WHAT CAN I DO WITH A BIOLOGY DEGREE?
A degree in biology is commonly viewed as a steppingstone to a career in medicine, dentistry, optometry, pharmacy or veterinary medicine, and while that's certainly true, it is so much more than that. Many biology graduates get jobs right out of college as medical technologists, conservation biologists, research technicians, quality control specialists, food science technicians and pharmaceutical sales representatives, among many other careers. A degree in biology is also preparation for advanced training to become a physical therapist, physician assistant, occupational therapist, nutritionist, forensic scientist or marine biologist. Less well-known careers such as museum curator, science writer, medical illustrator and wildlife photographer also await biology graduates. And let us not forget one of the most rewarding careers of all, biology teacher.

BIOLOGY AT SRU
Through the biology curriculum, students will be exposed to basic and advanced principles of molecular, cellular, organismal and population biology. Students with a specific interest in the biological sciences can choose to concentrate their studies in a variety of fields, including anatomy, botany, cellular biology, ecology, microbiology, molecular biology, physiology and zoology, among others.

WHY CHOOSE BIOLOGY AT SRU?
1. Hands-on learning: Nearly all biology classes include a weekly laboratory session using modern equipment and the latest techniques. Lab sessions involve one-on-one instruction by professors, not graduate students.
2. Student-faculty research: Biology majors may collaborate with faculty on undergraduate research, a long-standing tradition in the department. After working independently on their projects, students have the opportunity to present their research at conferences and become co-authors on scientific papers.
3. Support and guidance: Each undergraduate is assigned an academic adviser who guides the student on which courses to take, monitors the progress toward the degree and helps him or her make decisions about further education and career goals.
4. Experienced faculty: Our classes are taught by full-time faculty who are highly trained in a variety of disciplines in biology. The faculty bring a wealth of scientific knowledge, research expertise and real-world experience to each class, lab and advising session.
5. Excellent research facilities: The department resides in a recently renovated building that boasts modern labs and research facilities equipped with sophisticated instruments that may be used in student-faculty research.
INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
SRU Biology students have completed internships at various locations including:

- Brown Equine Hospital
- Humane Animal Rescue Wildlife Center
- Slippery Rock Veterinary Hospital
- Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
- Jennings Environmental Education Center
- UPMC-Horizon Hospital
- Gateway Analytical
- National Aviary
- Clear Vision Family Eyecare

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

- Podiatric Medicine Doctor, Martin Foot & Ankle
- Physician Assistant, Triangle Urological Group
- Physical Therapist, Legacy Medical Centers
- Wetland Biologist, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch
- Chiropractor, Click Family Chiropractic
- Quality Assurance Technician, Dean Foods
- Scientist, Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories
- Optometrist, Gateway Eye Associates
- High School Teacher, Grove City High School
- Medical Laboratory Scientist, Cleveland Clinic

*Careers in these areas may require professional licensure and certification. Professional licensure and/or certification vary by state and you are urged to check with your state licensing board.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
- Beta Beta Beta
- Pre-Med Club
- Pre-PA Club
- Pre-Veterinary Club (PALS)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
Katie Graham-Roberts, ’04
Physician Assistant, Triangle Urological Group, Grove City, Pennsylvania
“My time with the Department of Biology at SRU was a steppingstone to great things. Not only was I well-prepared for graduate school, but I also made some great connections and met some lifelong friends.”

Evan Legenzoff, ’03
Operations Pharmacist, Chartwell at UPMC, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
“The education I received from Slippery Rock University and the Department of Biology gave me the background and core knowledge for the steps that I was preparing to take in the future. There isn’t any part of my career that hasn’t reflected a portion of my learning at The Rock.”

Christopher Cuff, ’82
Professor, West Virginia University School of Medicine, Morgantown, West Virginia
“My experience at Slippery Rock University was formative, both personally and professionally. My degree in medical technology enabled me to enter the workforce immediately after college and gain practical experience in medicine. This work experience, along with my strong training in medical microbiology and immunology, gave me a competitive edge for gaining entry into graduate school, and then being successful in my doctoral and postdoctoral training. My experience at SRU directly impacted my ability to realize my core professional goal, which was to rise to the rank of a tenured professor on the faculty of a medical school.”

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