About the Program

Nationally, thousands of students come to college with the skills and abilities to succeed, but without a clear idea about an academic major. At Slippery Rock University, we welcome the undecided (exploratory) student. By declaring “exploratory” as a major, students have the opportunity to gather information about different majors and minors, take self-discovery inventories, enroll in the “Major and Career Exploration” course, receive one-on-one advisement from faculty and meet faculty and professionals in the fields they are considering.

The SRU Exploratory Program is in the department of academic services. Academic services faculty are committed to supporting SRU students as they navigate toward achieving their academic goals. Faculty in the department meet individually with exploratory students to discuss possible major and career choice options, as well as how to improve study skills, how to choose appropriate and useful classes and any other academic topics of concern or interest to the students.

Exploratory Advisement

Your faculty adviser is an important resource for you as you start to identify or modify your academic and career plans. Your adviser will help you use the resources available at Slippery Rock University to choose classes and effectively reach your goals.

Advisement Center

The Advisement Center is part of the department of academic services. The center’s director and faculty are committed to helping students develop and reach their educational goals. In addition to individual advising, students and faculty visit the center for answers and to gather information about academic policies and procedures, course selection, understanding the myrockaudit system, individualized curricular planning and registration for classes.

FYRST Seminar and Learning Community Clusters

The goal of FYRST seminar is to provide students with the opportunity to become integrated into the University. Students will explore the value of higher education, participate in the teaching/learning process, address academic and social transition issues, utilize campus programs, services and technology and develop academic skills. Approximately 95 percent of all new first-year students are enrolled in FYRST seminars. Learning Community Clusters allow students to travel through three or four classes together, which fosters collaboration and cooperation. This promotes active learning so students are more involved. There is no prerequisite for FYRST Seminar.
College Skills Workshops
The Academic Services Department at Slippery Rock University presents a series of free, study skills workshops each fall semester designed to improve students’ learning skills. The list of topics includes: managing time; taking effective class notes and reading texts; building a strong memory; increasing test-taking skills; and preparing for final examinations.

Peer Tutoring
Students enrolled in most first-and second-year courses are eligible to receive free peer tutoring. More than 1,000 students utilize the individual and group tutoring opportunities available each semester. Tutors are upper-class students who have earned an “A” or “B” in the classes in which they tutor and have been recommended by at least two faculty members.

Career Education and Development
The Office of Career Education and Development offers a variety of services to assist students in planning and securing a satisfying career. Services include: individual counseling in choosing a college major; self-assessment inventories that help students identify their abilities, interests, and values; assistance in resume writing, interview skills and job search techniques; and information on job vacancies and company descriptions in business, industry, government and education. The office also coordinates advertising on-campus jobs and internship opportunities.

Liberal Studies Program
The Slippery Rock University Liberal Studies Program fosters an understanding of the interconnectedness among various disciplines, multiple cultures and diverse communities of students. As a result, students who have successfully completed the Liberal Studies Program will have developed those intellectual insights, abilities and skills that will enable them to function as informed, engaged and reflective global citizens, who are prepared to interact ethically and responsibly in a complex world.

Course Work
Students who earn their degree from Slippery Rock University complete course work from three components: the Liberal Studies Program, major program requirements, and free electives. Your academic adviser can talk with you about your major (or help you to explore majors), the Liberal Studies Program and many other academic topics and/or issues that are of interest or concern to you.

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Revised 7-10-2017