WHAT CAN I DO WITH A SECONDARY EDUCATION DEGREE?

Slippery Rock University’s programs in secondary education prepares future teachers for teaching careers in grades 4 through 12 classrooms in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the nation’s schools. Students who complete the requirements for this program will earn Pennsylvania teacher certification in Middle-Level Education or Secondary grade levels. Graduates of this program are qualified to teach in subject areas commensurate with their content-area.

SECONDARY EDUCATION AT SRU

Through the secondary education curriculum, students will be exposed to basic and advanced principles of teaching and learning theories. Moreover, students with a specific interest in a teaching content area to concentrate in middle-level or secondary education, e.g., English, social studies, physics, chemistry, biology, earth and space science, and mathematics, along with modern languages (French and Spanish).

WHY CHOOSE SECONDARY EDUCATION AT SRU?

1. Teachers do more than teach: A teacher’s impact extends far beyond the classroom. As a teacher, you are more than just an educator: you are a mentor, a confidant and a friend. One of the most common reasons to become a teacher is to make a difference in the lives of as many students as you can.

2. Experienced Faculty: You will be taught by full-time faculty members, not graduate assistants, who bring real-life examples and research and/or industry experience to enhance your learning experience.

3. Projects and Research with Faculty: Secondary education majors have numerous opportunities to collaborate with faculty in undergraduate research. This collaborative research opportunity is a long-standing tradition in the Department and all undergraduates should seriously consider experiencing this high impact practice.

4. Support and Guidance: Every undergraduate is assigned an academic advisor to guide you through your program of study and help you make decisions about educational and career goals.

5. Accreditation: SRU’s program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). Accreditation means that our program meets or exceeds the industry standards developed by experts in the field.

MAJORS

Middle-Level (4-8) (BSED)
- English/Language Arts*
- Mathematics*
- Science*
- Social Studies*

Secondary Education (7-12) (BSED)
- English*
- Social Studies/History*
- French*
- Spanish*

Secondary Education: Master of Education (7-12)
- English*
- Mathematics*
- Science (Chemistry, physics, biology, earth space, general science)*
- Social Studies*

MINOR
- Minor in Middle-Level Education
FIELD AND TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Field and student teaching experiences are available throughout Western Pennsylvania. Moreover, international student teaching experiences are available in Mexico and Ireland.

CAREER OUTCOMES

While many SRU biology (your program) majors will continue their education after earning their bachelor’s degree, graduates of the department have secured careers in the following areas:

- English Teacher, Fox Chapel High School
- Spanish Teacher, Mt. Lebanon High School
- Mathematics Teacher, North Hills High School
- Social Studies Teacher, Los Angeles Unified School District
- French Teacher, Miami Dade Florida School District

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Kappa Delta Pi Fraternity
- Middle-level Club
- SEFE Club

*All candidates completing this program and student teaching are eligible to receive Pennsylvania certification after achieving a passing or qualifying score on Pennsylvania Department of Education required exam(s). If you are interested in teaching in another state, please contact the Department of Education in that state.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Paige Casella, ’18 - Spanish K-12 Teacher at Aliquippa High School, Aliquippa PA

“The SEFE Department at Slippery Rock University did an excellent job at preparing me to be an educator. The professors are extremely helpful and passionate about education. I had so many incredible experiences inside and outside of the classroom that enabled me to grow into a better educator and all around person. I am proud to say that I have accepted a teaching position in Pennsylvania right after graduation, which would not have been possible without the stellar education I received. SRU will always have a special place in my heart!”

Taylor Reinsel, ’18 - Social Studies/History 7-12 Teacher at Airport High School in Columbia SC

“SEFE at Slippery Rock prepared me for everything classes, practicing, and student teaching threw at me. They prepared me to get a job right out of college, which I thought would never happen. The professors are so helpful and enthusiastic and the best mentors for upcoming educators. And don’t forget that teachers make all other professions possible.

Caitlin Baxter, ’17 - Middle-Level Science 4-8 Graduate Assistant, Slippery Rock University MEd Advanced Track Program

“The one-on-one attention I received from my SRU professors was second to none. Their passion to teach and help students achieve their career goals put me in the best possible position to achieve success.”