Students in the Department of Counseling and Development earn a Master of Arts degree in one of our three high-quality, hands-on programs leading to professional positions as counselors and student affairs practitioners. They benefit from engaging professors, small classes, and a partnership with the Slippery Rock University Counseling Center that serves as a laboratory for learning. All programs are CACREP accredited.

Each of the degree programs share a common core of coursework in basic knowledge, including an introductory course for their degree program. Each specialty program offers a selection of coursework and field experience.

In addition to our three degree programs, the Department of Counseling and Development offers Post-Master's Endorsements for individuals who have already graduated with a master's degree in a related field and who wish to complete coursework in one or more of our degree programs without completing another degree.

Applicants must submit the following materials along with a completed online graduate application and non-refundable application fee:

1. A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 to be considered for unconditional admission. Applicants for the Clinical Mental Health Counseling degree must have completed at least three courses in psychology or a related discipline. Students with a grade point average below 3.0 must submit official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Miller Analogies Test (MAT) scores forwarded to the Graduate Admissions office (address below). SRU’s GRE code 2658, and the MAT code is 1660.
2. A written statement indicating their interest in the program, experience, and career goals (please see prompt on application).
3. Two academic recommendation forms from a former or current college or university faculty member with knowledge of the applicant’s academic aptitude, suitability for intended program area, and ability to form interpersonal relationships. Recommendations must be on appropriate forms, which are available electronically at www.sru.edu/graduate, under “Forms.”

Selected applicants will be invited for an interview. The deadline for applications and credentials for the fall semester is January 15. If seats are still available, the second deadline for materials is April 15.

Want a life changing experience that will help you change the lives of others? The Master of Arts degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education with College Counseling is designed to prepare students for leadership positions in a college or university and offers:

- Small class sizes which allow faculty to work intensively with students.
- Faculty who are engaging, student centered, and highly committed to teaching.
- A 60 credit-hour cohort program
- A program that is both accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) and meets professional standards set by Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS)
- A partnership with the Slippery Rock University Student Counseling Center that serves as a laboratory for learning.
- Graduates are eligible for the National Certified Counselor or credential (NCC) and are license-eligible in Pennsylvania as a professional counselor (LPC)
The College Counseling program is a 60 credit-hour program that is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) and leads to eligibility for Pennsylvania licensure as a Professional Counselor (LPC). The College Counseling program prepares highly skilled practitioners to provide direct services to students through a variety of college and university offices including a traditional counseling center. This program is a unique blend of training in counseling theory and skills, college student development, and higher education knowledge.

**Core I- Basic Knowledge (15 credit hours):**

- CDEV 602: Introduction to Student Affairs and College Counseling
- CDEV 610: Lifespan Development
- CDEV 614: Helping Relationships
- CDEV 621: Social and Cultural Diversity
- CDEV 699: Introduction to Research

**Core II- Professional Knowledge (15 credit hours):**

- CDEV 608: Ethical and Legal Issues in Student Affairs
- CDEV 623: Higher Education Environments, Cultures, and Students
- CDEV 631: College Student Learning and Development 1
- CDEV 632: College Student Learning and Development 2
- CDEV 643: Organizational Behavior and Leadership in Higher Education

**Core III-Advanced Knowledge (9 credit hours):**

- CDEV 603: Career Development and Counseling
- CDEV 612: Group Counseling
- CDEV 627: Practicum in Group Leadership
- Elective - any 600, 700, or 800 level course

**Core IV- Advanced Counseling Knowledge (12 credit hours):**

- CDEV 607: Models of Adaptive Behavior
- CDEV 617: Counseling the Adult
- CDEV 670: Counseling Theory
- CDEV 680: Assessment in Counseling

*The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and it is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.*

**Curriculum (cont.)**

**Core V-Field Experience (9 credit hours):**

- CDEV 707: College Counseling Practicum 1
- CDEV 708: College Counseling Practicum 2
- CDEV 756: College Counseling Internship

**Program Options**

There are two options for pursing a Master’s degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education with College Counseling:

1. Traditional three graduate years
2. 3+3 Program
   - SRU psychology undergraduates only
   - 3 undergraduate years + 3 graduate years

**Tuition and Assistantships**

Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at [www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate). Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office [www.sru.edu/FinAid](http://www.sru.edu/FinAid) or the Office of Graduate Admissions.

Applicants invited to interview for admission to Counseling and Development (CDEV) programs will have the opportunity to apply and interview for a variety of graduate assistantship positions (located both at Slippery Rock and a number of neighboring colleges) as part of the CDEV admissions interview process.