

# COUNSELING AND DEVELOPMENT STUDENT AFFAIRS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

MASTER OF ARTS  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

[www.sru.edu/sahe](http://www.sru.edu/sahe)



**DELIVERY METHOD**  
Blended (on-site/online)

**START TERMS**  
Fall Start Preferred

**COMPLETION TIME**  
4 semesters

**NUMBER OF CREDITS**  
42 credits

**OTHER OPPORTUNITIES**  
Hands-on learning, professional developmental  
funding available

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

As one of the oldest student affairs degree programs in the State of Pennsylvania, the Student Affairs in Higher Education program is distinguished by its emphasis on preparing professionals to respond effectively to individual student needs and provide groups of students with developmentally appropriate educational experiences. This 42 credit-hour degree program will prepare you to work in a variety of higher education positions, including but not limited to student activities, residence life, campus recreation, first year programs, student orientation, academic advising, admissions, financial aid, and career services.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Master of Arts degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education program:

- Meets professional standards set by the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS)
- Can boast that 95% of graduates secure jobs in a position in higher education within three months of their graduation
- Features faculty who hold degrees in student affairs/higher education, have worked extensively in the field, and are engaging, student centered, and highly committed to teaching
- Is committed to innovative learning experiences like case studies, professional guest presenters, simulations, reflective team supervision, and campus visits
- Creates conditions that lead to transformation in our students such as increased professional confidence, attainment of skills for social justice advocacy and leadership, enhanced critical thinking, and an understanding of how to use individual strengths to positively impact college students and the university environment

## ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Student Affairs in Higher Education program is housed in Slippery Rock University's Department of Counseling and Development which also has three other high quality, hands-on degree programs: College Counseling\*, Clinical Mental Health Counseling\*, and School Counseling. All faculty in the Department of Counseling and Development draw upon their experience working in their respective fields to provide dynamic learning opportunities for our students.

*\*Candidates completing these programs are eligible to become an LPC in PA after achieving a passing score on the National Counselor Examination. Additionally, candidates must obtain supervised experience, which can begin after the completion of your degree. If you are interested in working in another state, please contact the licensing board in that state.*

## TUITION AND ASSISTANTSHIPS

Students in the Student Affairs in Higher Education program are encouraged to obtain a Graduate Assistantship as these positions provide valuable practical experience working on a college campus. As such, faculty in the program assist applicants in navigating the process of obtaining a Graduate Assistantship through our Student Affairs in Higher Education & College Counseling Admitted Student Day.

Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at [www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate). Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office [www.sru.edu/FinAid](http://www.sru.edu/FinAid) or the Office of Graduate Admissions.



**SlipperyRock  
University**

A member of Pennsylvania's State System  
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

[www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate)

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit the following materials along with a completed online graduate application and non-refundable application fee:

1. A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 to be considered for unconditional admission.
2. A written statement indicating interest in the program, experience, and career goals
3. Two academic recommendation forms from a former or current college or university faculty member with knowledge of the applicant's academic aptitude, suitability for intended program area, and ability to form interpersonal relationships.

Selected applicants will be invited for an interview. The priority deadline for applicants seeking a Graduate Assistantship is December 1. After this time, applications will be taken on a rolling basis. The Student Affairs in Higher Education program has fall start dates only.

## STUDENT AFFAIRS IN HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM (42 CREDITS)

### Year One, Fall (12 Credits):

- CDEV 602:** Introduction to Student Affairs & College Counseling
- CDEV 699:** Introduction to Research
- CDEV 614:** Helping Relationships
- CDEV 623:** Higher Education Environments and Cultures

### Year One, Spring (12 Credits):

- CDEV 621:** Social and Cultural Diversity
- CDEV 625:** Assessment in Student Affairs
- CDEV 631:** College Student Learning and Development 1
- CDEV 639:** Students in American Higher Education

Although not a requirement, during the summer many students choose to participate in nationally sponsored student affairs internship programs providing them with valuable professional experience in the field. These internships are available both locally and throughout the United States.

### Year Two, Fall (9 Credits):

- CDEV 643:** Organizational Behavior and Leadership in Higher Education
- CDEV 705:** Student Affairs Practicum
- CDEV 632:** College Student Learning and Development 2

### Year Two, Spring (9 Credits):

- CDEV 646:** Student Affairs Capstone
- CDEV 608:** Ethical and Legal Issues in Student Affairs Elective

## PROGRAM OPTIONS

There are two options for pursuing a Master's degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education:

1. Traditional two graduate years
2. 3+2 Program
  - SRU psychology undergraduates only
  - 3 undergraduate years + 2 graduate years

## FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Dr. Stacy Jacob  
015 Carruth-Rizzo  
724-738-2758  
stacy.jacob@sru.edu

## FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions  
104 North Hall, Welcome Center  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057  
www.sru.edu/graduate  
724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD  
graduate.admissions@sru.edu

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.