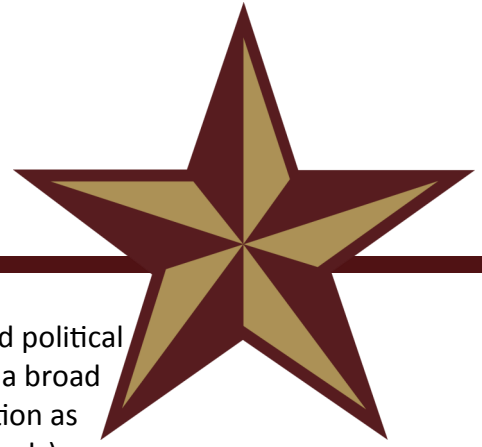


Political Science

What can I do with this degree?



“Political Science is the study of government, public policies and political behavior. The major in Political Science provides students with a broad program of study designed to promote effective civic participation as a citizen, public servant, or elected official” (CSUCI-Channel Islands).

Political Science Skills

- Ability to Work Well Under Pressure
- Able to Develop and Market Ideas
- Analytical Thinking
- Decision-Making
- Interact with Diverse Populations
- Leadership Abilities
- Oral and Written Communication
- Problem-Solving
- Research Skills (Archival, Qualitative and Quantitative)
- Teamwork
- Understanding of Community Needs

Government Agencies

- Agency for International Development
- City governments
- County governments
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Education
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Executive Office of the President
- Federal Trade Commission
- General Services Administration
- Military
- NASA
- National Credit Union Administration
- National Science Foundation
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- Regional Planning Agencies
- State governments
- U.S. Information Agency
- U.S. Postal Service

Possible Work Settings

- Banking, Manufacturing, and Agriculture Industry
- Book/Magazine Publishing
- Campaign Headquarters
- College and Universities
- Criminal Justice
- Historical Societies
- Labor Unions
- Law Firms
- Libraries
- Lobbying Groups
- Museums & Archives
- Newspapers
- Public Interest Groups
- Public Relations
- Research Firms

Areas of Study

- Comparative Politics
- Constitutional Law
- Democratization
- Gender and Politics
- International Relations
- Legal Studies
- National Politics
- Peace Science
- Political Behavior
- Political Culture
- Political Institutions
- Political Methodology
- Political Theory
- Public Administration
- Public Law
- Public Policy
- State and Local Government

CAREER PATHS

(Some of the occupations outlined in this brochure may require additional education or training)

...in Education

Sample Job Titles

- Civics, Social Studies, American Government, Social Science Teacher
- College Professor
- Curriculum Developer/Supervisor
- Education Reporter
- Government/Politics Teacher
- High School and Middle School Teacher
- Law Professor
- Researcher
- Student Affairs Administrator

...in Campaigns and Polling

Sample Job Titles

- Campaign Manager/Consultant
- Director, Political Action Committee
- Fundraiser
- Issue Analyst
- Political Consultant
- Political Director
- Political Reporter
- Pollster
- Press Officer for Candidate
- Survey Researcher

...in Government (Public Service)

Sample Job Titles

Federal Government

- Ambassador
- Archivist
- Assistant Secretary of State
- Budget Analyst
- Civilian Consultant
- Deputy Undersecretary
- Foreign Service Officer/Specialist
- GAO Evaluator
- Historian
- Information Technology Manager
- Intelligence Specialist, CIA
- Management Auditor

- Officer, FBI
- Program Analyst
- Public Affairs Specialist
- Researcher
- Secretary, Department
- Staff Aid, Congressional Committee
- Tax Inspector
- Teacher, overseas school

State & Local Government

- Advisor
- Assistant Budget Examiner
- Assistant Chief of Police
- Chief of Staff

- City Housing Administrator
- City Planner
- City Project Coordinator
- County Council Member
- County Treasurer
- Deputy Secretary
- Juvenile Justice Specialist
- Labor Relations Specialist
- Legislative Coordinator, Mayor's office
- Program Director
- Senior Criminologist
- State Chief Purchasing Officer
- State Personnel Officer

...in Journalism

Sample Job Titles

- Director of Corporate Public Affairs
- Director of Surveys, Television Network
- Information Manager
- Press Officer
- Producer, Local Television News
- Public Affairs Research Analyst
- Television Reporter
- Writer/Editor



...in Law

Sample Job Titles

- Assistant Budget Examiner
- Assistant Chief of Police
- Attorney
- Broadcast/Newspaper Reporter
- CIA Inspector
- Commissioner
- Corporate Legal Counsel
- Criminologist
- Deputy Secretary to the Governor
- District Attorney
- Judge
- Juvenile Justice Specialist
- Labor Relations Specialist
- Labor Union Official
- Law Professor
- Legislative Attorney
- Lobbyist
- Mediator
- Paralegal
- Politician
- Public Interest/Consumer Advocate
- Public Policy Analyst
- Research Consultant
- State Legislator

...in International

Sample Job Titles

- Agent, International Bureau, FBI
- Analyst, CIA
- Consultant to Multinational Corporations
- Director of International Marketing
- Field Staff
- Foreign Service Officer
- Instructor
- International Banker
- International Correspondent
- International Research Specialist
- Lobbyist
- Peace Corp Volunteer
- Policy Analyst
- Press Officer
- Strategic Planning Specialist
- Translator

...in Nonprofit Organizations/Public Interest

Sample Job Titles

- Budget Analyst
- Canvasser
- Community Development Associate
- Community Organizer
- Consumer Activist
- Director, Fund Raising
- Director, Nonprofit Agency
- Field Officer, Human Rights Campaign
- Human Rights Advocate
- Labor Union Organizer
- Lobbyist
- Political Director
- Program Manager
- Public Relations Specialist
- Research Analyst

Resources

Texas State University-Student Organizations

- Model Organization of American States Program (MOAS), <http://www.polisci.txstate.edu/people/moas/moas2012.html>
- Pi Alpha Alpha (Public Administration Honors Society), <http://www.polisci.txstate.edu/people/organizations.html>
- Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honors Society), <http://www.polisci.txstate.edu/people/organizations/psa.html>



Professional Organizations

- American Association for Public Opinion Research, <http://www.aapor.org/>
- American Association of Political Consultants, <http://www.theaapc.org>
- American Federation of Government Employees, <http://www.afge.org/>
- American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, <http://www.aflcio.org/>
- American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, <http://www.afscme.org/>
- American League of Lobbyists, <http://www.alldc.org/>
- American Political Science Association, <http://www.apsanet.org/>
- American Society for Public Administration, <http://www.aspanet.org/public/>
- American Society of Association Executives, <http://www.asaecenter.org/>
- Association for Conflict Resolution, <http://www.acrnet.org/>
- Association of Fundraising Professionals, <http://www.afpnet.org/>
- Corporation for National and Community Service, <http://www.cns.gov>
- International Association for Political Science Students, <http://www.iapss.org/>
- International City/County Management Association, <http://www.icma.org>
- National Association for Community Mediation, <http://www.nafcm.org/>
- National Association of Business Political Action Committees, <http://www.nabpac.org/>
- National Association of Counties, <http://www.naco.org>
- National Conference of State Legislatures, <http://www.ncsl.org>
- National Council for the Social Studies, <http://www.socialstudies.org/>
- National Council of Nonprofits, <http://www.councilofnonprofits.org/>
- National Council of Women's Organizations, <http://www.womensorganizations.org/>
- National Governors Association, <http://www.nga.org>
- National League of Cities, <http://www.nlc.org>
- National Organizers Alliance, <http://noacentral.org/>
- Peace & Justice Studies Association, <http://www.peacejusticestudies.org/>
- Southern Political Science Association, <http://www.spsa.net/>

Job/Internship Search Links

- Careers in Governments, <http://www.careersingovernment.com/>
- Federal Government Jobs, <http://www.dcjobsource.com/fed.html>
- Federal Jobs Network, <http://www.federaljobs.net>
- FedJobs, <http://www.fedjobs.com/>
- Global Policy Forum, <http://www.globalpolicy.org/internships.html>
- Government Job Search, <http://www.americajob.com/americajob/pages/jobsearch.aspx>
- GovSpot, <http://www.govspot.com>
- Govtjobs.com, <http://www.govtjobs.com>
- Idealist, <http://www.idealists.org/career>
- Internship Programs, <http://www.internshipprograms.com/>
- Internships in Political Science, <http://web.clas.ufl.edu/users/dhedge/internshipmainpage.htm>
- Internweb, <http://www.internweb.com>
- Moving Ideas (Jobs in Policy), <http://www.movingideas.org/content/en/jobs.htm>
- Nonprofit Jobs, <http://www.nonprofitjobs.org/>
- Political Resources-Political Job Board, <http://www.politicalresources.com>
- ProGovJobs, <http://www.govjobs.net>
- State and Local Government on the Net, <http://www.statelocalgov.net>



- Statehouse News Bureau, <http://www.statenews.org>
- StudentJobs.gov, <https://www.usajobs.gov/>
- U.S. Conference of Mayors, <http://www.usmayors.org>
- U.S. Government Manual, <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/gmanual/index.html>
- U.S. Government Office of Personnel Management, <http://www.opm.gov/>

Additional Resources

- American Presidency Project, <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/>
- Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies (CCPS) Courses, <http://spa.american.edu/ccps/institutes.php>
- Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, <http://www.cbpp.org/>
- Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, <http://www.dccc.org>
- Democratic National Committee, <http://www.democrats.org>
- George Washington University Semester in Washington, <http://www.gwu.edu/%7Esiw>
- Governmental and Political Science Resources, http://www.educationindex.com/poli_sci/
- National Association of Schools of Public Affairs, <http://www.naspaa.org/>
- National Republican Congressional Campaign Committee, <http://www.nrcc.org>
- Political Resources on the Net, <http://www.politicalresources.net/usa1.htm>
- Political Science Quarterly, <http://www.psqonline.org>
- Project Vote Smart, <http://www.vote-smart.org/index.htm>
- Public Agenda, <http://www.publicagenda.org/index.cfm>
- Republican National Committee, <http://www.rnc.org>
- Richard Kimber's Political Science Resources, <http://www.psr.keele.ac.uk/>
- Think Tanks, <http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/psthink.html>

Career Library Resources

- *Career Opportunities in Politics, Government, and Activism* by Joan Axelrod-Conrada
- *An Insider's Guide to Political jobs in Washington* by William T. Endicott
- *Top Careers for Liberal Arts Graduates* by Ferguson
- *Great Jobs for Political Science Majors* by Mark Rowh

Information for this handout compiled from:

Texas State University Career Services, Career Center at University of North Carolina Wilmington, University Career Center at North Carolina State University, Career Services at the University of Montana-Missoula, Career Services at University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Career Services at University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and Political Science Department at California State University Channel Islands

www.careerservices.txstate.edu

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