

Information Session: Thursday, September 11 at 7:30 PM
Pizza at 7:30 PM! 3437 EECS Building (North Campus)*

The University of Michigan Amateur Radio Club

What is Amateur Radio?

Amateur Radio is also known as “Ham Radio”. Amateur radio operators use radio to talk to other “ham” operators in far-off lands (even in outer space, as most astronauts are also ham operators). They build and maintain their own radio stations, complete with state-of-the-art equipment and antennas. Hams assist their communities by providing radio communications during public events as well as natural disasters and emergencies.



The club's radio tower and antennas atop the EECS Building on North Campus.

Ham radio appeals to all walks of life. At any given time, “on the air”, you’ll find doctors, lawyers, journalists, engineers, even senators and kings eager to make new friends using their self-made radio stations.

Our Station: W8UM

Amateur radio station W8UM is the center of club activity. The W8UM radio “shack” is located in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) Building on the University’s North Campus. Available to club members 24-hours-a-day, the station has equipment for radio



Club members operate the shortwave radio station during an on-the-air contest.

communications on all popular amateur radio frequencies. Club members use W8UM to talk to other hams around the world. In addition to “shortwave” radio equipment, the station has an advanced satellite ground station used to communicate via satellites and other spacecraft orbiting the Earth, as well as a radio link to the internet through our local “repeater” system. The club thrives on experimentation and provides many resources for members wishing to add new capabilities to W8UM or their own stations.

Join a U-M Tradition since 1913

Since the early days of radio, U-M students have operated ham radio stations all around campus. We have copied a Morse Code report of the sinking of the Lusitania, provided communications to South Pole expeditions, and gained national fame in on-the-air radio contests. There is a lot of fun in store for new club members!

* Located on the third floor of the EECS Building. Walk into the EECS atrium, take the elevator to the third floor, go right, right at hallway, then left. *See you there!*

Visit us on the web:
www.umich.edu/~umarc

Just a few examples of what Ham Radio operators do...

Make friends all over the world

A hiker in the mountains of Northern California, a military pilot crossing over Greenland, and a sheep farmer in New Zealand are just a few examples of the interesting people you might encounter “on-the-air” through amateur radio. Let the experienced hams in our club introduce you to an exciting and rewarding lifelong hobby. And you can use the state-of-the-art W8UM station while you are at Michigan so there’s no need to buy your own equipment.

Get your own FCC Amateur Radio License and Callsign

To transmit using your own station, you need to obtain a license from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). We offer license classes and one-on-one mentoring for students wishing to get their amateur radio license.

Let the club help you get your “ticket” and your very own FCC callsign!



Hands-on Radio Experimentation

For the technically-minded members, the club offers unique opportunities to design, build, and implement radio electronics and antennas. In recent years, club members have designed and built a system to communicate with low Earth orbit (LEO) amateur satellites, refurbished a 1000 Watt transmitter for our shortwave station, and designed and erected a tower and antenna system covering 3 MHz to 1.2 GHz. And there’s a lot more in the works! The club thrives on new projects to improve our station.



An amateur radio satellite before launch.

...and a lot more!

Come to our Info Session, next monthly club meeting, or contact a club member (see our website: www.umich.edu/~umarc) to learn more about Amateur Radio and get involved in an exciting and rewarding past-time while you are at Michigan.

Provide a Public Service

Ham radio operators have a distinguished history of community service, especially in times of natural disaster and other emergencies. As an amateur radio operator, you can participate in severe weather spotting “nets”, provide communications during community events, and assist in emergency communications through organizations like the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Following a disaster, hams often provide the only communications links to the outside world.



“73” and GO BLUE!

Visit us on the web: www.umich.edu/~umarc