

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

- See the [Academic Calendar](#)
- If you are looking for a career in a justice related profession and you're looking for an opportunity to hone your understanding on the justice system, the Justice Studies diploma at RDP is a great first step. During this program, you will:
 - Prepare yourself for employment in a wide variety of careers including careers in the justice system.
 - Take courses from various disciplines to create a well-rounded understanding of the justice system at a local, provincial/territorial and federal level.
 - Learn how to apply skills in mediation and conflict resolution to communicate effectively in stressful situations.
 - Assess societal inequities and their impact on the justice system, as well as contemporary issues in the justice field regarding marginalized populations.
 - Analyze elements of the Canadian justice system and how they relate to one another.
 - Attain new knowledge, skills, and supports to maintain and improve personal physical, spiritual, and psychological well-being.
 - Apply your knowledge through a practicum opportunity in your second year of study.
 - Study and stay in Central Alberta to gain a credential in Justice Studies.

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.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Students must complete all courses with a minimum grade of 'D' and a minimum grade point average (GPA) of **2.00**.

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?

- The **first year** of Justice Studies has **pre-set registration**, which means that you are automatically registered into courses. However, the second year of Justice Studies does not have pre-set registration and students must register themselves into their courses.
- This program is designed to be taken full-time (i.e. at a maximum course load) over two years. See course sequencing below.
- The maximum number of courses you can take in the Fall or Winter terms is 6 courses with 1 of those courses being the one-credit JUST seminar (JUST 105, JUST 106, JUST 205, or JUST 206) and 2 courses in the Spring (optional).
- To complete your program in two years, you would need to take the maximum number of courses per term (6 courses in the Fall and 6 courses in the Winter), or 10 course per year. Some students will complete 10 courses in a year by taking 1-2 non-JUST courses in the Spring term (depending on availability).
- 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 HAPPENS IF I TAKE LESS THAN THE RECOMMENDED COURSE LOAD?

- You may need an extra term or year to complete your program.

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](#) and 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!
- You can also see for yourself exactly which criteria each course will meet, by using Grad Tracker. To access this, log in to the Loop and select Online Services→Student Services→Grad Tracker.
- After you have completed your registration, if you would like an advisor to review your registration please submit a [Registration Review Form](#).

GRADUATION CHECKLIST (UNOFFICIAL)

****Justice Studies (JUST) courses are only offered in the terms listed below.** Justice Studies Courses are normally offered on campus in a face-to-face delivery format.

REQUIREMENT	PREREQUISITE	COMMENTS	COMPLETED
YEAR 1 FIRST TERM COURSES			
JUST 100 (3 credits)	Canadian Justice System		
JUST 105 (1 credit)	Professional Seminar I	Corequisite: JUST 100 & ENGL 219	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are advised the 1-credit JUST Seminars (JUST 105, 106, 205, 206) are important co-requisites with specific JUST courses each term. It is important that students complete their JUST Seminars in sequence to prevent program-completion delays.
ENGL 219 (3 credits)	Essay Composition & Critical Reading	ELA 30-1 or equivalent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required. It is recommended that you take ENGL 219 in your first term.
SOCI 260 (3 credits)	Sociological Concepts and Perspectives		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required in Year 1 (recommended in first term). This course is a prerequisite to SOCI 325 & 327.
PSYC 260 (3 credits)	Basic Psychology Processes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who wish access to 300 level Psychology courses must take PSYC 260 & 261.
<u>Fitness/Wellness Requirement</u> (3 credits)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended in Year 1.
YEAR 1 SECOND TERM COURSES			
JUST 106 (1 credit)	Professional Seminar II	JUST 105	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are advised the 1-credit JUST Seminars (JUST 105, 106, 205, 206) are important co-requisites with specific JUST courses each term. It is important that students complete their JUST Seminars in sequence to

			prevent program-completion delays.	
JUST 110 (3 credits)	Canadian Criminal Law	JUST 100		
JUST 115 (3 credits)	Corrections	JUST 100		
<u>Indigenous Knowledge Requirement</u> (3 credits)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended in Year 1. 	
<u>Open Elective</u> (3 Credits)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who have an interest in 2nd year Psychology courses should take PSYC 261 as an elective. 	
<u>Philosophy Requirement</u> (3 credits)				
YEAR 2 FIRST TERM COURSES				
JUST 200 (3 credits)	Justice System and Indigenous Canadians	Prerequisite: JUST 100 and 1 course from INDS 205, ANTH 327, ANTH 356, ENGL 385, HIST 372, HIST 373, HIST 374, HIST 379, SOCI 307, SOCI 368 OR POLI 223.		
JUST 205 (1 credit)	Professional Seminar III	Prerequisite: JUST 106 Corequisite: JUST 215	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are advised the 1-credit JUST Seminars (JUST 105, 106, 205, 206) are important co-requisites with specific JUST courses each term. It is important that students complete their JUST Seminars in sequence to prevent program-completion delays. 	
JUST 210 (3 credits)	Conflict Resolution	JUST 106		
JUST 215 (3 credits)	Community Justice Initiatives	Prerequisite: JUST 100 Corequisite: JUST 205		
SOCI 325 (3 credits)	Criminology	SOCI 260		
<u>Open Elective</u> (3 Credits)				
YEAR 2 SECOND TERM COURSES				
JUST 206 (1 credit)	Professional Seminar IV	JUST 205	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are advised the 1-credit JUST Seminars (JUST 105, 106, 205, 206) are 	

			important co-requisites with specific JUST courses each term. It is important that students complete their JUST Seminars in sequence to prevent program-completion delays.	
JUST 220 (3 credits)	Gender & the Justice System	JUST 100		
JUST 225-Practicum or JUST 226-Capstone (3 credits)		Prerequisites: JUST 105, 106 and 205 Corequisite: JUST 206	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Work Integrated Learning Opportunities below for more information. 	
SOCI 327 (3 credits)	Criminal Justice & Crime Control	SOCI 260		
Open Elective (3 credits)				
Sociology Requirement (3 credits)				

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.

WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Registration in JUST 225 Practicum will be based on GPA and limited depending on the number of Practicum seats available each year. GPA is calculated based on the last 30 credits applicable to the Justice Studies Diploma not including the JUST Seminars.
- Students must have passed JUST 105,106, and 205 in order to register in JUST 225. JUST 206 is a co-requisite for JUST 225 and the two courses must be taken at the same time.
- Practicum must be completed in the final term of the student's program.
- Additional Practicum requirements and practicum pre-requisites (e.g. vaccinations and criminal record checks required by the agency) are discussed in 1st Year Seminars.
- Those students who do not qualify for or are not interested in a full-practicum experience with JUST 225 can take JUST 226 (also known as the Capstone course). JUST 226 will allow students to participate in a reduced work integrated learning experience, applied research/community engagement projects, or other.

TRANSFER INFORMATION

- **Bachelor of Arts:** Students who will have completed the Justice Studies Diploma at Red Deer Polytechnic can pursue a Bachelor of Arts upon graduation.
 - **BA PSYC at RDP- Check back later for more information!**
- **Royal Roads University:** If you graduate from the Justice Studies Diploma with a minimum GPA average of 3.0, you will be eligible to transfer into the third year of Royal Roads University's Bachelor of Arts in Justice Studies.
- **University of Calgary:** The University of Calgary awards 10 courses of credit (1 years' worth of coursework) to diploma holders.
- **Athabasca University** block transfer recognition into the Bachelor of Professional Arts with four Majors:
 - Bachelor of Professional Arts - Criminal Justice Major
 - Bachelor of Professional Arts - Human Services Major
 - Bachelor of Professional Arts - Communication Studies Major
 - Bachelor of Professional Arts - Governance - Law & Management Major
- Students intending to transfer into university programs upon completion of their diploma are advised to use [Transfer Alberta](#) to determine if the courses they are planning to take are transferable **and** to reach out to transfer institutions to discuss admission requirements for that program.

CONTACT INFORMATION AND HELPFUL RESOURCES

Red Deer Polytechnic Student Connect Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• studentconnect@rdpolytech.ca• www.rdpolytech.ca/SCC• 403.342.3254
Red Deer Polytechnic website	rdpolytech.ca
Transfer Alberta Guide	transferalberta.alberta.ca