OUR SCIENCE TRANSFORMS THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE AND INSPIRES LEADERS
SOCIAL SCIENCE:

Our science is world-changing, applicable and, above all, transformative.

The students, staff, faculty and alumni of the College of Social Science work every day to make our world a better place. From studying how sleep affects our brains to how policies affect our communities to how greenhouse gases affect our planet, social scientists seek to understand and solve the world’s toughest problems.

STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO:

- Conduct world-class research
- Engage in service learning
- Take classes all around the globe
- Test out the job market with an internship

Our students have endless opportunities to find their passions.

With 14 degree-granting programs, the College of Social Science is MSU’s largest and most dynamic college.

socialscience.msu.edu
We graduate more undergraduate students year-round than any other college at Michigan State University. (Based on 2021 academic year)

In 2021, 3 out of 4 of our students held an internship position and/or conducted scientific research during their time as an undergraduate.

The Office for Experiential Learning in the College of Social Science offers over 95 study abroad and study away programs, giving students the opportunity to learn all over the globe.

SOCIAL SCIENTISTS AT A GLANCE

Here’s how our college stands out from the crowd:

2nd RANKED NATIONALLY
Our Industrial and Organizational Psychology graduate program is #2 in the nation.*

3rd RANKED NATIONALLY
Our African History graduate program is ranked #3 in the nation.*

9th RANKED NATIONALLY
Our Criminal Justice online graduate program is #9 in the nation.*

1st PROGRAM IN THE NATION
We have the nation’s first Combat Veterans Certificate, an option for students pursuing a Master’s degree in Social Work.

WE GRADUATE THE MOST SPARTANS
We graduate more undergraduate students year-round than any other college at Michigan State University. (Based on 2021 academic year)

3 out of 4 INTERNSHIP/RESEARCH
In 2021, 3 out of 4 of our students held an internship position and/or conducted scientific research during their time as an undergraduate.

95+ STUDY ABROAD/AWAY PROGRAMS
The Office for Experiential Learning in the College of Social Science offers over 95 study abroad and study away programs, giving students the opportunity to learn all over the globe.

*Program rankings source: U.S. News & World Report, 2024
SOCIAL SCIENCE UNDERGRADUATES

MAJORS
- Anthropology
- Child Development: Birth to Kindergarten and Special Education
- Criminal Justice
- Early Care and Education
- Economic Geography
- Economics
- Environmental Geography
- Geographic Information Science
- Global and International Studies in Social Science
- Global History
- History
- Human Capital and Society
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Human Geography
- Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science
- Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science Education
- Political Science
- Political Science Prelaw
- Psychology
- Public Policy
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Urban and Regional Planning
- World Politics

MINORS
- African Studies
- Anthropology
- Asian Pacific American Studies
- Asian Studies
- Chicano/Latino Studies
- Cities: Environment, Design, and Society
- Climate Science
- Defense Studies and Leadership
- Digital Cultural Heritage
- Economics
- Environment and Health
- Environmental Social Science
- Geographic Information Science
- Geography
- Global Studies in Social Science
- History
- Human Behavior and Social Services
- International Development
- Latin American and Caribbean Studies
- Law, Justice and Public Policy
- Leadership of Organizations
- Migration Studies
- Peace and Justice Studies
- Race and Ethnicity in the United States
- Resource Management from the Individual, Family, and Societal Perspectives
- Security Management
- Social Science Quantitative Data Analytics
- Sociology
- Youth and Society

SOCIAL SCIENCE GRADUATES

MASTER’S
- Child Development
- Clinical Social Work
- Criminal Justice
- Cybercrime and Digital Investigation
- Family and Community Services
- Forensic Science
- Geography
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Human Resources and Labor Relations
- International Planning Studies
- Law Enforcement Intelligence and Analysis
- Organization and Community Leadership
- Program Evaluation
- Public Policy
- Urban and Regional Planning
- Youth Development

Ph.D.s
- Anthropology
- Chicano/Latino Studies
- Criminal Justice
- Economics
- Environmental Science and Policy
- Geography
- History
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Human Resources and Labor Relations
- Industrial Relations and Human Resources
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Sociology

ADDITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

Environmental Science and Policy
Legal Education Accelerated Program
Prelaw Mentoring Program
Graduate Specializations
Graduate Certificates
Teaching Certificates
SOCIAL SCIENTISTS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Great learning happens within our college’s classrooms, but we also require our students to earn credits and enrich their education with real-life experiences.

STUDY AWAY
Our dynamic study away programs place students in internships or service-learning opportunities in such locations as Chicago, Detroit, Flint, Hawaii, Las Vegas, New York City, Traverse City, and Washington, DC. Students navigate new locations and cultures while engaging in transformative learning experiences that set them up for a lifetime of success.

INTERNSHIPS
Studies show that participation in internships makes students more competitive as they seek employment in the modern workplace. Through our College’s Office for Experiential Learning and through programs in many of our Schools and Departments, we help students secure internships to develop the professional skills they need.

SERVICE LEARNING
The best way to learn is through doing. Students involved in Service Learning do just that. They complete community-building projects and activities that earn them credits as they make the world a better place.

RESEARCH
The College of Social Science is home to world-renowned faculty who conduct groundbreaking research every day - and students have many opportunities to work side-by-side with them or on independent projects and earn credit doing so.

STUDY ABROAD
Studying abroad means more than taking a trip overseas - it gives students the chance to completely immerse themselves in the culture of another country while earning academic credits and participating in other experiential learning opportunities. Our experiences, which range in length, take students to places in the Americas, Asia, Europe, Africa and Australia.

SOCIAL SCIENTISTS SUCCEEDING
Our students are part of a community of learners. We offer free study sessions that focus on select social science courses for any student that wants extra support.

SUPPORT OPTIONS
We offer free group and individual study sessions with Peer Assisted Learners (students who have excelled at Social Science courses in the past) in a safe and comfortable environment.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT
We have a team in the college focused on helping students create a path for a successful career.

Whether working at a Fortune 500 company or at a small non-profit organization, graduates from the College of Social Science earn competitive salaries and find fulfilling, engaging work.

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SOCIAL SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIPS & SCHOLARS

SCHOLARSHIPS
Thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends of the college, a variety of scholarships are available and earmarked to students in the College of Social Science.

THESE SCHOLARSHIPS HELP STUDENTS:
- PAY FOR TUITION
- FUND UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH
- COVER COSTS FOR STUDY AWAY AND STUDY ABROAD
- EXPERIENCE OTHER VALUABLE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Find a full list of what is available on our website.
socialscience.msu.edu/scholarships

SOCIAL SCIENCE SCHOLARS PROGRAM
The best and brightest incoming and current freshmen can apply for the prestigious Social Science Scholars Program, which provides students with the opportunity to learn in a collective, discussion-based environment. Aspects of the program include:

- SEMINARS
- MENTORING
- RESEARCH
- INTERNSHIPS
- TRAVEL

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SOCIAL SCIENCE FACULTY

The College of Social Science at Michigan State University is home to over 450 ranked faculty and academic staff.

With a 13:1 student to faculty ratio, Social Science majors can learn in smaller, more personalized settings. Here, professors do more than teach. 35% of students will engage with a faculty member on a research opportunity, and even more get outside the lecture hall for hands-on learning.

Creating an open, inclusive environment is a top priority for the College of Social Science. In 2018, the Dean’s Research Associate Program was created to promote inclusivity and diversity within the college and create opportunities for qualified scholars of differing perspectives and cultural backgrounds.

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTERS

The College of Social Science boasts four unique research centers and institutes.

These knowledge hubs each have their own unique function and focus, but share a common passion for using our science to transform the human experience.

- Anti-Counterfeiting & Product Protection Center
- Center for Global Change & Earth Observations
- Institute for Public Policy & Social Research
- MATRIX: The Center for Humane Arts, Letters & Social Sciences Online

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ONCE A SOCIAL SCIENTIST, ALWAYS A SOCIAL SCIENTIST

Our community includes a lifelong network of over 100,000 alumni who live and work all over the world. Our alumni are deeply engaged with the college, and eager to help our students succeed through their education, employment and beyond.

Our alumni make a difference in the lives of our students and faculty by:

GIVING BACK to support student scholarships, faculty fellowships and other fundraising efforts

FOSTERING a tradition of service to MSU and local communities, including mentoring current students

CONNECTING by coming back to campus, meeting with students and faculty or serving on advisory boards within the college

LINKING STUDENTS AND ALUMNI

Two examples of alumni engagement are the Governor Jim Blanchard Public Service Forum and the Women’s Leadership Institute.

GOVERNOR JIM BLANCHARD PUBLIC SERVICE FORUM

The goal of our forum is to provide generations of students, faculty and the MSU community with the opportunity to see, hear and learn from national and international leaders, diplomats and writers.

WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The Women’s Leadership Institute supports and empowers women students with leadership aspirations. We ignite women leaders with the ultimate goal of advancing leadership equity for women globally. The institute provides thought leadership, a sustainable community and high quality programming for our students, faculty and MSU community.

To learn more about how to make an impact go to: socialscience.msu.edu/alumni
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