

SECONDARY EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM INSTRUCTION & ED. LEADERSHIP
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A SECONDARY EDUCATION DEGREE?

SRU's Secondary Education programs prepare future teachers for careers in middle and high school classrooms. Graduates earn Pennsylvania teacher certification in Middle-Level or Secondary Education and are prepared to teach in their chosen content area(s).

SECONDARY EDUCATION AT SRU

SRU's Secondary Education curriculum combines teaching and learning theory with specialized study in chosen content area(s). Students can prepare to teach English, Social Studies, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Earth and Space Science, Mathematics, or Spanish at the appropriate middle or secondary grade level.

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, research, and industry experience to enhance your learning.
- 3. Projects and research with faculty:** Secondary Education majors have numerous opportunities to collaborate with faculty in undergraduate research. This collaborative research 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
- Spanish

Secondary Education: Master of Education (7-12)

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Geoscience
- Mathematics
- Physics

MINORS

- Middle-Level Education

Please note: Middle-Level Education majors will enter moratorium beginning Spring 2027 and will no longer be available for new declarations after Fall 2026 due to changes in Pennsylvania teacher certification requirements.

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University®

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FIELD AND TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Field and student teaching experiences are available throughout western Pennsylvania. Moreover, international student teaching experiences are available in Spain.

CAREER OUTCOMES

While many Secondary Education majors will continue their education after earning their bachelor's degrees, graduates of the department have secured careers in the following areas:

- Pittsburgh Public Schools
- North Allegheny School District
- Lincoln Learning Solutions
- Butler Area School District
- Lawrence County Career & Technical Center
- Pine-Richland School District
- Loudon County Public Schools
- University of Pittsburgh
- PA Cyber Charter School
- Beaver Area School District
- Training and development manager
- Grant director, adult literacy
- Child nutrition outreach coordinator
- Care manager – FamilyLinks
- CEO – Boys and Girls Club of St. Marys, Inc.
- CEO – Center for Soul Care

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Kappa Delta Pi: International honors society in education
- Middle Level Club
- Secondary Education and Foundations of Education Club
- Student-PA Education Association

Slippery Rock University (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.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Paige Casella – SRU class of 2018 Spanish Teacher, Aliquippa High School

"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 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 – SRU class of 2018 History Teacher, Airport High School

"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 – SRU class of 2017 M.Ed. Program, Slippery Rock University

"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."

DEPARTMENT:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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