



**Internship opportunities**



**Small-group learning**



**Subsidized study abroad**

THE SOCIAL SCIENCE  
**Scholars Program**



College of Social Science  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

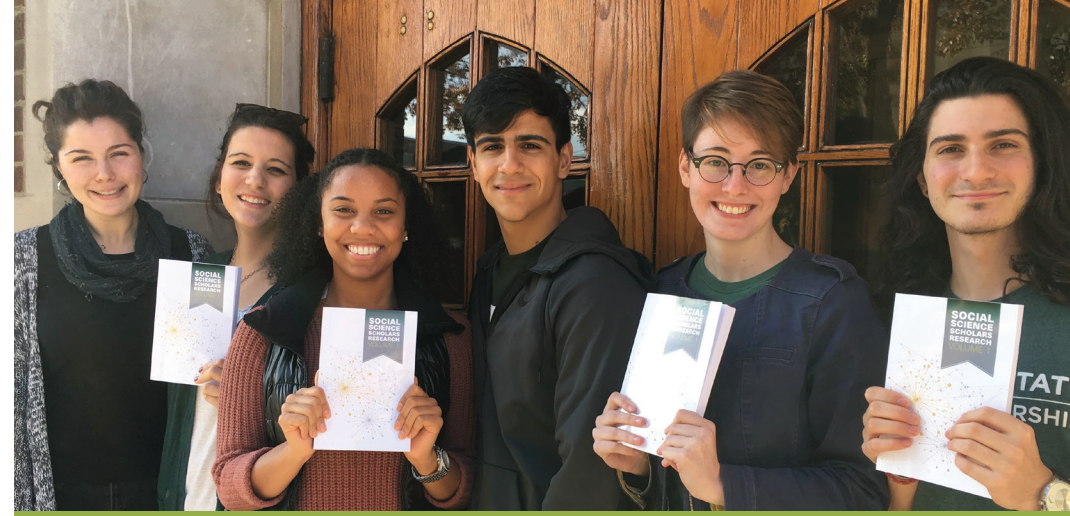
# Education for a Rewarding Career

The Social Science Scholars Program offers select groups of students a world-class education and ideal preparation for rewarding careers. As a member of the Scholars community, you will enjoy close faculty mentorship, the collegiality of small-group learning, the chance to publish your research, and the experience of a prestigious internship and a subsidized study abroad.

Our goals are to ensure that you do not feel lost in the crowd and receive the personal support and guidance that will allow you to make the most of your time at this top-tier research university. You'll graduate with the skills, experiences, and maturity that will set you apart from the overwhelming majority of students from any campus. And we have no doubt that our Scholars will become the finest ambassadors for MSU.

▼ The Social Science Scholars in the Old Cloister of New College, Oxford

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▲ Scholars (from left) Grace Hough, Calla Michalak, Tristyn Walton, Elias Kokaly, Madge MacLean and Manny Alalouf with the annual Social Science Scholars book.

## Why become a Social Science Scholar?

### CAMARADERIE

You'll belong to a select and close-knit student community that shares your passion for social and political issues. Social Science Scholars have their own common room and work space.

### A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION

You'll benefit from MSU faculty, alumni, and staff who are fully invested in your future success. You'll conduct research under faculty mentorship on the topics that most excite you.

### CAREER PREPARATION

You'll be prepared for a wide variety of high-profile careers in the public or private sectors and for advanced degree programs.

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

It does not cost any extra to be a Social Science Scholar. In fact, as a Scholar you may be eligible for scholarships and you'll receive a subsidy towards the cost of the Scholars' study abroad trip.



# Freshman Scholars

As a freshman Social Science Scholar, you'll take weekly seminars with your cohort that'll help you become a critical thinker, introduce you to key ideas from a wide range of social science disciplines, and give you a richer understanding of national and global issues. You'll be exposed to such topics as how genes and environment influence individual psychology, how our behavior is conditioned by peer groups, how human societies have changed over time, why societies are so often deeply divided, why some communities or countries fail while others thrive, and how environmental threats can best be tackled. Whatever the topic, you'll learn how to ask the right questions, conduct research, and see beyond the hunches and conventional wisdom that too often determine decision making.

As a freshman Scholar, you'll interact with dozens of experts from MSU and overseas. In your first year, you'll embark on a research project under faculty guidance and have the opportunity to present your preliminary findings at the University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum. In the summer, you'll spend a month in the United Kingdom, gaining an international perspective on what you've studied on campus as we travel from the ancient cities of London and Oxford to the remote Lake District. Your Scholars classes, study abroad and research project all earn college credits.

Dr. Todd Fenton is one of many Social Science professors regularly researching side-by-side with students. ►



# Sophomore Scholars

During your second year, you'll complete your research project and have the opportunity to publish it in an annual volume of Social Science Scholars research. You'll also study, again with the guidance of experts from around the world, a series of important historical and contemporary issues.



▲ Charlie Booher meeting Senator Debbie Stabenow during his Washington DC internship

In the summer, you'll gain practical internship experience. You might opt to intern in one of many U.S. locations, including Washington, DC, New Orleans, Detroit, New York, or Hawaii. Or you might wish to intern overseas: in Europe, South America, or elsewhere. We'll also help you to find internships during the semester, whether on campus, in state government, or in one of the region's many non-profit organizations.

# Junior and Senior Scholars

By your third and fourth years, you'll be established in your declared major. You'll meet with the other scholars in regular seminars and pursue additional off-campus study or internship opportunities. We'll also guide Scholars applying for prestigious scholarships like the Truman, Rhodes and Marshall.

College of Social Science departments, schools, and centers with undergraduate programs include:

- Anthropology
- Criminal Justice
- Economics
- Geography, Environment, and Spatial Sciences
- History
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Human Resources and Labor Relations
- Integrative Studies
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Urban and Regional Planning

# How will this program improve my career chances?

As a Social Science Scholar you'll have many options when you leave MSU, from pursuing a career in business, finance, politics or public policy, to working for a think tank or Non-Governmental Organization, or studying for professional degrees in areas like medicine, law, government, and international relations. The program's advisor is here to help you select the appropriate courses for your career path.

Our objective is to help you stand out from the crowd in whatever field you choose. We'll achieve this by teaching high level skills in critical thinking, research, and communication. We'll also ensure that you have the kinds of experience that prepare you for a variety of careers. This program has been modeled on what researchers have consistently found to appeal most to employers. On the graphic below, produced by MSU's Dr. Phil Gardner, the size of each circle shows the relative importance attached to each kind of experience by prospective employers.

Internships

Supervised civic engagement

Leadership in a professional organization

Study Abroad

Leadership in a non-professional organizational

Scholarly research with faculty

Faculty supervised applied res. with organiz.

International internships



▲ Social Science Scholars at the summit of a mountain in the English Lake District during their study abroad trip to the UK

## ACCORDINGLY, WE WILL HELP EACH SCHOLAR TO:

Identify at least one **internship**, domestic or overseas, that matches his or her interests and aspirations.

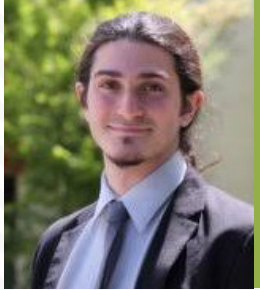
Undertake **leadership roles** in organizations. We will assist Scholars with finding campus and community organizations that reflect their passions.

Participate in **faculty-supervised research**. Close faculty mentorship is known to help students excel. All Scholars will therefore undertake serious research projects with faculty members and present their findings.

Experience **supervised civic engagement**. All Social Science Scholars are encouraged to participate in service learning.

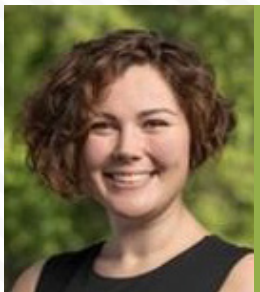
Go on a **study abroad**. All freshmen Scholars will benefit from a subsidized study abroad program.

# Some members of our first cohort, where are they now?



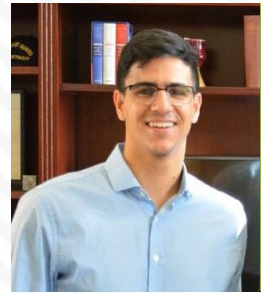
## **MANNY ALALOUF**

As a student at MSU, Manny studied Political Science and interned with the state representative for Flint and for Michigan's Senate Minority Leader. Manny also completed an internship at MOVEMENT Search & Delivery, a leading executive search firm in Clarkston, MI. After graduation, Manny became a Headhunter Support Specialist at MOVEMENT, responsible for the recruitment of candidates for high-profile corporate positions. His supervisor says that 'the analytical, research, problem-solving and communication skills that Manny acquired from the College of Social Science and MSU have prepared him for a very promising career in business, human resources and recruitment.'



## **GRACE HOUGH**

Grace Hough graduated in 2018 with degrees in Economics and Economic Geography. While at MSU, she carried out research on micro-lending, child labor and education, and the factors that promote entrepreneurship. She presented her work at conferences in London and New Mexico. Grace interned for the Turkish Resource Center of North America, Michigan's Office for New Americans, Lansing's Refugee Development Center, and The Community Economic Development Association of Michigan. In the fall after graduation, she began a 2-years master's program in economics and political science at Duke University.



## **ELIAS KOKALY**

Elias Kokaly graduated in 2018 with a degree in Political Science - World Politics and a minor in Bioethics. Elias carried out research on Middle Eastern politics, health policy in the UK and US, and violent political movements. He also interned for Detroit's Deputy Mayor for Economic Policy, Planning & Strategy and as a Legislative Assistant with the House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security. After graduating, he accepted a full-time position with a block-chain trading platform as a Compliance Analyst focusing on anti-money laundering.



## **CALLA MICHALAK**

Calla Michalak came to MSU as a National Merit Finalist and graduated in 2018 with a major in Psychology. Calla conducted research on both female reproductive health and eating disorders and she served on the university's Student Health Advisory Council. In addition, Calla undertook medical internships in rural communities in Ecuador and Kentucky. She is now studying for an accelerated Bachelor's and Master's of Science in Nursing at Emory University.



## **TERESA AZZAM**

Teresa Azzam graduated with a major in World Politics, and minors in Spanish, Sociology, Latin America and Caribbean Studies, and Global Studies. Deeply committed to promoting the welfare of refugees, she interned for the Michigan Office for New Americans, Lansing's Refugee Development Center, St. Vincent's Catholic Charities as a refugee family mentor, and as a Legislative Intern at the Michigan House of Representatives. Since graduating, Teresa has been studying law at Case Western Reserve University in pursuit of her goal of becoming a human rights lawyer.

# Applications and Scholarships

Students must be accepted to MSU before they can be admitted to the Social Science Scholars Program. The deadline to apply for the Scholars Program is April 1 of the year in which a student wishes to join the program but early application is strongly encouraged. Selection for the program is determined following an interview. Students from less privileged backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply.

The enthusiasm of alumni and friends of MSU's College of Social Science allows us to offer a limited number of scholarships according to financial need. Scholarship funds will also be available for study abroad.

## Program Leaders

### DIRECTOR

John Waller, PhD, has degrees in History, Human Biology, and the History of Science from Oxford University, Imperial College, London, and University College London. He joined the MSU faculty in 2006. He has authored seven books on various aspects of the history of science, medicine, psychology, and child labor. He has also written a number of articles for newspapers and magazines and given multiple radio interviews in America, Britain and Australia. He is dedicated to student learning and research and is a recipient of MSU's Teacher-Scholar Award, the Honors College Award for Distinguished Contributions to Honors Students, and the Engagement Innovator Award.



### ACADEMIC SPECIALIST

Jenn Arbogast provides academic advising, information on campus resources, help with student/faculty relationships and community mentors, and assistance with internships. She earned an undergraduate degree in Education and a Master's Degree in Reading Comprehension from the University of Kansas before moving to Michigan in 1995. Prior to joining the Social Science Scholars program, she was an academic advisor for Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science at MSU.



## FAQs

- + WHAT KINDS OF STUDENT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?**  
Those who have the enthusiasm and maturity to make the most of the opportunities we provide. We are looking for students who are deeply committed to their education, wish to make a positive difference in their careers, and feel strongly about social and political issues.
- + IS IT POSSIBLE TO DOUBLE MAJOR OUTSIDE OF THE COLLEGE?**  
Yes, as long as your primary major is in the College of Social Science.
- + WILL THE PROGRAM INVOLVE A LARGE TIME COMMITMENT?**  
Scholars do make extra time commitments because they are members of a program that offers exceptional opportunities. But we do not wish their participation to detract from other courses and activities and so Scholars do much of their research over the summer months.
- + HOW MANY CREDITS WILL I OBTAIN AS A SOCIAL SCIENCE SCHOLAR?**  
Scholars take one seminar each semester together for the first two years of the program (14 credits total), and seven credits during the study abroad.
- + CAN I BE IN HONORS COLLEGE AND THE SCHOLARS PROGRAM?**  
Absolutely. Most of the Social Science Scholars are in Honors College and several in each cohort hold Professorial Assistantships. Scholars can also double major in James Madison, Lyman Briggs, or the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities.
- + HOW CAN I APPLY?**  
Simple. Go to [socialscience.msu.edu/apply\\_scholars](https://socialscience.msu.edu/apply_scholars) and follow the instructions.
- + HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SOCIAL SCIENCE SCHOLARS PROGRAM?**  
Easy. Call Jenn Arbogast, 517-353-3217, or email her at [jennarbo@msu.edu](mailto:jennarbo@msu.edu). She will be pleased to answer any questions.



**CONTACT  
ACADEMIC SPECIALIST**

 Jenn Arbogast

 517.353.3217

 [jennarbo@msu.edu](mailto:jennarbo@msu.edu)



OUR SCIENCE **TRANSFORMS THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE**  
AND INSPIRES LEADERS



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[socialscience.msu.edu/scholars](https://socialscience.msu.edu/scholars)