The B.S. in Applied Organizational (AOS) Studies is a degree completion program designed primarily for working adults that will provide them the qualifications needed to advance in their careers or to change professions. It provides students with education in communication, in critical analysis, and in organizational leadership. These are skills that have been repeatedly identified as highly important in contemporary society and a shifting economy. This degree is designed for individuals who want to develop knowledge and skills that will allow them to serve and contribute to transforming the organizations of which they are a part, be it their community, church, work, nonprofit or voluntary organization, city, or state. The program’s design assumes that students have completed Minnesota’s general education Transfer Curriculum and at least 60 credits of coursework. It also assumes that students will meet Minnesota State Mankato’s undergraduate graduation requirements.

POLICIES/INFORMATION
Completion of Minnesota Transfer Curriculum and completion of AOS 301.

APPLIED ORGANIZATIONAL STUDIES BS
Degree completion = 120 credits

Major Common Core
AOS 301 Introduction to Applied Organizational Studies
AOS 488 Portfolio in Professional Leadership

Major Unrestricted Electives
Communications in Organizations (choose 12 credits)
Critical Thinking and Decision-Making in Organizations (choose 12 credits)
Leadership in Organizations (choose 12 credits)

Major Emphasis
Area of Concentration (choose 7-8 credits)

Required Minor: None.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

AOS 301 (3) Introduction to Applied Organizational Studies
Topics include world economics and their implications for the labor force, critical and creative thinking, leadership, and portfolio assessment. Required for admission to the Applied Organizational Studies program.
Variable

AOS 320 (3) Workshop 1 - Applied Organizational Studies
The focus in this course is on communication within organizations (including virtual environments), workplace engagement in virtual teamwork and the application of critical and creative thinking resulting in organizational innovation. The course also engages students in an exploration of the role of social organizing and the impact of networking on organizational growth and sustainability.
Fall, Spring

AOS 420 (1-3) Advanced Workshop - Applied Organizational Studies
The course focuses on contemporary organizational issues and the concept of change in organizational design and development. Subject matter includes the use of causal thinking and econometric measurement, effectuation and entrepreneurial thinking, and the role of mission and vision. Students will complete a project-based exploration of the financial and resource aspects of return on investment comparing the effectual and causal perspectives on an organizational change.
Fall

AOS 488 (1-2) Professional Studies Portfolio
Capstone project in which the student creates a portfolio that demonstrates the student’s achievement in the core competencies of the program. Portfolio to be presented to a committee.
Pre: AOS 301
Variable