



MAKING
THE MOST OF
MICHIGAN ROSS

PREPARATION INITIATIVE

For U-M students seeking to realize
their full potential in business

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“Of all the things I have done at Michigan, the PI has had the most impact on me. PI helped me buckle down, improve my academics, and build my leadership skills. It made studying fun because we were doing it together. The PI is my community, my family, my forever friendships.”

—Chondra Herman, BBA

The Preparation Initiative is a learning community designed for University of Michigan undergraduates. It’s geared toward, but not limited to, first-year students with minoritized identities demonstrating excellent potential for business leadership who may have had limited exposure to rigorous academic courses. While students with minoritized identities in business leadership are strongly encouraged to apply, all students with a genuine interest in studying and excelling in business at Ross are welcome.

As a student of the PI program, you’ll participate in experiences specifically designed to help you realize your potential and excel in the Michigan Ross BBA Program. Participation will help you develop the skills and habits needed to shine academically and improve your mastery of essential mathematics and economics concepts.

FEATURES OF THE PREPARATION INITIATIVE

Pre-Term Orientation

The PI orientation offers a realistic preview of how to make the transition from excellence in high school to comparable distinction at Michigan.

Advising

Weekly sessions with a personal PI advisor emphasize intelligent planning and time management, progress monitoring, and working through the inevitable challenges you will encounter along your way.

Coaching

Each BBA prerequisite course, including pre-calculus, introductory calculus, and microeconomics, offers coaching support. With an emphasis on collaboration and “cross-teaching” with one or two classmates, your PI coach (typically a graduate student) will help you develop the skills and habits you need to master course material and demonstrate mastery.

Seminar

During your first two terms in the PI program, participate in a professional development seminar. The fall term seminar is Business Administration 101, a one-credit course graded on a credit/no credit basis. The seminar includes exposure to major business disciplines, such as finance, marketing, strategy, and entrepreneurship.

Mentoring

Meet regularly with an assigned BBA junior or senior mentor who also prepared for the BBA Program through the Preparation Initiative.

Study Tables

Develop/maintain the discipline and stamina required to perform at the high level expected of every PI student (and every successful business leader) through required study tables. Spend a portion of your weekly study schedule with your classmates at study tables supervised by PI mentors and coaches.



Treks

Take advantage of the opportunity to travel with fellow PI students and Ross faculty members on a trek to companies in major cities like New York, Chicago, and Detroit. Hear from company leadership and get a first-hand look at how businesses in various industries operate.

The Five-Year Plan

After carefully considering their pre-university preparation, many PI students choose to complete their Michigan undergraduate experience in five years, rather than four years. PI staff members can assist all students (and their families) in deciding whether this option best suits them. Students who opt for the five-year plan receive an additional year of PI services to help ensure their readiness for entering the BBA Program successfully.

NEXT STEP

For more information or to apply, contact the Ross Academic Success Center at prepinitiative@umich.edu. Any University of Michigan full-time student can apply to the Preparation Initiative. You must be enrolled in at least one of the BBA Program prerequisite courses and have the intent of applying to the BBA Program. The deadline is July 31 of each year.

**Office of Undergraduate Programs**

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