

# WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY POLITICAL SCIENCE DEGREE?



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## Using the Major Sheet:

- Large headings indicate **industry** area and subheadings indicate **employers** within that area.
- Use the titles to search for careers and related careers in order to explore your options within different areas of industry. Note that some career titles have multiple names for similar positions.
- An asterisk (\*) notes that additional training (certification, graduate school, high level of experience) may be needed in order to obtain this career. Make sure to thoroughly research career pathways.

## PUBLIC POLICY

### **Congress / State Legislature / President's, Governor's, Mayor's Office**

- Congressional/Legislative Aide
- Legislative Research Assistant
- Campaign Staffer/Aide
- Media Relations Specialist
- Committee Staff Person
- Legislative Correspondent
- Political Pollster
- Field Worker
- Press Assistant
- Constituent Aide
- Policy Analyst
- Staff Aide

### **Policy Organizations (Issue-Oriented/Political Party/Public Interest/Nat'l Associations)**

- Public Opinion Interviewer
- Community/Field Organizer
- Program Developer/Coordinator
- Fund-Raiser/Development Associate
- Legislative Advocate
- Assistant Field Representative
- Office Manager
- Lobbyist Assistant
- Membership Coordinator
- Grass Roots Organizer
- Convention Organizer
- Research Assistant
- Assistant for Special Projects
- Government Affairs Specialist
- Public Policy Analyst
- Project Manager
- Legislative Liaison
- Meetings Coordinator
- Press Assistant
- Legislative Analyst

### **Research Organizations (Issue-Oriented/Non-Profits/National Associations)**

- Project Assistant
- Research Technician
- Research Associate
- Trainee
- Public Policy Analyst

## LOCAL, STATE, & FEDERAL AGENCIES

### **Transportation, Housing, Commerce, Zoning, Economic Development, etc.**

- Population Studies Researcher
- Contract Administrator
- Legislative Liaison
- Program Evaluator
- Urban/Regional Planner
- Researcher/Statistician
- Public Information Officer
- Officer Candidate-Military
- Public Affairs Specialist
- Research Assistant
- Compliance Specialist
- Civil Rights Investigator

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### **Government (US AID, Peace Corps, Foreign Service, Voice of America)**

- Foreign Service Officer
- Information Officer
- Peace Corps Volunteer
- Writer
- Customs Agent

### **International Organizations (UN, UNESCO, IMF, UNICEF, WHO, OAS)**

- Economic Affairs Officer
- Guide
- Social Affairs Officer
- Program Manager

### **Non-Profits (CARE, Amnesty Int'l, Catholic Relief Services, Population Council)**

- Public Policy Analyst
- Project Assistant
- Program Developer/Coordinator
- Community/Field Organizer
- Assistant Field Rep.
- Assistant for Special Projects
- Membership Coordinator
- Research Associate
- Project Assistant

## EDUCATION

### **High Schools, Colleges, Universities**

- Teacher
- Admissions Counselor
- Financial Aid Counselor

## **LAW / INTELLIGENCE / CORRECTIONS**

### **Private Practices, Government Agencies, Correctional Facilities, Courts**

- Legal Assistant
- Court Appointed Special Advocate
- CIA Special Agent
- Government Intelligence Analyst
- Corrections Officer
- Intelligence Officer
- Legal Secretary
- Corrections Officer
- DIA Special Agent
- Probation/Parole Officer
- Correctional Caseworker
- Intelligence Support Analyst
- Paralegal
- Correctional Caseworker
- Probation/Parole Officer
- Police Officer
- FBI Special Agent

## **HUMAN SERVICES**

### **Advocacy Groups, Government, Non-Profits, Hospitals, Foundations**

- Community Service Agency Worker
- Recreation Coordinator
- Family Services Specialist
- Youth Director
- Aide
- Race Relations Specialist
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Community Outreach Worker
- Social Service Aide
- Researcher
- Eligibility Specialist
- Caseworker
- Activities Leader
- Community Organizer
- Proposal Reviewer

## **BUSINESS**

### **Advertising / Marketing / Public Relations**

- Marketing Research Analyst
- Advertising Salesperson
- Consumer Survey Supervisor
- Public Relations Specialist
- Marketing Coordinator
- Special Events Coordinator
- Media Buyer/Assistant
- Copywriter
- Jr. Account Executive

### **Human Resources**

- Personnel/Human Resources Asst.
- EEO/Affirmative Action Officer
- Labor Relations Specialist
- Benefits Coordinator
- Payroll Officer
- Staffing Specialist
- Trainer
- Recruiter/Interviewer
- Job Developer

### **Insurance**

- Claims Representative/Examiner
- Insurance Agent
- Underwriter

### **Banking / Finance**

- Branch Manager
- Loan Representative
- Property Manager

### **Publishing / Journalism (Newspapers, Publishing Houses, Radio/TV, Wire Services)**

- Editorial Assistant
- Reporter
- Writer
- Salesperson
- Technical Writer
- Researcher
- Promotions Assistant
- Circulation Personnel

### **Preparation for a Competitive Job Market:**

- **Focus on transferable skill sets** as you pursue a degree in Political Science.
- **Obtain relevant internship, co-op, or volunteer experiences.**
- **Supplement Political Science course work** with **classes** that are **relevant** to your career.
- **Meet with a Career Specialist** to explore options, make decisions, and prepare for career choices.

### **Additional Career Center Resources:**

- **Major Resources (POLI, ECON, FIEC, HIST, MCS):** <http://careers.umbc.edu/tools/majors/>
- **The Vault:** <https://careers2.umbc.edu/tools/vault/>
  - Use the top search bar to find these relevant guides:
    - “[Vault Career Guide to Consulting](#)”
    - “[Vault Career Guide to Law](#)”
    - “[Vault Career Guide to Law Jobs](#)”
    - “[Practice Perspectives: Vault’s Guide to Legal Practice Areas](#)”
    - “[Vault Guide to Government Jobs](#)”
    - “[Vault Guide to Consulting Jobs](#)”
    - “[Vault Guide to the Top 100 Law Firms](#)”
- **Professional Organizations:**
  - American Political Science Organization: <http://www.apsanet.org/>
  - International Political Science Organization: <http://www.ipso.org/>
  - Foreign Policy Association: <http://www.fpa.org/>
  - National Capital Area Paralegal Association: <https://www.ncapa.com/>