



SAGINAW VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY

**LEADERSHIP
STARTS
HERE.**



CARDINALS **STAND** OUT

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS LED BY EXPERTS, FUELED BY STUDENTS WITH PASSION.

First-year students and those beyond, from any major, may apply for research opportunities and academic leadership programs at SVSU.

Students engaged in leadership and research programs at SVSU may collaborate with faculty and community leaders on innovative solutions, study abroad to learn from global leaders or work with interdisciplinary teams to compete on the national stage. SVSU faculty and staff will provide students with the support and resources they need to pursue their passions.



Do you have questions about academic programs and leadership pathways? SVSU faculty are here for you.

ASK AN EXPERT
svsu.edu/experts



Engineering Mobility: SVSU Students Empower Kids to Ride

SVSU electrical engineering and business students teamed up through the GoBabyGo initiative to design and build custom ride-on vehicles for children with physical disabilities. These modified toy cars are tailored to each child's mobility needs, helping them move, explore and play with greater independence. By applying classroom knowledge to real-world impact, these students gained hands-on experience while bringing joy and freedom to families across the Great Lakes Bay Region.



STAND OUT

ROVING ENGINEER

1. EXPLORES OPTIONS AS A GLOBAL FOUNDATION SCHOLAR

SVSU offers a lot of opportunities, and you are not yet sure where school will lead. You decide to start by building friendships and gaining some practical experience with the Global Foundation Scholars. The scholar retreat is a great place to get to know more about SVSU, your future friends and yourself.

2. TESTS PASSIONS WITH THE CARDINAL FORMULA RACING TEAM

Cardinal Formula Racing is a faculty-led, student racing team that competes in the Formula SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) Collegiate Design Series. The team conceives, designs, builds and races small Indy-style race cars in the world's most prestigious student design competition, Formula SAE.

IMPASSIONED SCIENTIST

1. TOP CONTENDER FOR HONORS PROGRAM

You were honored as a salutatorian at your high school, and you join SVSU's prestigious Honors Program, doing research, traveling and studying with professors you never dreamed you would have access to so early in your undergraduate career.

2. EMPOWERED THROUGH EARLY UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

You know that professional school is competitive, so you get involved in undergraduate research early at SVSU's biology lab, presenting at conferences multiple times over the next four years.

ASPIRING LAWYER

1. BUILDS COMMUNITY WITH GARBER CARDINAL BUSINESS EDGE

As a double major in political science and general business, you want to spend your four years at SVSU highly involved. By signing up for Garber Cardinal Business Edge, you join a community in which you make friends and discover the organizations on campus that most excite you.

2. COMPETES NATIONALLY WITH MOOT COURT

You've heard about SVSU's fiercely competitive moot court team winning against major schools, such as Duke and the University of Chicago. At SVSU, your dreams of being a lawyer don't start when you graduate; they start today.

COLLABORATIVE DIRECTOR

1. MAKES FRIENDS THROUGH JOINING CLUBS IN STUDENT LIFE

You are looking for a college experience that is both meaningful and enjoyable. During SOAR orientation, you meet with upper-level students to start creating community on campus by joining the nationally accredited theatre society Alpha Psi Omega and register for your first theatre classes.

2. EMBRACES SERVICE & COLLABORATION

You find yourself taking the lead in service outreach through Alpha Psi Omega and in your directing class. That winter, you join the creative team of the Mainstage musical as its assistant director, guiding the artistic team and crew through opening night. In addition to audience and peer accolades, your work is recognized by the invited production respondent.

**ARE YOU A FOCUSED ACHIEVER? A HIGHLY INVOLVED LEADER?
OR MAYBE YOU ARE LOOKING TO BUILD STRONG FRIENDSHIPS?**

**WHATEVER YOUR STORY,
WE CAN HELP YOU GET THERE.**

3. GAINS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Each year, students showcase their leadership skills by collaborating with electrical and computer engineering professionals across the globe through hands-on professional activities. The networking journey continues from freshman to senior year and beyond through IEEE and SWE organizations.

4. LANDS A STRONG JOB IN AUTOMOTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ENGINEERING

With all of your experience, you are a highly appealing job candidate. You graduate from SVSU and leave for a career in the field of automotive technology, embedded systems and renewable energy.

TOP JOBS

ENGINEERING IS PROJECTED AS ONE OF MICHIGAN'S FASTEST-GROWING, HIGH-WAGE CAREER PATHS.

3. DEDICATES TIME AS A MEDICAL SCRIBE

Throughout your sophomore and junior years, you spend extra time working as a medical scribe in a hospital, getting firsthand experience documenting physicians' plans of care in complex situations.

4. EARNS COVETED SPOT AT MSU MEDICAL SCHOOL

By the time graduation rolls around, you have accepted an invitation to join MSU's medical school. Your rigorous studies and years of real hospital experience assure you that you're ready for what lies ahead.

SAVED SEATS

SVSU HAS SAVED SEATS FOR SVSU PRE-HEALTH GRADUATES TO TOP MEDICAL SCHOOLS.

3. DEVELOPS LEADERSHIP IN THE VITITO GLOBAL BUSINESS INSTITUTE

You have taken the courses you need to earn a spot in the Vitito Global Business Leadership Institute during your junior year. These experiences deeply shape your understanding of business and the role of law in global economies.

4. OWNS THE STAGE OF A GLOBAL SUMMIT

Closing your senior year with an undergraduate research project, you look forward to presenting at an economic summit that spring. This will be the perfect conclusion to your time with SVSU before leaving for U of M Law School.

TOP 4

SVSU MOOT COURT TEAM RANKED TOP 4 IN THE NATION.

3. COMPETES AT THE KENNEDY CENTER AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL

During your junior year, your directing earns you an invitation to attend the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival to direct a 10-minute play. The piece earns you regional awards, and you advance to the national stage in Washington, D.C. The opportunity secures you a summer internship, further building your professional network.

4. DIRECTS FULLY PRODUCED DRAMA

In your senior year, you earn the directing slot for SVSU's XP production, and you direct a fully produced play in the intimate Black Box Theatre. You highlight this experience on your professional website built through SVSU's Senior Seminar course while planning for graduation and your imminent move to Chicago.

18,000

STUDENTS INVOLVED IN THE KCACTF ACROSS THE NATION.

THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU AT SVSU.

ABIGAIL WALK: FORGING HER PATH IN BUSINESS

“SVSU helped me pursue a path that I am passionate about.”

Abigail Walk wanted to stay close to home for college, and she found the perfect fit at SVSU — a place where she could commute and still immerse herself in leadership roles, hands-on learning, and transformative mentorship that launched her toward a legal career.

Abigail graduated from SVSU in May 2024 with a degree in management. She begins her next chapter as a full-time paralegal on Dow’s Litigation, Finance and Operations team, supporting legal discovery, trial prep, and financial reporting. She also plans to coach SVSU’s moot court team, study for the LSAT and prepare for law school.

Leadership played a central role in Abigail’s college experience. She served as president of both the Spanish Honor Society and the Modern Foreign Language Society, helping plan events, lead outreach and guide both groups through the transition back to in-person programming. She was also a member of two competitive distinction programs, Cardinal Business Edge and the Vitito Global Leadership Institute. These programs sharpened her professional skills and global awareness.

Faculty mentors helped Abigail make the most of every opportunity. Dr. Amy Hendrickson was a mentor who coached her in moot court. “Moot court gave me the satisfaction of knowing I’m pursuing a path I’m passionate about,” Abigail said.

Professor Maribel Colorado-Garcia helped Abigail apply her Spanish fluency in real-world settings — from a conference with Dow DuPont to rewriting SVSU Admissions materials for Spanish-speaking prospective student families.

Mentors like Dr. Joseph Ofori-Dankwa and Dominic Monastiere encouraged her to lead with confidence and poise. Though she started college during the COVID pandemic, Abigail rose to the challenge — building relationships, stepping into leadership roles and providing support to student organizations.

At SVSU, Abigail found her voice — and used it to Stand Out!

CARDINALS **STAND OUT**



3.56

SVSU'S AVERAGE GPA
RANKS #5 IN MICHIGAN
(among public universities)



GUARANTEED
SCHOLARSHIPS
FOR 3.0+ GPA

#1

TOP-RANKED DORMS
IN MICHIGAN
(among public universities)

PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION

Qualified students receive an application to apply to each program upon admission to SVSU.

HONORS PROGRAM

If you want a community of students who will challenge your thinking and inspire passionate conversation, the Honors Program at SVSU welcomes up to 80 incoming freshmen each year for a rigorous academic experience. Honors students participate in specialized seminars, get extra financial support for studying abroad and shape their learning through personal research. In addition, many honors students choose to live in SVSU's Honors Housing. The community provides a foundation for collaboration and building friendships.

Applicants must have a minimum 3.50 cumulative high school GPA to be eligible.

GLOBAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARS

This program will help you discover the important impact of gaining a global perspective in relation to your studies. SVSU Global Foundation Scholars have the chance to take specialized courses and live together in the same residential community. The goal of this program is to help you engage in discussions on global topics, gain essential leadership skills and build relationships across the campus community.

Applicants must have a minimum 3.50 cumulative high school GPA and must have demonstrated leadership and service in their schools and/or communities to be eligible.

GARBER CARDINAL BUSINESS EDGE

This two-year program in the Scott L. Carmona College of Business provides exciting co-curricular travel experiences, faculty mentors and regular exposure to senior executives and business professionals.

Applicants must pursue a business degree and have a minimum 3.20 cumulative high school GPA to be eligible.

For more information about these programs and how to apply, visit:
svsu.edu/programsofdistinction

BEYOND YOUR FIRST YEAR...

SVSU champions collaboration and mentorship because we know it leads to better leaders, learners and lives. Beyond your first year at SVSU, you may apply for the Botz Liberal Arts Fellowship, the Roberts-Gilbertson Fellowship and the Vitito Global Business Leadership Institute. These are just a few of the many scholarly programs we offer exclusively to upperclassmen. We want you to have the chance not only to learn your coursework but also to live it. That's the difference when you choose an SVSU education.

Cardinal Formula Racing: SVSU Students Drive to Success.

SVSU's Cardinal Formula Racing team designs, builds, and competes with a Formula-style race car each year. Cardinal Formula Racing offers students a hands-on experience that combines classroom learning with practical applications. Students build a car from concept to completion to compete in the Formula SAE Collegiate Design Series each May. The Formula SAE series is one of the largest engineering competitions in the world, with nine international events and more than 300 student-led teams worldwide.

The SVSU team takes a multidisciplinary approach, involving engineering, accounting, and marketing students. This student-led project combines engineering, teamwork, and innovation, offering real-world experience in design, fabrication, and performance testing — preparing students for careers in automotive and mechanical engineering through hands-on achievement and competition.

Twice, SVSU's Cardinal Formula Racing team has earned international acclaim by building the quickest college race car in the world.



UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAM

If you want to follow the crowd and research the expected, there are thousands of universities for you to choose. But if you seek answers to the difficult questions, defy the traditional outcomes and persevere past failed experiments, then you are built for a Cardinal research team. SVSU will provide you with the faculty and financial support to ask the questions that fascinate you. Gain valuable experience in the lab and on the stage as you conduct and present your findings both nationally and internationally. Welcome to the Cardinal research labs.

AT SVSU, IT PAYS TO TEST LIMITS.

FACULTY-LED GRANT: Conduct paid research under the mentorship of an SVSU faculty member. Growing under the care of these bright and determined minds, you will develop your own testing, analytic and communication skills.

STUDENT-LED GRANT: Receive up to \$5,000 for research materials and supplies to drive your own experiment with a faculty mentor. You can also choose to conduct research for academic credit or for a stipend.

STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT: SVSU can provide you with up to \$1,500 to fund your travel and spread your thinking around the world. As a researcher, your work will be shared and your ideas will be heard, whether in the Cardinal community or in the global community.

LEARN MORE
svsu.edu/ugrp



Emily Beard-Bohn

*Associate Professor
of English*

*Undergraduate Research
Program Chair*



SVSU's Saginaw Bay Environmental Science Institute has partnerships focused on watershed research. These partnerships allow students to work alongside faculty to learn, research and serve the community.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- Ongoing Kawkawlin River D.O. Study
- Rapid Bacterial Testing (PCR-*Enterococci*)
- Saginaw Bay Optimization Decision Model Project

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

“Working on this project has provided us with a fantastic opportunity to explore the many facets of engineering. Not only were we able to increase our knowledge in the electrical engineering field, but we were able to dip our toes into the mechanical and biomechanical aspects of engineering. We worked on providing a low-cost alternative for young patients in need of a prosthetic arm.”

— Bradley Rowloff, electrical engineering major



ACADEMIC EXTRA- CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

ENGINEERING, BUSINESS, ART & GRAPHIC DESIGN MAJORS

CARDINAL FORMULA SAE RACING

Enter one of the largest engineering competitions in the world as part of Cardinal Formula SAE Racing. Together, students build a race car from concept to competition in the Formula SAE College Design Series. At the largest international event at Michigan International Speedway, which features the top 120 programs from around the world, SVSU finished as the #1 undergraduate team for five years in a row.

To learn more, visit svsu.edu/cardinalformularacing

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY & NURSING MAJORS

DIRECT ADMIT PROGRAMS

For driven nursing and occupational therapy students who have a strong sense of purpose and excellent academic credentials, SVSU offers direct admit programs, so you can get started immediately in your major. Both direct admit programs have requirements to gain entrance to the major early.

To learn more, visit svsu.edu/directadmits

MARKETING, GRAPHIC DESIGN & TECHNICAL WRITING MAJORS

CARDINAL SOLUTIONS

SVSU will help you apply your graphic design, marketing or technical writing classes to the problems of local businesses and nonprofits. Start by partnering with faculty to analyze each organization's strengths, map marketing needs and implement effective solutions. Your strengths are vital in helping shape the Solutions team and achieve success.

PRE-LAW & VARIOUS MAJORS

MOOT COURT

Ranked #4 among the top 10 teams in the nation, SVSU has earned state pride and national respect for our moot court team. When you join moot court, you gain the chance to focus on the practice of law through argument in front of an appellate court. Work as a team to prepare oral arguments and/or legal briefs, then compete in regional and national tournaments.

To learn more, visit svsu.edu/mootcourt

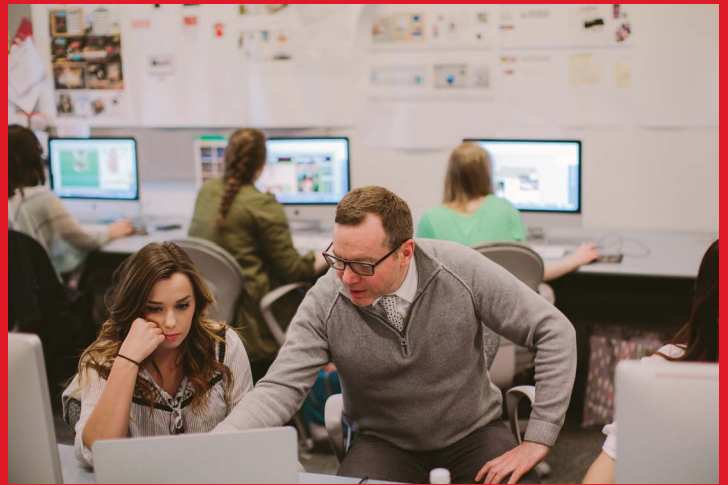
THEATRE MAJORS

KENNEDY CENTER AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL

As a member of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, SVSU encourages students to engage in nationally competitive theatre throughout the United States. In fact, SVSU students consistently perform at the highest festival level, earning awards and advancing to Nationals in Washington, D.C.



Occupational therapy students performing wheelchair assessments.



Graphic design students partner with engineering, marketing and business students to develop design solutions for real-world clients.



SVSU's moot court team is nationally ranked #4 for undergraduate competition.

STUDENT RESEARCHER

VINCENT FLORES: FUELING DISCOVERY THROUGH CHEMISTRY

“I chose SVSU because I felt accepted for who I am. At SVSU, every student is welcomed and given the opportunities they need to succeed.”

From the moment he stepped foot on campus, Vincent felt sure: SVSU was home. But it was not until he threw on a lab coat that he realized where all the opportunities at SVSU would lead.

Vincent has become a researcher in his own right, developing his analytic skills under Dr. Adam Warhausen in the Chemistry department. Dr. Warhausen is a determined researcher and a strong student advocate, connecting students like Vincent to leading research institutions around the country. During his time at SVSU, Vincent traveled to labs at the University of Oklahoma and Southern Illinois University to gather data from other research teams. Vincent presented his own research at a national conference in Philadelphia. The significance of his findings is potentially far reaching.

“The research I conducted is significant because it addresses a gap in understanding of well-known compounds that have pharmaceutical applications. The purpose of my research is to study the basic interactions of organic complexes that have the ability to donate nitric oxide to biologically relevant metals. Nitric oxide is an important small molecule that has uses in several biologically relevant processes, such as vasodilation, immune defense mechanisms and even the central and peripheral nervous systems.”

Vincent is currently a postdoctoral researcher and chemical vapor deposition chemist at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His achievements include presenting at American Chemical Society (ACS) and Materials Research Society (MRS) conferences and publishing an article in an ACS journal.

98%

FIRST-TIME PASS RATE ON THE NCLEX®, THE NATIONAL LICENSURE EXAM FOR NURSING STUDENTS (2024)

100%

PASS RATE FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY STUDENTS ON THE LICENSURE EXAM ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

#2

IN MICHIGAN FOR OUR THREE-YEAR CUMULATIVE AVERAGE PASS RATE OF 92.3% ON THE MICHIGAN TEST FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION (among public universities)



WE CAN'T WAIT TO MEET YOU!

CONNECT WITH AN EXPERT

You're driven to succeed — and we're here to support that. Use our expert directory to connect directly with faculty who are experts in their fields and committed to helping you explore our academic programs that match your goals.



Connect with us:
svsu.edu/experts

VISIT US

Discover SVSU in the way that works best for you. Join us on campus for a guided tour, attend a campus event or connect one-on-one by phone or virtually.



Sign up for a date:
svsu.edu/visit



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CARDINALS **STAND OUT**

7400 Bay Road • University Center, MI 48710
Call or text: 989.342.1033 • admissions@svsu.edu

