Mizzou Black Men’s Initiative (MBMI) is a two-year leadership & identity development program provided by the Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center. The program aims to foster a sense of belonging, promote engagement in the curricular and co-curricular life of the university, encourage self-responsibility, and articulate to students the benefits of higher education and the expectations and values of the university.

Awards & Recognition

2015 2017 2018

- Named Outstanding Men’s Program by American College Personnel Association
- MBMI ‘21 cohort had a 100% retention rate going into their sophomore year.
- MBMI ‘21 cohort was first to obtain above a 3.0 fall semester GPA since the 2013 restructure.
- Published in the Applying Student Development Theories Holistically book for exemplar programming in higher education.
- Created the Kedar I. Boyce Memorial Scholarship for MBMI students.

Pillars of Success

Support
1-on-1 meetings with professional staff and peer mentors to allow time for goal setting, academic monitoring, and social support.

Development
Enhance leadership skills through SSC 1150, SSC 2100, and EDLPA 3100 courses, and community service opportunities.

Involvement
Expose students to various campus lectures, campus resources, and networking events with faculty/staff and community leaders.

Did you know? Mizzou Black Men’s Initiative has a 90% average first year retention rate.
MBMI started as an organization in 2009. In 2013, MBMI was restructured into a more holistic academic initiative to build upon its original foundation of creating a sense of belonging and leadership development opportunities.

**Background**
- The program has served over 200 students since 2009.
- MBMI students are represented across 19 different states in the country.
- MBMI students have been involved in over 60 campus organizations.

**Service**
- MBMI students have completed over 1,800 hours of community service.
- MBMI has participated in 9 Alternative Break Service Trips.
- The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri, Ronald McDonald House, and Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure are some of the many local service opportunities students have participated in.

**Academic**
- 41% of MBMI students had above a 3.0 cumulative GPA after their first year.
- 90% retention rate of students from first to second year.
- MBMI students create 4 year graduation plans.

**Expansion**
- In 2018, MBMI was expanded with the addition of the EDLP A 3100: Black Collar Exploring Professional Environments course for sophomore students.
- The MBMI Roots, 2009 cohort, created the Kedar I. Boyce Memorial Scholarship and has awarded $2,000.00 in scholarships to continuing MBMI students.

**Graduation**
- The MBMI program has successfully graduated 6 cohorts of scholars.
- MBMI Alumni have gone on to pursue advanced degrees and careers in Business, Education, Engineering, and so much more!