

# PhD in Information



SCHOOL OF  
INFORMATION  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



[umsi.info/doctorate](https://umsi.info/doctorate)

# 7 Points of Distinction

## FOR THE UMSI DOCTORAL PROGRAM

**1. Impact.** Faculty and students are attracted to UMSI because they aspire to understand and solve problems of practical import, in areas such as climate change, health and education.

**2. Collaboration.** From office layouts to lab meetings to practice talks, everything is organized to help you learn and succeed together with other students and faculty.

**3. Breadth & Depth.** You will master one area, but you will also gain a broad exposure to diverse subfields of computing, the social sciences and the humanities, and learn the translation and brokering skills of interdisciplinarity.

**4. A World-Class Institution.** You will have abundant opportunities to engage with other departments at the

University of Michigan, nearly all of which are ranked in the top 10 in their fields.

**5. Research.** UMSI research covers topics from data science, health informatics, information economics, human-computer interaction (HCI), privacy, and social media. Wherever your passion and purpose lie, we can help you find your intellectual community.

**6. Fully Funded.** At UMSI, PhD candidates are fully funded, including your tuition, a stipend and a health plan, for the duration of your program.

**7. A 100% Success Rate.** For several years running, every UMSI PhD graduate has found employment in the teaching or research area of choice. As a graduate of this program, you will have a successful future.

**115** Total students

**64** International students

**54%** Female

**21** Average entering class size

### Time to Degree

- 2 years to candidacy
- 2-4 years writing dissertation
- 5 years average to completion

**#1 Public Research Institution in the U.S.**

National Science Foundation



“For me, it was the breadth of expertise across such diverse fields of scholarship and the depth of world-class scholars at UMSI that enabled me to focus my research on the precise topics I care about. At UMSI, I was able to conduct rigorous mixed-methods research drawing on cognitive science, science and technology studies, archival science, and privacy to advance knowledge on data, technology, and human rights.”

**TAMY GUBEREK, PhD**

UX Researcher, Facebook



“At UMSI, both the technical depth and societal impact are emphasized, and my dream of doing interdisciplinary research came true. Through interacting with researchers from diverse backgrounds, I learned to appreciate before criticizing.”

**WEI AI, PhD**

Assistant Professor, College of Information Studies and Institute for Advanced Computer Studies, University of Maryland



“The academic diversity of UMSI exposed me to many approaches, while simultaneously giving me the freedom and flexibility to develop a deep expertise in my own research areas. UMSI has an open culture of collegiality and accessibility that gave me the support and space to grow as a scholar.”

**JEAN HARDY, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Department of Media & Information, Michigan State University



“When you join our PhD program, you gain skills to extend the frontiers of knowledge, build lifelong relationships with leading researchers and become a member of our scholarly community.”

**ERIN KRUPKA, DIRECTOR  
UMSI DOCTORAL PROGRAM**

Associate Professor of Information

## Next Steps

- **Join the interest list!** Get invitations to events plus timely updates whenever there's new information or special opportunities: [www.umsi.info/interest](http://www.umsi.info/interest).
- **Participate in an information session.** Attend an information session where you can ask questions and hear presentations by PhD admissions staff.
- **Connect with us.** Email us at [umsi.phd.admissions@umich.edu](mailto:umsi.phd.admissions@umich.edu) to connect with an admissions advisor, discuss any questions, and to find out about visiting options.

## Apply

The School of Information doctoral program is administered by the Rackham School of Graduate Studies, which offers a convenient online application.

Details: [umsi.info/apply-phd](http://umsi.info/apply-phd).

Ideal doctoral applicants will have:

- At least a bachelor's degree, preferably in a field relevant to their proposed area of research.
- A superior academic record, with evidence of ability to engage in independent and original study in an information field.
- A distinguished record of scholarship, maturity, integrity, intellectual honesty, leadership potential, professional promise, and the capability of making substantive and scholarly research contributions to the field.



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