

PARK AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE



WHAT CAN I DO WITH A PARK AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEGREE?

A degree in park resource management will help you take a great adventure while also protecting and conserving special places through an understanding of the relationship between people and the natural world. Students can go on to work for federal and state land management agencies or enter the nonprofit conservation and resource management sector. This hands-on degree will prepare you to work in places such as nature centers, zoos, museums, national and state parks or public land management agencies. With the great outdoors as your office, each day will hold an exciting new adventure.

MAJOR

- Park and Resource Management (BS)*

MINOR

- Environmental Communication and Heritage Interpretation

** SRU is required by the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement and US Department of Education to notify you whether our program meets the academic licensure/certification requirements in another state. All jurisdictions have their own requirements for licensure/certification eligibility. SRU is approved to offer programs that may lead to licensure/certification in Pennsylvania. We are unable to determine our program's eligibility in states other than PA. Please review the licensing board contact resource at www.sru.edu/licensure-certification to seek guidance on the requirements of licensure in your home state or where you would like to practice professionally. Note that state requirements are subject to change at any time and without notice.*

SlipperyRock
University

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EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu

PARK AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AT SRU

Through the park resource management curriculum, students will be exposed to basic and advanced principles of natural and cultural resource management. Students can choose to concentrate their studies in a variety of areas, including, but not restricted to, environmental education and interpretation; park resource law enforcement; understanding human impacts on natural resources; ecological science; natural history; and land management.

WHY CHOOSE PARK AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AT SRU?

- 1. Hands-on applied coursework:** Several courses include service learning components where students develop environmental education programs for public audiences or work in collaboration with resource management professionals from local agencies. Many courses are taught at the SRU Macoskey Center for Sustainable Systems Education and Research, which is an 83-acre outdoor laboratory featuring a variety of habitat types and opportunities for becoming involved in sustainability and environmental education and communication. You will also gain experience in the field through a practicum and an internship, which will help you develop a professional network.
- 2. Experienced faculty:** You will be taught by full-time faculty members who bring real-life examples and research and/or industry experience to enhance your learning experience. All of our faculty have professional experience working in various aspects of the field.
- 3. Certifications:** You will have the opportunity to earn certifications that are recognized in the field, such as Leave No Trace, National Association of Interpretation Certified Interpretive Guide and Wilderness First Responder.
- 4. Support and guidance:** Every undergraduate student is assigned a faculty academic adviser to guide you through your program of study and help you make decisions about educational and career goals.
- 5. Opportunities for faculty-led travel:** Field-based learning is critical for becoming a well-rounded park resource management professional. Past opportunities for faculty-led trips have taken our students to the Grand Canyon, Arches, Yosemite, Mesa Verde, Yellowstone and Acadia national parks and to the country of Belize. These travel experiences provided opportunities for cross-cultural knowledge exchange with professionals in the field. You will also have the opportunity to travel to local natural and cultural resource management sites during course field trips.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SRU Park and Resource Management students have completed internships at various locations including:

- National Park Service
- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Bureau of State Parks and Bureau of Forestry
- Delaware State Parks
- West Virginia State Parks
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- SRU Robert Macoskey Center for Sustainable Systems Education and Research
- Asbury Woods Nature Center
- National Aviary
- Pittsburgh Zoo

CAREER OUTCOMES

SRU park and resource management majors have been successful in securing exciting careers with a variety of agencies and organizations in some of the most beautiful places in the world. They have the opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors every day as well as the responsibility to help connect future generations to natural and cultural resources and inspire a respect and appreciation for these special places. Graduates of the departments have secured careers in the following areas:

- Protection ranger, National Park Service
- Interpretive ranger, National Park Service
- Park ranger I, PA Bureau of State Parks (DCNR)
- Protection ranger, Delaware State Parks
- Program manager, Adventure Links
- Environmental interpretive technician, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Senior education specialist, Pittsburgh Zoo
- Crew leader, Youth Conservation Corps
- Environmental interpretive technician, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Park Ranger Society
- Environmental Education and Interpretation Club
- Between Two Trees Hammock Club



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Bobbi Ann Pease, '18

*Backcountry Ranger, National Park Service/
Shenandoah National Park*

"Being a student in the SRU Park Resource Management program provided countless opportunities to develop my team building and leadership skills. The variety of classes prepared me to head out into the workforce confidently."

Brian Reed II, '17

*Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps crew leader for the
Student Conservation Association, Meadville,
Pennsylvania*

"In my time at SRU, the Parks and Conservation Department served as my second home where I could learn about the technical parts of my profession as well as some life lessons that were passed down by the experientially diverse staff that was there."

Grant Smith, '17

*Park guide, Wind Cave National Park,
Hot Springs, South Dakota*

"My classes taught me how to interact and reach out to other professionals in the field, and I got valuable experience from my internship in the field. I wake up every morning looking forward to going to work. I love every aspect of my job and I can't imagine myself working for anyone other than the National Park Service."

ACADEMIC CONTACT:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.sru.edu/majors

ADMISSIONS OFFICE:

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