SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY’S
College of Education

Parent/Dean’s Meeting

Dr. Keith Dils, Dean
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Dr. James Preston, Assist. to the Dean
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SRU’s College of Education

- SRU originated as a Teacher’s College in 1889
- SRU is part of the **PA State System of Higher Education (PASSHE)**
- SRU is nationally accredited by the **National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)**
- Of the 93 teacher preparation institutions in PA only 18 are accredited (about 20%).
Major Options

Areas for Certification:
- Early Childhood (pre K – grade 4)
- Middle Level (grade 4 – grade 8)
  - English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies
- Special Education (pre K – grade 8) with Early Childhood
- Secondary Education (7-12)
  - Social Studies/History
  - English
  - Science and Math (Only at the GRAD level)
- Health and Physical Education (K-12)
- Music Education (K-12) – not in College of Education
- Foreign Language Education: French and Spanish (K – 12)

Non-Certification Degrees:
- Transition Programming
- Physical Activity and Fitness Management
Non-Cert Degrees

- Transition Programming
  - Leads to a career providing services for individuals with disabilities across the lifespan

- Physical Activity and Fitness Management (PAFM)
  - Leads to many careers such as adventure travel and tourism, fitness director and personal trainer, to name a few.
Tips for Parents/Families

- Allow for mistakes, they are opportunities to learn
- Encourage independence
- Resist the urge to intervene
- Ask questions
- Provide support
First Two Years at the ROCK

- Declare Education as a Major
- Must work towards and apply for **Teacher Candidacy** between 48 & 60 Credits
  - Common requirements for all education majors seeking teacher certification:
    - 2.8 QPA
    - 6 credits in each Math and Literature/Writing
    - Demonstrate competency in “basic skills”
    - Must have “clear” background checks
    - Must have negative TB test
    - Act 126 training (Mandated Reporter)
    - Other requirements differ by department (certain courses)
- Once admitted, considered a “**Teacher Candidate**”
Ways to Demonstrate Basic Skills Competency

- Qualifying SAT Scores
- Qualifying ACT scores
- Qualifying PAPA scores
- Qualifying ETS Core assessment scores

- Can mix and match reading, writing, and math from the various options.
Demonstrate “basic skills” before coming to SRU

SAT Scores
- Prior to March 2016: Score of 500 in reading, writing & mathematics
- After March 2016: 27 in reading, 26 in mathematics & 28 in writing and language

ACT scores:
- Between Sept. 2015 & Sept. 2016 22 in reading, 21 in writing & 21 in math
- After September 2016: 22 in reading, 21 in mathematics & 8 in Writing
Demonstrating “Basic Skills” at SRU

- Pre-service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA exams)
  - This is the Commonwealth’s test
  - Covers Reading, Writing and Mathematics
ETS Core Academic Skills for Educators (ETS Core exams)

- Relatively new option for education majors in PA
- Test is given in many other states
- Reading, Writing and Mathematics
## ETS Core vs. PAPA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ETS Core (Total Cost: $150)</th>
<th>PAPA (Total Cost: $110)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Module Name</strong></td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Module Cost</strong></td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Questions</strong></td>
<td>56</td>
<td>40 + 2 Essays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time Allotted</strong></td>
<td>85</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pass Rate</strong></td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>84%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

[https://www.ets.org/praxis/about/core/](https://www.ets.org/praxis/about/core/) [https://www.pa.nesinc.com/](https://www.pa.nesinc.com/)
Preparation Materials

- Free and priced materials can be found on the testing websites.
- Students can e-mail Dr. Preston (james.preston@sru.edu) for username and password to free online prep course. Please use SRU e-mail account.
Once in the Major

- Field experiences embedded in the courses, practice teaching
- Schools in Western PA
- Courses in the major area (pedagogy and additional content)
- Student Teaching – a capstone experience
  - 16 weeks- usually divided into two 8 week segments
  - Held in various locations
    - Western PA; Pittsburgh
    - Dublin, Ireland & Mexico City; (application required)
Certification and Graduation

- **Requirements**
  - Complete all coursework & student teaching
  - QPA
    - A 2.8 to enter teacher preparation program
    - 3.0 to be recommended for certification with appropriate Praxis Score
  - Pass Praxis II/PECT (content)
    - Pennsylvania has some of the highest cut off scores in the country
    - Test(s) can be taken on-line at SRU
    - High QPA but unsuccessful test = ‘s NO certification
  - Dispositions are **IMPORTANT**
Opportunity exclusive to Freshmen

Deadline to apply: June 30, 2017

Benefits:
- Stipend
- iPad
- Mentor

If you have any questions, please contact:
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724-738-2463
jeremy.lynch@sru.edu
Opportunities with Technology

Three iPad carts for use by Early Childhood Education and Physical Education Majors
Opportunities with Technology

The COE has added 10 Interactive White Boards in recent semesters for faculty and student use.
Opportunities with Technology

All freshmen will be asked to purchase a subscription to TaskStream.

- TaskStream is an online tool that will allow students to *create e-portfolios, store important artifacts of success and create lesson plans*.
- Subscriptions can be purchased per semester or for several years.
- A six year subscription is less than a single textbook ($135 for 6 years or $50 per year).
Recent Grads in Education

- 59% are working full-time in their field*
- 13% are working part-time in their field*
- 13% have chosen to continue their education*

- Of those with full-time employment in their field, 53% are working in PA

- More information found in 2015 Annual Report by Career Education and Development

* Of those who responded to our survey
Openings in PA are increasing. A teacher shortage is being predicted for the future in PA.

In the past 15 years there has been a 33% decline in graduates from teacher prep programs in PA.

Opportunities in other states are abundant; VA, NC, SC, FL, NV, MS, AK, AZ, GA

International & online teaching opportunities are increasing

Teachers with PA certifications are highly sought after
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Questions?

Thank You!