Widely recognized as one of the top schools in human resources and labor relations (HRLR), the Michigan State University School of Human Resources & Labor Relations is dedicated to educating and developing the best global professional talent and the next generation of top scholars. Our doctoral program fosters a vibrant scholarly culture that supports students seeking to make lasting contributions to the multidisciplinary understanding of important HRLR issues. We are interested in students from a wide variety of disciplines including, but not limited to, psychology, business, economics, sociology, and management.

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OPENING DOORS TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Are you seeking a career that offers you lifelong opportunities to enjoy the rewards of discovery through research? Do you want to make a difference by advancing relevant knowledge and understanding of complex issues in the classroom and beyond by helping solve real-world human resources and labor relations challenges? Are you willing to make a major commitment of time and effort to enjoy a successful and rewarding academic career?

If you do, we encourage you to apply to be part of a select community of doctoral students and faculty dedicated to uncovering the intricate web of factors influencing human behavior in the workplace and the consequences of that behavior on individual, organizational, and societal outcomes.
As a doctoral student in our program, you will engage in multidisciplinary analyses of complex HR and labor relations issues, learning to:

- Integrate theoretical foundations across disciplines in novel ways.
- Employ the full range of scientific methodologies, statistical methods and research designs in testing new theoretical contributions.
- Conduct research spanning local to global inquiries, ranging from micro-level individual and organizational analyses to macro-level organizational and policy analyses.
- Analyze the broader environmental contexts of organizations and multi-level behaviors and decision-making of multiple stakeholders and actors.
- Evaluate the effects of alternative strategies, policies and practices on behavior, and real-world outcomes.

Toward fostering an environment in which our doctoral students are able to maximize their potential and enjoy outstanding academic placement opportunities upon graduation, we are dedicated to ensuring that you:

- Engage in our strong culture of community and teamwork among faculty and students dedicated to conducting cutting-edge research relevant to understanding complex issues.
- Join a small cohort of doctoral students who receive individual advising and mentoring by our dedicated faculty matched with your scholarly interests.
- Receive early intensive research and publishing experience working closely with our talented faculty.
- Make connections to organizations and data through our School’s highly engaged and distinguished Advisory Board and strong alumni network.
- Participate in our research luncheon series hosting top scholars.
- Have access to PhD seminars and faculty across top-rated MSU programs in industrial and organizational psychology, management, and economics.
- Become part of a wider community of scholars in our field by participating in major conferences, workshops, and associations.

As graduate assistants, students work directly with faculty members on research projects. The assignment of students to faculty is based on student requests to work with faculty members on research projects. The assignment of students to faculty is based on student requests to work with individual faculty and a student’s primary research interests.

Doctoral students making good progress receive stipends and attractive health insurance coverage up to 5 years. All tuition and fees are also covered whether you are an in-state, out-of-state, or international student.

In addition, to promote success, students receive funding to cover the costs of data collections and attending conferences to present their research. Additional compensation may be received by obtaining competitive scholarships and teaching courses after completing required coursework and exams.