



# Organizational Studies

The interdisciplinary approach that is the heart of Organizational Studies fosters a broad vision of organizations and their critical role in society. That interdisciplinary approach is essential for tomorrow's leaders in a rapidly changing world. This program is unusual for an undergraduate concentration because of its basis in three core disciplines: Psychology, Sociology, and Economics. While most courses are offered in LS&A, students often take courses elsewhere in the University. All students take a field research course in their senior year. The program is extremely selective – interested students must apply during their sophomore year.

Through a mix of theory and research concentrators examine organizations and the individuals and groups that comprise them. During the program students develop a variety of skills, including analysis, both theoretical and applied understanding of organizations, as well as clear oral and written communication.

Organizational Studies concentrators go on to careers in the public and private sectors and/or graduate study. Typical careers involve leadership roles in both private and public sector organizations. Students who go on to graduate school are well prepared to do so in law, public policy or administration, social work, business, education, public health, and environmental studies, among others.

## SKILLS & ABILITIES

Analysis	Human Relations & Interpersonal	Communication	Research
Defining problems	Leadership	Explaining ideas	Framing a research question
Evaluating ideas and evidence	Team skills	Persuading	Developing ideas and theories
Developing new organizational systems	Motivating	Writing clearly	Gathering information
Planning	Analyzing behavior	Presenting information effectively	Summarizing results
	Mediating/Negotiating		

## OCCUPATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

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Organizational Studies concentrators are prepared to succeed in a wide range of occupations. This selected list of occupations was compiled from the first OS graduating

class in 2003 for their current and future plans. Advanced study is generally required for examples marked with a • on the list below.

<b>Education/ Communications</b>	<b>Business &amp; Industry</b>	<b>Government/ Public Sector</b>	<b>Non-profit Organizations</b>
•Public school teacher	Human resources manager	•Attorney	Grants administrator
Event coordinator	Consultant	Legislative assistant	•Healthcare manager
•Educational administration	General management	Public administration	
	Staff accountant	Event coordinator	
	Human resources analyst		
	Real estate analyst		
	Paralegal		

## CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

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Students typically apply to the program in February of their sophomore year and enter the program in their junior year. There are three program pre-requisites. These are introductory courses in Economics (Econ 101), Psychology (Psych 111, 112, 114, or 115), and Sociology (Soc 100, 101, 102, or 195). Organizational Studies students must be proactive. Students construct individualized “concentration pathways” to reflect both academic and

intellectual interests and preparation for the student’s planned career. A minimum of 38 credits is required to complete the program. These include 6 credits in two core theory courses and 8 field research and quantitative credits. In addition, a minimum of 15 credits (5 courses) from 2 clusters of courses (Organizations & Individuals and Organizations & Society) provides breadth, and a minimum of 9 credits (3 courses) from an interest cluster of courses provides depth.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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For information about choosing a career, about graduate/professional school, internships, or job descriptions; and for library resources.

The Career Center  
3200 Student Activities Building  
(734) 764-7460  
[www.careercenter.umich.edu](http://www.careercenter.umich.edu)

For information about the concentration and degree requirements:

Organizational Studies Program  
713 Dennison Building  
(734) 764-6767  
[www.lsa.umich.edu/orgstudies](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/orgstudies)

LS&A Academic Advising Center  
1255 Angell Hall  
(734) 764-0332