Harvard Business Review has dubbed the Data Scientist job the most desirable job of the 21st century! Glassdoor calls it a Top 10 Job. This means that demand is fierce and the pay is outstanding. The shortage of data scientists will soon exceed 150,000. This shortage is in addition to a projected shortage of 1.5 million data-savvy managers who can convert data to actionable information. Big data is driving an intense need for data scientists who know what to do with huge amounts of data. Thus, occupations involving data science are exploding.

Slippery Rock University’s Master of Science in Data Analytics (MSDA) prepares professionals to work in the rapidly-growing field of data science and big data. The SRU program is aligned with standards established by professional certification programs. Students completing the program will receive a joint certificate in statistical applications and data analytics from SRU and SAS Institute Inc. (www.sas.com). SAS Institute Inc. is one of the most widely used software platforms in the world for performing data analytics, statistical analysis and data visualization. SRU is one of only fifty-six institutions in the country that offer SAS certification. This will give graduates of the program a significant advantage in the marketplace.

Moreover, the MSDA will provide the training necessary for the Certified Analytics Professional (CAP) exam. The CAP exam is a broad-based analytics exam administered by the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS). INFORMS is the largest professional organization in the world that supports operations research, management science, and data analytics.

SRU’s Master of Science degree in Data Analytics offers:  
• 100% Online Coursework  
• A 33-credit program that can be completed in 10 months full-time or two years part-time  
• Statistical Analysis System (SAS) Certification  
• Preparation for the CAP exam  
• Training in big data analytics, machine learning, and state-of-the-art technologies  
• Highly accomplished faculty with big business experience  
• Internship option

**About the Program**

**Curriculum (33 Credits)**

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<td>Optimization Models</td>
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**Admission Requirements**

All applicants must submit the following materials along with the completed application form and non-refundable application fee:  
• Complete online application  
• Submit official undergraduate transcripts from an accredited undergraduate institution with a GPA of a 3.00 or higher. (Students with a GPA below 3.0 may apply for conditional admission)  
• Complete the following prerequisite courses with a grade of C or better:  
  - Differential Calculus  
  - Integral Calculus  
  - Probability/Inferential Statistics  
  - A programming language (C, C++, C#, Java, Python)  
  - Students will be expected to be familiar with multivariable calculus, linear algebra, mathematical statistics  
  - GRE not required

All prerequisite courses must be complete before entering the program. Students with a GPA less than a 3.00, with relevant coursework and prerequisite coursework, may apply for conditional admissions.

For questions about academics and course scheduling:  
Christy Crute, Ph.D  
Graduate Coordinator  
200N Vincent Science Center  
724.738.4286  
christy.crute@sru.edu

For questions about admissions:  
Office of Graduate Admissions  
105 North Hall, Welcome Center  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057  
724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD  
graduate.admissions@sru.edu  
www.sru.edu/graduate