness Requirement:

All aspects of fitness and wellness are relevant to careers in Justice-related areas. The Fitness and Wellness Requirement is designed to ensure that you have a foundation in health and wellness to prepare you for the world ahead. Depending on your career goals, you may wish to seek further advice on physical fitness specific to career entry testing requirements (e.g. the PARE/COPAT test). It is recommended that you take your

Fitness/Wellness Requirement in Year 1 to support wellness habits through your program and career. Your Justice Studies Seminars will discuss fitness and wellness issues relevant to careers in Justice Studies.

Choose one of from the following:

- KNSS 210 - Personal Fitness and Wellness
- KNSS 214 - Introduction to Personal Physical Activity
- KNSS 244 - Introduction to Nutrition
- INTD 325 - Mindfulness, Meditation & The Body
- KDNC 200 - Spectrum of Dance in Society
- KPAC 255 - Yoga for Beginners
- KPAC 296 - Flexibility & Relaxation

Sociology Requirement List:

The Sociology Requirement is designed to expand your foundation in sociological theory as a foundation for justice studies and criminology.

Choose one from the following:

- SOCI 301 (Gender)
- SOCI 310 (Statistics)
- SOCI 312 (Methods)
- SOCI 323 (Poverty)
- SOCI 332 (Theory)
- SOCI 365 (Stratification)
- SOCI 371 (Families)

Philosophy Requirement:

The Philosophy Requirement is designed to broaden your perspectives on moral philosophy and ethics. This requirement can be taken in Term 1 or Term 2.

Choose one from the following:

- PHIL 201: Values & Society
- PHIL 300: Professional Ethics
- PHIL 319: Philosophy of Law
- PHIL 340: Moral Theory
- PHIL 355: Philosophy of the Environment
- PHIL 386: Bioethics
- PHIL 399: Technology and Computing.

Indigenous Knowledge and Perspectives Requirement:

The Indigenous Knowledge and Perspectives Requirement is designed to provide a foundational knowledge of Indigenous Peoples in Canada including their histories, cultures, diverse perspectives, and current contexts. It is recommended that you take this requirement in Year 1.

Choose at one from the following list:

- INDS 205: Indigenous Peoples in Canada
- ANTH 327: Cultures in a Global Context

- ANTH 356: Survey: Indigenous Canada
- ENGL 385: Indigenous Literature
- HIST 372: The Prairie West in Canada
- HIST 373: Canada to 1867
- HIST 374: Canada Since 1867
- HIST 379: Indigenous Peoples and Canada
- SOCI 307: Indigenous Peoples in Canada
- SOCI 368: Race and Ethnicity in Canada
- POLI 223: Canadian Political Issues

Open Electives:

Three Open Electives are required for this program. Any courses from the other categories, or any three-credit university level course will fulfill this requirement. Please keep in mind, students who have an interest in 2nd year Psychology courses should take PSYC 261 as an elective.

CONTACT INFORMATION AND HELPFUL RESOURCES

Red Deer Polytechnic Student Connect Centre	studentconnect@rdpolytech.ca www.rdpolytech.ca/SCC 403.342.3254
Red Deer Polytechnic website	rdpolytech.ca
Transfer Alberta Guide	transferalberta.alberta.ca