

SPECIAL EDUCATION

DOCTORATE OF EDUCATION
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

www.sru.edu/speddoc



DELIVERY METHOD

All terms will be offered 100% online (some courses will occur at a specific day/time - synchronously, while others will not - asynchronously)

START TERM

Spring only

COMPLETION TIME

2.5 - 3 years

NUMBER OF CREDITS

60 credits

(up to 12 credits can be transferred in)



SlipperyRock
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu/graduate

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Slippery Rock University's Doctorate in Special Education prepares educators and human service agency workers for leadership positions in the field of Special Education. In the United States today, there is a shortage of qualified school administrators with expertise in special education, a shortage of qualified candidates for positions in special education teacher preparation programs in colleges and universities, and a shortage of leaders to manage human service agencies focused on helping children and adults with disabilities in community settings. The SRU Special Education Doctoral Program is conveniently designed to begin addressing these shortages and prepare tomorrow's leaders in special education.

Earn a doctorate in special education from one of the oldest and most respected Special Education Departments in the United States. Slippery Rock University began preparing special educators in 1961 and has been viewed as a leader in the field for over five decades. Faculty members are scholars in the field with the knowledge and practical experience to help develop tomorrow's leaders in special education. Our progressive online programs have received national attention and acclaim being named as one of the top 25 online programs in the nation by Best Colleges Online since 2013. Additionally, Slippery Rock University's doctoral degree in special education has been ranked one of the best 25 programs in the country for 2019 by CollegeValueOnline.com. This program was also ranked No. 7 in one of the 20 most affordable online doctoral degrees in special education programs in the country by AffordableSchools.net for 2019. SRU's Special Education Department has been teaching online education for more than a decade and understands what working professionals need. Come and join our Special Education Doctoral Program cohort and begin realizing your dream.

Our Ed.D. in Special Education is convenient and offers a student-centered blend of online courses (synchronous and asynchronous). The program is cohort-based and can be completed in three years, by taking an average of approximately two classes each term.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Slippery Rock University's Ed.D. in Special Education offers the following:

- A new cohort that begins every spring term
- The possibility to apply a maximum of 12 master's degree credits towards the doctoral degree
- A competitive curriculum that focuses on special education, content learning, and leadership. The classes are designed to prepare future special education leaders to enter public schools, agencies, and non-profit organizations
- Experienced faculty with practical experience

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must submit the following materials along with a completed online graduate application and non-refundable application fee of \$35.00:

- Copy of Teaching Certificate (optional)
- A 300-500 word essay indicating personal and professional goals (follow all APA formatting)
- A writing sample: Applicants can submit an example of a special education focused sample from your graduate program or a one - to two-page, single-spaced essay addressing one of the following topics (include the prompt that you choose at the top of your essay and follow all APA formatting)
 1. Why should a society provide a "free and appropriate" education to students with disabilities who will not be able to achieve academic or other skills at the same level as students without disabilities?
 2. Describe your position on the inclusion of students with disabilities in general education. What are the benefits of inclusion and the potential barriers?
- Two Letters of Recommendation addressing the applicant's academic and/or professional background as it relates to special education
- Candidate must have earned an undergraduate degree in elementary education, special education, early childhood, secondary (English, science, social studies, psychology, business or core content knowledge)
- Official bachelor's and master's degree transcripts, doctorate, if applicable. (bachelor's degree with at least 3.0 GPA and master's degree with at least 3.5 GPA)

Preference is given to applicants in the order in which the application is received.

CURRICULUM GUIDE

Research Requirement		
Select 12 credits of the following:		12
SEFE 802	Univariate Statistical Methods	
SEFE 896	Elements of Qualitative Education	
SEFE 899	Elements of Quantitative Educational Research	
SPED 841	Applied Behavior Analysis/Single-Subject Experimental Design I	
SPED 865	Research in ABA	
Subtotal		12
Content And Leadership Requirement		
Select 18 credits of the following:		18
SPED 805	Legal Issues and Special Populations	
SPED 820	Contemporary Issues in Special Education	
SPED 842	Program Development for Students with ASD	
SPED 845	Instructional Technologies for Exceptional Learners	
SPED 850	School Supervision: Community and Political Leadership	
SPED 852	School Supervision: Instructional Leadership	
ELEC 813	Advocacy and Family, School and Community Engagement	
SEFE 844	Instructional Design: Principles and Practice	
Subtotal		18
Special Education Requirement		
Select at least 15 credits of the following: 15		
SPED 802	Special Education Foundations	
SPED 805	Legal Issues and Special Populations	
SPED 807	Positive Classroom Interventions	
SPED 808	Applied Behavior Analysis Single-Subject Experimental Design II	
SPED 809	Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities	
SPED 820	Contemporary Issues in Special Education	
SPED 842	Program Development for Students with ASD	
SPED 843	Communication and Social Competency for Students with ASD	
SPED 844	Neuropsychiatric Disorders of Childhood	
SPED 845	Instructional Technologies for Exceptional Learners	
SPED 850	School Supervision: Community and Political Leadership	
SPED 852	School Supervision: Instructional Leadership	
ELEC 813	Advocacy and Family, School and Community Engagement	
SEFE 844	Instructional Design: Principles and Practice	
Subtotal		15
Dissertation Core		
SPED 881	Dissertation Seminar	3
SPED 899	Dissertation	12
Subtotal		15
Total Hours		60

IMPORTANT CURRICULUM GUIDE NOTES

This Curriculum Guide is provided to help SRU students and prospective students better understand their intended major curriculum. Enrolled SRU students should note that the My Rock Audit may place already-earned and/or in progress courses in different, yet valid, curriculum categories. Enrolled SRU students should use the My Rock Audit Report and materials and information provided by their faculty advisers to ensure accurate progress towards degree completion. The information on this guide is current as of the date listed. Students are responsible for curriculum requirements at the time of enrollment at the University.

PASSHE - Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Institutions

Major Code: 9DS

CLEARANCES

Clearances are due no later than one (1) week prior to deadline for course registration for each program's practicum/field experience- ----no student will be permitted to register for their program's practicum and take part in practicum/field experiences without clearances on file at SRU. Please refer to the graduate website at www.sru.edu/graduate and select "Requirements by Program" to learn more.

TUITION

Information on current tuition can be found on the Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate. Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office www.sru.edu/FinAid.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM AWARDS



FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Dr. Ashlea Rineer-Hershey
Graduate Coordinator
114 McKay Education Building
724.738.2460
ashlea.rineer-hershey@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.