WHAT CAN I DO WITH A CHEMISTRY DEGREE?

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports the mean salary of chemists to be more than $80,000 annually. Career opportunities in this field include pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing, scientific research and development and careers in the petroleum and natural gas industry. Chemistry graduates are also well-positioned to pursue entrance into a number of graduate programs including pharmacy school, medical school, other health-related graduate programs, education and chemistry doctoral programs.

CHEMISTRY AT SRU

Slippery Rock University’s Department of Chemistry has a strong commitment to student success. Our experienced, diverse and caring faculty are enthusiastic about teaching in both the classroom and the laboratory. They advise students at every step of their academic programs. The department offers five scholarships annually as well as meaningful extracurricular activities. Simply put, the chemistry major provides a well-rounded and rock-solid educational experience that prepares students for exciting careers and to be well-informed citizens.

WHY CHOOSE CHEMISTRY AT SRU?

1. Small lab and class sizes: Introductory labs are capped at 24 students and upper level labs are capped at 12 students. This provides students with hands-on experience and more one-on-one interaction with their professors. The average lecture class size is 25, thereby providing students a more individualized experience.

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

3. Projects and research with faculty: Chemistry majors have numerous opportunities to collaborate with faculty in undergraduate research. These collaborative research opportunities are a long-standing departmental tradition. All undergraduates should seriously consider experiencing this high impact practice.

4. Support and guidance: Every undergraduate is assigned an academic adviser to guide them through their program of study and help them make decisions about educational and career goals.

5. Accredited by the American Chemical Society: Accreditation means that our program meets or exceeds the industry standards developed by experts in the field.
INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
SRU chemistry students have completed internships at various locations including:
- Calumet Specialty Products
- Chromaflo Technologies
- Medical Examiner’s Office of Allegheny County
- Sonneborn Chemicals

CAREER OUTCOMES
While many SRU chemistry majors will continue their education after earning their bachelor’s degree, graduates have secured careers in the following areas:
- Quality assurance scientist, Mylan
- Alternative raw material chemist, Chromaflo Technologies
- Commercial technology chemist, Sonneborn LLC
- Research technician, Covestro
- High school teacher, New Castle High School

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
- Chemistry Club

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
Ashley Roland, ’17
Graduate student, LECOM School of Pharmacy, Erie, Pennsylvania
“My time and accomplishments at Slippery Rock University have solidified my long term goal and commitment to pursuing an advanced degree in pharmacy as well as afforded me opportunities, which have prepared me for this journey into LECOM School of Pharmacy. There is still so much to learn, but I am confident that I am well prepared for the academic work, professional standards, and personal requirements needed to become a pharmacist all thanks to my time at SRU.”

Shelby Schettler, ’17
Graduate student, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
“When I started at Slippery Rock University, I was not sure what I wanted to do exactly, but I knew I was interested in science. Research, and working as a teaching assistant, really inspired me to continue the path as a researcher and an educator. My research experience and my grades eventually paid off because I was accepted by the University of Pittsburgh for graduate school and was offered a fellowship to work in the summer.”

*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.