

ROCK INTEGRATED STUDIES PROGRAM

Rock Studies Program 2023-24 Academic Year (42 Credits)

The Rock Studies Program at Slippery Rock University is the general education requirements for all academic majors for incoming freshman. Since some majors prescribe specific courses within each category, student should use this guide along with the curriculum guide and the My Rock Audit to make course selections in consultation with their advisor.

The Rock

The Rock consists of 5 courses. Students must take all 5 courses.

1. SUBJ 139 Foundations of Academic Discovery (“Discovery”)*
2. ENGL 102 Critical Writing
3. ENGL 104 Critical Reading
4. MATH 117 Quantitative Reasoning
5. Civil Discourse:
 - COMM 200 Civil Discourse: Theory & Practice
 - PHIL 110 Ethics and Civil Discourse
 - POLS 235 Civil Discourse and Democracy

*SUBJ 139 cannot be the same subject area as the first major. However, if a student changes their major, they do not need to retake 139 with a different prefix.

Integrated Inquiry

There are 5 domains in the Inquiry bloc: Creative and Aesthetic, Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Physical Sciences.

- Students must successfully complete one course from each Domain prior to graduation.
- Courses cannot count towards any major or minor.
- All courses in the Aesthetic and Creative Inquiry domain have the department prefix and are numbered 130.
- All courses in the Humanities domain have the department prefix and are numbered 180.
- All courses in the Social Sciences domain have the department prefix and are numbered 170 (except Physical Activity and Wellbeing in Society, which is PE 168).
- The Natural Sciences course (Science of Life) has the SCI prefix and is numbered 101.
- The Physical Sciences course (Understanding the Physical World) has the SCI prefix and is numbered 102.

Threads 2.0

Students will declare one of six inter-disciplinary threads:

1. Citizenship & Social Problems
2. Conservation, Technology, & Imagination
3. Cultural Literacy & Community Building
4. Human Diversity & Well-Being
5. Institutions & Human Innovations
6. The United States in Global Context

- Students must take 12-credits from the courses within their threads.
- Students must take at least six credits from 300/400-level courses within their thread. Students cannot take more than four credits from any one prefix.
- Students can declare more than one thread but cannot use the same courses to satisfy multiple threads.
- Any course with the same prefix as a student's first major cannot be used to satisfy a thread requirement, even if it is not a course in their 1st major.

Example: A student whose 1st major is HCAM cannot take an HCAM course in a thread under any circumstances, even if that course is not a part of their particular HCAM concentration.

- Any specific course required in a student's first major, regardless of the prefix of the course, cannot also be used to satisfy a thread requirement.

Example: HCAM is an interdisciplinary major that contains courses from other programs in addition to HCAM (eg. MRKT, FIN, ECON, HLTH). As long as the MRKT, FIN, ECON, HLTH course is not a course required for the HCAM 1st major, a student can take it to satisfy a thread requirement.

- Students can use any credits from their Rock Studies thread toward a second major, minor, or certificate outside of Rock Studies.

DEI Requirement

All SRU students must complete a course with a DEI designation before they can graduate.

- Courses with this designation can be found across all colleges and programs.
- A student may fulfill this requirement by taking any course that has this designation.
- Students' choices are not limited to courses within Rock Studies.

Things to be aware of when advising students:

Advisors and students must be aware of the following as we make the transition from RISP 1.0 to RISP 2.0.

1. Students who entered under RISP 1.0 (before Fall 2022) will still be able to have one course in either the Inquiry or Threads bloc 'double dip' with their 1st major.
2. RISP 1.0 threads will no longer be available to students entering the program in Fall 2022 and after.
3. However, students in RISP 1.0 (Rock Studies pre-Fall 2022) can choose, and are encouraged to choose, one of the 6 new threads.
4. However, be aware that some courses that were Inquiry courses under RISP 1.0 are now in threads. Students cannot use those courses to fulfill both requirements.

Example:

- Jill entered the RISP program in Fall 2021.
- She took PSYC 105 as her Social Science Inquiry course.
- She has chosen Wellness and Human Diversity as her thread (one of the 6 new threads).

- Because PSYC 105 is already being used to fulfill her Social Science Inquiry requirement, she cannot use it as one of her threads courses even though it can now be found in the Wellness and Human Diversity thread.
 - However, PSYC 105 can still ‘double dip’ as a required course in her 1st major.
5. If you have a student in the old threads (the 32 RISP 1.0 threads with 8 categories) who can’t find a course to take in their thread, you can:
- a. Find one of the new threads that has the courses the student has already taken (in different categories) and switch the student to that thread. They can then choose from a much wider array of courses to finish their thread.
 - b. Contact the co-directors, Heather Rice and Jess Jordan, to find a suitable substitution. All substitutions forms related to Rock Studies must go to Dean Bauer’s office for approval.