

# EXPLORATORY STUDIES

## DEPARTMENT OF EXPLORATORY STUDIES AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS



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REVISED MAY 2024

### EXPLORATORY STUDIES AT SRU

Each year, thousands of students across the country head off to college with the skills and abilities to succeed but without a clear idea about an academic major. At Slippery Rock University, we welcome hundreds of students to campus through the Exploratory Studies Program.

By declaring exploratory studies as a major, students have the opportunity to gather information about different majors and minors, take self-discovery inventories, enroll in specialized coursework, receive one-on-one advisement from faculty and meet faculty and professionals in the fields they are considering. In addition, exploratory studies majors are placed in a one credit FYRST Seminar that helps bridge the transition between high school and college. Transition topics such as majors and careers, academic advising, use of campus technology, active learning strategies and more are explored.

### SUPPORT FOR EXPLORATORY STUDIES STUDENTS

At SRU, we believe students who are undecided about their academic area of interest should feel confident and comfortable starting their college career. It is okay to not have it all figured out from the get-go. Part of what attending SRU is all about is finding your unique career path. Faculty in the Department of Exploratory Studies and Academic Progress meet individually with exploratory students to discuss possible major and career choice options, as well as how to improve study skills, choose appropriate and useful classes and any other academic topics of concern or interest to the students.

### WHY CHOOSE EXPLORATORY STUDIES AT SRU?

- Gives students time to learn more about majors and minors at SRU.
- Allows students to explore their skills, values, interests and abilities.
- Students can work with the Center for Career and Academic Progress to decide if the major they choose has employment opportunities suited to their goals.
- When a student does choose a major, they will know their choice is informed by honest self-reflection, thorough investigation of possible majors and exploration of career opportunities.

### COURSEWORK IN EXPLORATORY STUDIES

Students who earn their degree from SRU complete coursework from three components: Rock Studies program, major program and free electives. As an exploratory student, students will complete the requirements of the Rock Studies program to stay on track to earn their degree.