

## Contact

### James T. Hathaway, Chairperson

Department of Geography, Geology, and the Environment  
107 Spotts World Culture Building  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Phone: 724-738-2048

Fax: 724-738-4762

e-mail: james.hathaway@sru.edu

Web: <http://www.sru.edu/pages/668.asp>

## Entrance Requirements

Official High School Transcripts, including a 12th Grade class schedule if applicable  
SAT or ACT Scores  
\$25.00 application fee

## Major Requirements: Environmental Geoscience BA

20 credits	Geology Core
15 credits	Geology and Geography Electives
15-16 credits	Related Science and Math
69-70 credits	Modern Language Proficiency Liberal Studies Electives

*120 Minimum total credit hours required for graduation*

## COLLEGE OF HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, AND SCIENCE

### Program

The environmental geoscience program provides students with a scientific understanding of the earth system and surrounding environment. Students wishing to study geology may choose a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree or a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree. The BA program allows more flexibility in choosing electives to complement the student's interests and career goals while the BS program, which requires more credits in geology, is designed to prepare students for postgraduate programs. The student in geology gains an understanding of the various terrestrial processes and features (mountains, oceans, volcanoes, glaciers); the immenseness of geologic time, the history of the earth and organisms that inhabit it (fossils); the role of water, fuel, and mineral resources in the development of civilization; and the close interaction between the geologic and organic environments.

All of our programs emphasize the collection, analysis, and representation of earth data at scales ranging from the local to the global. Opportunities abound for students to engage in fieldwork, internships, and in the production of research in our department. Recent field trips, course travels, and research expeditions have visited Costa Rica, Virgin Islands, Bahamas, Puerto Rico, Ontario, Newfoundland, New Mexico, Nevada, Washington, Colorado, South Dakota, and Maryland. If you enjoy learning about the Earth and its peoples and landscapes, either in your back yard or far away, please consider the opportunities our programs provide.

### Career Opportunities

The environmental geoscience program provides students with a base in liberal arts skills (critical thinking, writing, and speaking) and in analytical skills such as data collection in the field, in the library, and on the computer; the use of mapping, spreadsheet, and database software; and knowledge of laboratory procedures. Our alumni web page shows the wide variety of careers that our graduates have pursued in the private and public sector as well as graduate school.

Demand for the professional geologist comes from the needs of engineering, hydrogeologic and environmental firms, geological surveys, oil, gas and mining companies, state and national parks, museums, conservation agencies, planning commissions, and teaching institutions. A student who completes an environmental geoscience BA will have the basis for employment as a geologist. Students seeking state certification in secondary education must also complete requirements for a Master of Education degree.

## **Liberal Education Requirements\***

Approximately one-half of a student's courses will be credited toward completing liberal studies requirements. The liberal studies program is designed to provide students with the breadth of knowledge expected of an educated person in our society. These courses compliment the depth of specialty acquired in a student's major.

The program contains seven critical goals or areas of study. For each area, students select one or two classes from a selection of "goal courses." In addition, in some areas of study, students select a course from a wide class selection identified as "enrichment courses." These courses provide the opportunity to broaden and deepen knowledge in the goal area. Lastly, co-curricular "Supporting Experiences," are identified. These activities and programs available to all students and encompass working on student publications, belonging to honorary societies or working with various special on-campus special interest groups.

*Goal I: Basic Competencies*

*Goal II: The Arts*

*Goal III: Cultural Diversity and Global Perspective*

*Goal IV: Human Institutions and Interpersonal Relationships*

*Goal V: Natural Sciences and Mathematics*

*Goal VI: Our National Experience*

*Goal VII: Challenges of the Modern Age*

*\*All SRU students must complete the liberal studies requirements, which are counted in the total credit hours required for graduation and may be contained in the Major Requirements previously listed.*

## **Specialized Information**

The Department of Geography, Geology, and the Environment offers four minors which are open to all undergraduate, degree-seeking SRU students. The minors are Environmental Science, Geology, Geography, and Geographic Information Technology.

## **Teacher Certification**

Teacher certification is earned through the master of education degree at Slippery Rock University. Students seeking secondary school teaching certification in geology must earn a bachelor of arts or a bachelor of science degree in environmental geosciences and contact the Department of Secondary Education/Foundations of Education concerning its graduate program in education. Information about this program, including prerequisites for admission, may be obtained from the secondary education/foundations of education office in 114 McKay Education Building.

Academic Programs 2004-2005



This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.