

## **Drive-Thru Tour Script**

# Stop 1: Queally Loading Zone Queally Center

Hi Everyone! Welcome to the Driving Tour of the University of Richmond! For more than 180 years, Spiders have come to the University of Richmond with the expectation to exceed expectations. As a top-25 liberal arts university, we celebrate the idea of a changing and evolving world and we make it our mission to prepare Spiders to lead it. The University of Richmond is home to about 3,200 undergraduates who come from almost every state and nearly 70 countries around the world. But, no matter where they come from, students start their Richmond journey here with the Office of Admission and Financial Aid. The Queally Center is also home to Career Services and the Registrar's Office; this means you'll find students doing everything from touring campus and signing up for classes, to preparing for their job and internship searches and interviews. It's safe to say that whether you are starting or ending your journey at the University of Richmond, the Queally Center is a great resource. We encourage you to sign up for an information session to learn more about the admission process and our need-based and merit-based financial aid opportunities.

While we will provide some directions along the way, be sure to use your map that has the route outlined. The map will show where each stop is located, the route to take, and where to safely pull over in your vehicle. Along your drive, you will also see large blue wayfinding signs in front of buildings and along the road that will help guide you!

Next, we will be heading over to learn more about our delicious dining hall, see the heart of campus on the University Forum, and learn about resources provided by our Dean's office. Pull into Parking Lot W76 and make a left. At the end of the lot near the flower bed, you'll see a loop and two visitors' spots. Feel free to stop in the loop using your hazards or park in a visitor spot. See you there!

# Stop 2: Westhampton Parking Lot Heilman Dining Center

To your left is our buffet style dining hall, the Heilman Dining Center, or D-hall as we like to call it. D-hall is a community-based space and serves as a hub for socialization and student life. Every student has a SpiderCard, which allows you to access buildings around campus, swipe for meals in the dining hall, pay with dining dollars at other on-campus eateries, and use laundry and vending machines (basically, you can't live without it). As a first year student living on campus, you will purchase the Spider Unlimited Meal Plan, which gives you unlimited swipes into the dining hall as well as 875 dining dollars each semester to spend at the 8 other eating locations on campus. As you move through your years at Richmond, your dining needs may change; you might live

in our on-campus apartments (which have kitchens!) or you could choose to live off campus. In this case you may want to purchase a limited meal plan that still gives you access to our dining hall, and also allows you to cook meals for yourself – there are lots of meal plan options, so you can choose the one that best fits your needs when the time comes!

The dining hall is open from 7 AM to 8 PM every weekday, and from 8 AM to 8 PM on the weekends. Many of the other dining locations are open much later.

We have a variety of rotating food stations every day and every week, so you never get tired of the same old thing! Some of my favorite meals are from the made to order panini station, Mediterranean bowls from our international food station, or veggie burgers from our "Plant Life" station! And I can't forget the made-to-order egg station available daily. While our dining hall's awards speak for themselves, one of our student ambassadors told me that she found herself really missing our dining hall food while abroad... in Italy! That should tell you something!

The dining hall is also accommodating of allergies or other dietary restrictions – you simply need to speak to our oncampus dietitian or visit our allergy-friendly station! All food stations indicate what allergens may be present so you never have to take a risky guess. Most students on campus will tell you that the gluten free chocolate chip cookies are the best cookies in D-hall. If you get the chance, try one out! Another crowd favorite is Jersey Dirt which consists of Oreos and pudding! It is so popular that our dining hall even published the recipe in the Alumni magazine! And those unlimited swipes mean you can just pop in for a cookie between classes.

#### **Forum**

Directly in front of you should be the University Forum, an open patio area between the Heilman Dining Center, Gottwald Center for the Sciences, and the Chapel. The Forum is the heart of campus life and a central outdoor gathering space. This area stays busy, especially during Welcome Week, our annual celebration to kick off the academic year. You won't want to miss SpiderFest, which showcases hundreds of ways to get involved with our 200+ student-run clubs and organizations. During mid-term or exam weeks, you may even see Caring K-9 therapy dogs out on the forum looking to be pet!

## **Westhampton Dean's Office**

To your right, and perhaps a little behind you, you will see a small cottage-like building that is home to our Westhampton Dean's Office, one of our two deans of students. At Richmond, a unique part of our history is our coordinate college system, meaning, we used to have a separate college for men called Richmond College, and a separate college for women called Westhampton College. However, the University of

Richmond has been fully integrated and co-educational since the merger of the two schools in the 1970's. While the two-college system no longer exists as it once was, we still retain a Richmond College Dean's Office and a Westhampton College Dean's Office, today referred to as "The Colleges." Westhampton College also offers resources for students who are gender non-conforming, and as such, many gender non-conforming students choose to be a part of Westhampton College. Within each of these offices, we offer support for the development of all students through leadership and co-curricular involvement. Each college has a separate student governance system which means twice as many opportunities to get involved and enact change on campus!

Next, we will be exiting this parking lot and turning right to go learn more about student life at Richmond! You'll be heading to Parking Lot W84 after passing the Greek Theatre on your right. Drive slowly and feel free to pull off (using your hazards) for a better look before parking.

# Stop 3: The Web Parking Lot Student Activities Complex (The Web)

In front of you is the Student Activities Complex. This consists of a Student Center called The Web, as well as sorority cottages and spaces used for student organization gatherings. From student organization meetings and philanthropy fundraisers to speakers and club socials, the cottages are an integral part of student life on campus.

## **Greek Amphitheatre**

One of the things that makes Richmond's campus unique is our Greek Amphitheater situated to the right of the Westhampton tennis courts. Here, not only will you see students enjoying the outdoors, but you'll also find performances and productions hosted by the University Players, one of our student-run theater groups. This is also the spot where social events, like the annual Senior Toga Social take place. The Toga Social is a tradition where graduating students dress in togas and celebrate their achievements – this is just one of the many traditions we have here on campus.

Next, you'll be following the road to the right out of the parking lot and making a left at the intersection. This will take you down to Keller Hall, the Modlin Center for the Arts, and Booker Hall of Music. You'll notice a small loop on the side of Keller Hall next to the Crenshaw Field Hockey Field. Pull off here and use your hazards for a great view of the Westhampton Green. If the small loop is occupied, head straight and pull off in front of Keller Hall.

# **Stop 4: Keller Hall Pull-Off Westhampton Green**

The large grassy area to your left is the Westhampton Green, a beautiful space on campus where many students hang

out, play sports, or do homework during warmer weather. The Westhampton Green is conveniently surrounded by four residence halls, two academic buildings, and is a quick walk to D-hall, Westhampton tennis courts, and our beautiful Greek Amphitheater.

### Residence Halls (North Court/Grey/South)

Behind you and to your left are a few of the residence halls surrounding the Westhampton Green, including North Court, Gray Court, and South Court, all of which are upper-level student residence halls. Many of our upper-level student halls contain double suites connected by a bathroom. Even better, all of these buildings were recently renovated.

Down the hill from here is Lora Robins Court, one of five first-year residence halls on campus. Most of the rooms in our first-year residence halls are doubles with hall-style bathrooms shared among approximately 25 students. All buildings on campus have both heating and cooling with thermostat access in every resident room, so whether you prefer it hot or cold, you can set the temperature to suit your preferences! All residence halls have at least one laundry room, and there is no charge to use the facilities. Students simply swipe their Spidercard and wash as many loads as they'd like!

Upper-level student living options also include a selection of on-campus apartments. As you were entering campus, you may have noticed our multi-story and town-home style living known as the Gateway Apartments and the University Forest Apartments, respectively. These apartments are available for juniors and seniors and allow students to experience an independent lifestyle while keeping friends close and the commute to a minimum. These options are a huge reason why around 90% of Richmond students choose to live on campus all four years!

Many of our first-year and sophomore students choose to participate in one of our living-learning communities. These cohort programs help ease your transition to college by building smaller communities and meaningful connections across campus. The Richmond Endeavor program gives first-year students the chance to take a general education course with the students who live in the same residence hall.

Sophomores who participate in the Sophomore Scholars in Residence program have a similar housing arrangement and take a special-topic course – like "The Art of Basketball" or "Music, Storytelling, and Identity," for example. Oftentimes, these courses include a school-funded trip and have taken students all over the country and world; everywhere from Yosemite National Park and New Orleans to England and Portugal.

First year students can select their own roommate – they may want to live with someone they know from home, or met through an admitted student event; or they may choose to utilize our StarRez system, the University's housing portal

to find a roommate. With this system, students fill out a survey and provide personal details, such as interests, sleep, and study habits. StarRez then provides percent matches to other students in the system. From there, students can message those with a high percent match who might be a potential roommate. Or you can elect to have our residence life staff place you with a roommate based on the lifestyle survey results. All residence halls on campus also have live-in Resident Assistants who connect students to on-campus resources and host programs to build hall community. Your Resident Assistant is a great resource as you adjust to life on campus.

At Richmond, safety and well-being are among our top priorities. In addition to your Resident Assistant, the UR Police Department is here to help with emergencies and non-emergencies, even for a flat tire or a dead car battery. They arrive almost immediately and will either help or wait with you until help arrives! Like most schools, Richmond has the Blue Light System, as well as an Alert System that sends text messages and emails to students, notifying them of any potential safety threat on campus. We also encourage students to promote a safe and healthy campus environment on an individual level through numerous trainings and educational resources, including our required WELL 100 course, which introduces first year students to campus life. Not to mention, students need swipe-cards to access their residence halls, and all other buildings require swipe-card entrance after hours. Every one of these levels of security promotes a safe and healthy environment for all members of the Richmond community.

#### **Modlin Center & Booker Hall**

Directly in front of you, you will see two buildings connected with an overpass. These are home to our Visual and Performing Arts.

To the left is Booker Hall, which houses our Department of Music. Our impressive music faculty specialize in everything from composition and instrumental or vocal performance, to music theory and history. Located in Booker Hall is Camp Concert Hall which seats up to 576 people and has room on stage for three 9-foot grand pianos! In addition to our major and minor courses, we also offer for-credit private lessons! Any student, regardless of major, can be involved in music performance groups such as our chorus, jazz, orchestra, concert band, world music, and chamber ensembles. Some ensembles may require auditions, but the music department is open to all students.

The overpass that links Booker Hall and the Modlin Center is Parsons Music Library. In this music library, we have a dedicated music librarian who also is a world-renowned scholar of nineteenth-century Italian opera. Many Spiders would say that this is one of the best and most attractive study spaces on campus, no matter their major!

The building on the right is the Modlin Center for the

Arts, Richmond's creative hub. It's home to the academic departments of Theatre and Dance, Art and Art History, as well as one of our University Museums. The Modlin Center supports 250 events annually, welcoming over 50,000 audience members each year. Modlin houses three exhibition spaces, a music library, and four performance venues. Our students have access to all of these wonderful performance spaces throughout the year. Modlin also hosts a number of nationally and internationally renowned artists, including cellist YoYo Ma; trumpeter Wynton Marsalis; composer Philip Glass; modern dance pioneer the Martha Graham Dance Company; and bluegrass group, The Steeldrivers- and that's only a tiny handful. Something unique and important to note is that to declare a major or minor in one of the Visual and Performing Art departments, you do not have to audition or submit a portfolio.

Keller Hall, to the right of Modlin, is home to our creative arts. It underwent a recent renovation and has incredible facilities including arts studios for sculpture, printmaking, photography, painting, film, video, and sound.

For our next stop, we will be passing by the Queally Center again to head over to Gottwald, where we will talk about the sciences at Richmond and dive into our research opportunities. Take a left onto UR Drive at the end of the road and pull into the Deliveries Only pull-off on the right hand side, or into the parking lot just ahead by the Print Shop, which is Parking Lot W96.

# Stop 5: Gottwald Pull-Off Gottwald Center

To your left is the Gottwald Center for the Sciences. This building is home to our four science majors on campus: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (I know, that last one is a mouthful!). Gottwald is also home to our "live" mascot, Tarrent. Tarrent is a blue backed tarantula; you'll see her at basketball games.

Richmond also offers a pre-health track which includes medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary, and other tracks. This pre-professional program connects you with an advisor for assistance with choosing classes, gaining volunteer and shadowing opportunities, prepping for the MCAT, and applying to medical school. 89% of our students who apply are accepted to medical school on their first try; that's well above the national average of 41%.

Science students are successful in part because so many (70%) participate in research with professors in our 22 teaching laboratories and 50 student-faculty research labs. A group of neuroscience students in Dr. Lambert's lab is studying the effect of natural-enriched environments on the brain and behavior of rats. This study culminated in teaching the rats how to drive tiny robot cars in exchange for fruit loops – an accomplishment that gained national recognition and is featured on the *Hidden Lives of Pets* Netflix series!

Research isn't just for our science students! Students can do research in any field, regardless of their major. For example, a current psychology major is doing research with the Race and Racism Project, an initiative focused on highlighting and creating conversation around race and racism at the University of Richmond while exploring the role we play in the community. It's important work!

While not only for science majors, The Richmond Guarantee is one of the many programs UR offers to support students in exploring their academic ambitions. Every student is eligible for up to 5,000 dollars to fund an unpaid or underpaid internship or research experience over the summer. This is just one example of the many awesome ways Richmond supports students throughout their academic journey

### **Cannon Chapel**

Up the hill sits the Cannon Memorial Chapel – you saw the front of it when you were on the forum. The Chapel is a great place for students of all faiths to gather for worship, prayer, and fellowship. Our 16 different ministries represent a wide variety of faith traditions and are led by professionally trained chaplains from many faiths who mentor students in their spiritual growth and foster interfaith learning. Richmond even has programs for students who consider themselves spiritual but not religious. An example of this is Sacred Pause – a weekly opportunity for the campus community to come together to reflect and meditate on current life and world events.

Next door to the Cannon Memorial Chapel sits the Wilton Center. Here, students attend events for religious holidays like Eid al-fitr, Passover, and Easter; this is where we host Multi-Faith dinners, lectures, and discussions to encourage open dialogue and celebrate religious differences. While there are plenty of on-campus opportunities to practice spiritual well-being, the Chaplaincy also promotes global exploration through University-funded pilgrimage programs. These chaplain-led journeys take the classroom to all corners of the world, including the Holy Land, South Korea, Morocco, and Indonesia (just to name a few!). Students seeking to gain hands-on, professional experience may apply for the Chaplaincy's summer fellowship, a program that grants funding for a 6 to 10 week internship in a faith-based or non-profit organization.

#### **Gambles Mill Eco-Corridor**

Now, down the road on your right is the Gambles Mill Eco Corridor, a recent collaboration between students, faculty, and staff to restore the natural landscape of the area surrounding campus. By using hungry goats to remove nonnative species, reintroducing native plants, and restoring the Little Westham Creek stream bed, the University created a space where every member of the Richmond community can embrace nature. It also created a great walking path from

campus down to the shops and restaurants at River Road. To top it all off, the bee hives, pollinator meadow, and community garden allow students to utilize this outdoor area as a living laboratory. Sustainability is at the forefront of many strategic initiatives at Richmond, and the Gambles Mill Eco Corridor is a great example of how we are well on our way to achieving big goals. For example, we plan to reach 75% waste diversion by 2025 through campus-wide recycling education and initiatives like our ReThink Waste program.

Now we will head over to see our beautiful lake to learn more about student and academic services here at Richmond! We will be making a left turn that can be a little tricky to find, so make sure to keep a close lookout for Richmond Way! After you turn, you will pass an important and sacred place on our campus, the burying ground. This is the location where enslaved people who lived and labored on this land before the University was here are buried. Many faculty, staff, and students are working with their descendants to memorialize this space and honor the lives of their ancestors. When you have reached the lake, feel free to park in a visitor space on your right or safely pull to the side of the road, using your hazards, just past the visitor parking.

# Stop 6: Tyler Haynes Commons Pull-Off Tyler Haynes Commons

Seemingly floating atop Westhampton Lake, Tyler Haynes Commons connects the two sides of our campus. Here, students will find a number of offices, lounge spaces, and food options.

On the bottom level are Tyler's Grill, The Current, and The Cellar. Tyler's Grill is a grab n' go style eatery with options like burgers, salads, wraps, and smoothies. The Cellar offers a more traditional dine-in restaurant experience. Here, students can get dinner with their friends, watch a game or awards show, or grab a drink at The Cellar's on-campus bar serving beer and wine... THAT IS if you're 21 of course!

Between The Cellar and Tyler's Grill is The Current. The Current is a community space that was designed by students. Here students play video games, pool, or foozball, or watch movies with friends - gaming and movie equipment can be borrowed from the Center for Student Involvement on the second floor. The Center for Student Involvement is also the home to our 200+ student-led clubs and organizations. Our clubs represent a diverse array of interests, from organizations focused on community service, visual and performing arts, politics, academics, student government and everything in between. Greek life includes 15 Greek-letter organizations. First year students participate in deferred recruitment, which means that recruitment is not the first thing you do when you arrive as a first-year student! This gives you the chance to settle into college life, get to know some of the chapters, attend events, and ask questions before deciding whether or not to participate in social Greek Life. In order to create a more inclusive campus, we don't

have any Greek-specific housing; instead, our fraternities and sororities have chapter-specific 'lodges' and 'cottages' that are used for meetings and social events. And with a focus on philanthropy, most events and fundraisers are open to the entire campus. While about 25% of students join a Greek organization, everyone is invited to join in on the fun!

On the second floor of the Tyler Haynes Commons lives our Spider Shop where students can grab Richmond-themed gear or textbooks. The second floor is also home to the Bonner Center for Civic Engagement, or the CCE, which serves as the hub for getting involved in the greater Richmond area in everything from education and public health to food access and sustainability. The CCE also acts as a base for our Bonner Scholars Program. Bonner Scholars are a group of students who commit to volunteering at a local non-profit, school, or government organization for 10 hours per week in exchange for financial assistance. But, no matter your interests, the CCE will help you plug in and make a difference in the community.

On the third floor of the Commons, you'll find our Office of Scholars and Fellowships. We are one of only 20 colleges or universities to be honored for being a top-producer of Fulbright scholars. This office is a great resource for students who are interested in applying for fellowships like Fulbright and the Rhodes Scholarship.

Our Office of Career Services is so expansive that it has three locations on campus! In this location students can meet with any of our specially trained career services staff members to practice mock interviews, help with resume writing, or find support in sourcing an internship or job. Career Services also provides guidance on which majors and minors are best suited for future professions as well as guidance to students post-graduation. This office also runs HandShake - an online platform where employers, specifically seeking to recruit Richmond students, post job or internship opportunities. Over 400 employers come to campus each year for different recruitment events, including the Career Expo. Through our Spider Road Trips program, students also travel to major metropolitan areas including New York, San Francisco, and London to meet Spider alumni and learn about different industries and potential job opportunities. Keeping all of this in mind, it's easy to see why our Office of Career Services is ranked number 6 in the nation.

As you can see, Tyler Haynes Commons has a variety of resources for all Richmond students and is sure to be one of your most frequented buildings on campus!

## **Westhampton Lake**

At the center of our campus is the picturesque, and ever so popular Westhampton Lake. On a sunny afternoon, you can find students lounging in the hammocks and Adirondack chairs along the banks, jogging along the scenic running trails, or playing disc golf in the surrounding woods. Westhampton Lake is also the site of our annual Candlelight

Ceremony, a tradition during graduation weekend that gives seniors the chance to celebrate their accomplishments with fireworks and reflect on their four years at Richmond.

### **Boatwright Library**

Up on the hill above the lake sits the Boatwright Memorial Library. There are many quiet locations to study on campus, but this building is a hub for academic growth and discovery. It is open 24 hours a day, 5 days a week with reduced hours on the weekends. On the first floor of Boatwright, you'll find large, collaborative spaces where students can work on group projects, while the upper levels of the library are designated as 'quiet' areas. There are computers available for use on all floors; students simply need to login using their student ID. Boatwright also houses classrooms, group and individual study rooms, an auditorium, and a virtual reality and 3D printer lab – it's safe to say, no matter how students prefer to learn, they can always find the perfect atmosphere here. When Spiders need a little boost, they love to take advantage of 8:15, Boatwright's on-site café that sells La Colombe coffee, pastries, flatbreads, and other snacks.

Attached to Boatwright is our Academic Skills Center. Here, students can learn time-management techniques or connect with a peer tutor for help with that tough Calculus or Spanish course. All of the students who work in the Academic Skills Center are highly trained and specialize in the subjects they tutor.

## **Transportation Hub & Safety**

If the lake is on your left side, then on the corner of the Tyler Haynes Commons, you'll see our transportation hub, where students can utilize the many shuttles available to transport them to and from the city of Richmond. On every major break, shuttles run to the train station which is 15 minutes away and to the airport, which is about 30 minutes away. Students can also use the Libbie Connector, Spider Mall Crawl, and the Richmond public bus system to go just about anywhere in the greater Richmond area. On the weekends, students love to go to the James River for tanning, swimming, tubing, and even kayaking! Not to mention, with over 900 restaurants in the city of Richmond, there are plenty of delicious options for off campus dining and fun. Our suburban location is ideal in that we are only twenty minutes away from a lively city, but we also have our own well-defined, beautiful campus with tons of green space and views that never get old.

We are now headed towards our Weinstein International Center – this stop isn't too far away, so see you there soon! On your way up the hill, you'll pass a number of residence halls on your left before you reach the green space across from the International Center. You'll find a few visitor parking spaces on the right in front of the International Center, but if those are full, feel free to head into the parking lot just ahead.

# Stop 7: International Center Parking Lot Weinstein International Center

The Weinstein International Center is the hub for global learning and exploration on campus. This is where all of our language, culture, and geography classes are held. You'll also find the Office of International Education, which houses our study abroad programs, and the Passport Café, a campus favorite that serves all kinds of tasty, international cuisine.

As part of our general education curriculum, every student must fulfill four credits of foreign language. Some students will test out of this requirement through high scores on AP or IB language exams, some will place into higher levels of the language they've been learning in high school through our placement test, and others will take advantage of the opportunity to learn an entirely new language!

Our Office of International Education supports and serves our international students who come from over 70 countries and make up roughly 11% of the undergraduate population. Our priority is creating an inclusive, caring community dedicated to personal and intellectual growth; fostering the importance of global perspectives, and preparing all students for a future in a rapidly shrinking world. International Education also hosts programs for the entire campus, including a country-specific international week where we have special activities and menus related to a specific geographic area.

Studying abroad is an opportunity that more than twothirds of students take advantage of during their time at Richmond. Whether it be short-term, for a semester, or even for an entire year, Richmond offers over 75 different programs in over 30 countries all around the world. Our Study Abroad team works to mentor students through program selection and credit transfer, as well as travel and financial logistics. Your financial aid travels with you abroad, and every student receives a minimum of a \$1,000 stipend that can be used to pay for additional travel expenses and cultural experiences while you're abroad. Study Abroad is so accessible that many students take advantage of multiple programs; for example, one of my friends studied abroad in Brazil during her sophomore spring break, Spain the summer after her sophomore year, and is spending her junior fall in Chile and her junior spring back in Brazil!

## **Student Center for Equity and Inclusion**

On your drive here, you passed the Student Center for Equity and Inclusion, or SCEI for short. The SCEI fosters inclusive communities and empowers students through dedicated student organizations, affinity groups, campuswide ally trainings, celebratory events, access to a Multicultural Student Space, LGBTQ+ Student Lounge, and much more! This office primarily serves as a resource for our Multicultural, First Generation, Limited Income, and LGBTQIA+ students; but all UR members are encouraged

to participate in SCEI programs that center cross-cultural dialogue and learning.

The SCEI is home to many programs that help amplify the voices of these underserved populations. These programs include Spiders FLI, which provides leadership opportunities, networking experiences, and more to our First Generation College and/or limited-income students. The office also plans celebratory programs to promote cultural recognition and to celebrate the uniqueness of our cultural differences. The SCEI hosts annual celebrations for APIDWA and Latinx Heritage, Black History, as well as campus pride activities for LGBTQIA+ students and allies.

The SCEI also oversees our Cultural Advisors, which is a group of student leaders who work to create a more welcoming and supportive community for all students by programming alcohol alternative events called SpiderNights. SpiderNights provides a fun, on-campus event most Saturday nights to support a more inclusive social scene. Some recent examples include movie screenings, carnival nights, and grocery bingo. Cultural Advisors develop skills in diversity, collaboration, community building, and more!

### Well-Being Center & Recreation Center

Directly across from the International Center, we have our newest building on campus, the Well-Being Center, which conveniently houses all elements of wellness under one roof. The Well-Being Center is home to Health Promotions, Student Health Center, as well as our Counseling and Psychological Services.

Some unique and exciting features of the Well-Being Center include massage rooms, a Himalayan salt room, a café that serves local and organic food, and a meditation garden! Wellbeing is at the forefront of our university's strategic plan and is a very important aspect of the education that you will receive here at Richmond.

The Well-Being Center is connected to the Weinstein Center for Recreation. The Weinstein Center houses cardio and strength training equipment, personal trainers, a three-court gymnasium and lots of free fitness classes like Yoga, cardio dance, kickboxing, and much more! If you like your workouts in the great outdoors, you can check out our Outdoor Adventure and Recreation program which rents kayaks, tents, and mountain bikes. They also host a variety of guided outings like whitewater rafting on the James River and hiking through the Appalachian Mountains. If sports teams are more your thing, Richmond has more than 50 club and intramural teams that participate in non-varsity competition, along with 17 Division 1 teams, most of which belong to the Atlantic 10 Conference.

#### School of Law

Have your sights set on a legal career? Get started early at Richmond. The Law School is tucked behind the

International Center and directly across from Robins Stadium's back entrance. Our top-50 ranked law school's faculty also teach undergraduate courses, so you'll have the chance to learn from expert legal minds. Some of our First-Year Seminars — like Framing the U.S. Constitution and Wrongful Convictions in Modern America — are taught by law professors. A handful of other courses are cross-listed for both undergraduates and law students, meaning you'll get a glimpse into law school life prior to even graduating!

Next up we will be driving over to the Stern Quad where we will talk more about academics, including the Jepson School of Leadership Studies and the Robins School of Business. On your way, you will pass the law school on your right, and then the Business school which we will tell you more about when you arrive on the Stern Quad. We encourage you to park in one of the U6 Parking Lots after making a right onto The Circle.

# Stop 8: Stern Quad Parking Lot Stern Quad

You are now facing Stern Quad which is home to many academic buildings on campus. There are 3 important buildings that surround this quad area: Jepson Hall, Weinstein Hall, and the Humanities Building. Students may enter Richmond with a specific major in mind, but students do not declare a major until they have 12 credits, typically in their sophomore year. First year students begin with general and introductory courses; they later formally declare a major in Arts & Sciences, or apply to the Jepson School of Leadership Studies and/or the Robins School of Business.

## **Jepson Hall**

Jepson Hall features a beautiful tower similar to Boatwright Memorial Library and is across from the Humanities Building to the right. Jepson Hall, home to the Jepson School of Leadership Studies, is the first leadership school of its kind in the country and has since been replicated over 30 times around the globe. Leadership Studies is the study of leadership as it was, as it is, and as it should be in the future. Jepson professors don't have leadership degrees; rather, they are experts in philosophy, English, economics, business, or any number of other fields. These professors teach classes by viewing their areas of expertise through the lens of leadership. The leadership curriculum includes courses such as Justice & Civil Society, Critical Thinking, Theories & Models, and Ethics. Many leadership students love studying social and cultural issues in Dr. Hoyt's elective class titled "Leadership in a Diverse Society." Leadership Studies majors have gone on to pursue careers in public policy, marketing, education, sales, consulting, finance, international affairs, and much more. Students interested in becoming a leadership major or minor and will typically apply to Jepson during the fall of their sophomore year: before applying they need to have a 3.0 GPA, complete the

leadership 101 and/or 102 introductory courses, and submit a supplemental essay and recommendation letters from both a Jepson and a non-Jepson professor.

Jepson Hall is not just home to the Leadership Studies School. It is also home to our departments of Math and Computer Science. Math and computer science are available as both majors and minors. Students interested in either of these subjects may also choose to pursue a crossover major or minor like the Mathematical Economics major or the Data Science and Statistics minor. These departments not only offer advanced courses, but also conduct faculty-mentored research. Recently, a group of students programmed a way to collect data on politicians' Twitter accounts to analyze their rhetoric.

### **Humanities Building**

The building most likely directly in front of you is the Humanities Building. The Humanities Building is our oldest building on campus, constructed in 1914, and as you can see, all of our other buildings are modeled after its redbrick architecture. This building is home to our humanities departments such as classics, philosophy, English, and history, as well as to our mummy, Ti Ameny Net! The humanities are part of the School of Arts and Sciences; about 60 percent of students will declare a major in the 23 different departments and 10 interdisciplinary programs in Arts and Sciences. Students are also free to mix and match majors, minors, and cross-departmental courses to forge their own paths. In fact, it's what the school's open and flexible curriculum encourages!

#### **Weinstein Hall**

Weinstein Hall is located across from the Humanities Building on the left. Weinstein Hall is where you will find our social sciences such as anthropology, sociology, PPEL – which stands for Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and Law – journalism, rhetoric and communications, as well as women, gender & sexuality studies. It also houses our speech center, one of the many academic resource centers on campus. The speech center is run by many highly-trained peer tutors who use a variety of tactics to help students develop their public speaking skills. We also have a writing center as well as a general academic skills center.

### **Robins School of Business**

On your drive over, you passed the main entrance to the Robins School of Business. As the name suggests, the Robins School of Business is home to our Business Administration, Accounting, and Economics majors. Business Administration majors are required to choose at least one of eight concentrations, including Finance, Marketing, Management, or International Business. It is rare to find a highly ranked business program at a small university where you have all of the resources coupled with small classes, personal attention,

and big opportunities. To declare a major in Robins, students need to successfully complete three prerequisite classes (Calculus, Financial Accounting, and Microeconomics) and pass an Excel Proficiency Exam. Robins' "hands-on" approach to teaching can be seen in various areas throughout the building. On the first floor is the Ukrop Auditorium, where Richmond has hosted many distinguished speakers, including the founder of Netflix, the CEO of Carmax, and the CEO of Macy's. The first floor is also home to the Lessing Trading Floor, a space with Bloomberg terminals popular among finance students and our Student Managed Investment Fund members.

Students from every major are also eligible to take part in the year-long Bench Top Innovations class in the business school. In this course, students work in small groups to create a food product. After pitching their products, one product is chosen for the class to turn into a business the following semester. Students work on every part of the business, including budgeting, production, marketing, shipping, and more. The objective is to take a product from idea to reality in under 9 months. The first Bench Top Innovations class developed Absurd Snacks, a trail mix alternative that uses beans in place of nuts which is available on campus in our convenience store – the ETC – and in local markets here in Richmond!

Finally, a visit to the business school is never complete without stopping at Lou's Cafe. Lou's serves up everything from sandwiches and salads to Red Pepper Gouda Soup which is a student favorite!

Upon exiting the parking lot, take a left at the stop sign onto UR Drive. Follow UR Drive until the end and at the stop sign and make a left onto Campus Drive. You will then make another left onto College Road towards the athletic facilities. In between Robins Center and Robins Stadium, you will see a drop-off area. Pull in and enjoy the last stop of your tour!

### Stop 9: President's Circle Robins Stadium & Robins Center

The Robins Stadium, to your left, and the Robins Center, to your right, are home to the only Spiders in the country, thanks to our very unique mascot. Come by on a Saturday afternoon in the fall and you'll find tailgaters lined up and ready to cheer on the football team. For our football home opener, we have Hometown Throwdown on the Millhiser Green in front of the Well-Being Center, featuring free food, gear, and activities! Richmond may be small, but we're mighty when it comes to athletics. We're a Division I school with powerhouse teams in football, basketball, lacrosse, swim/dive, tennis, golf, and more that compete in the A-10 and Colonial Athletic conferences. Tickets are free for students, so you never have to miss a chance to show off your Spider Pride!

And with that, we've reached the end of our driving tour! Thanks so much for driving around with us and exploring our campus! We hope that you learned some valuable information about Richmond and were able to see all that this wonderful campus has to offer! If you have questions about something you saw or heard today, visit our admission webpage to contact a current student or your regional admission counselor!

If you would like to go back to the Queally Center for Admission & Career Services, you can take a left onto College Road and follow that road until you pass the lake, and then take the first left after the lake at the College Road Entrance onto Keller Road. You will take an immediate right onto Westhampton Way. As you continue on Westhampton Way, you will pass our alumni center and athletic practice fields. You will stay on Westhampton Way until it ends and will then turn left onto UR Drive. The Queally Center will be on your left! The map does show this route.

If you would like to exit campus, make a right onto College Road. You will veer left onto Boatwright Road which you will follow until you hit Three Chopt Road! Safe travels!