WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY **POLITICAL SCIENCE** DEGREE?

CareerCenter at UMBC

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

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

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

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

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

LOCAL, STATE, & FEDERAL AGENCIES

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

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

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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

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

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

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

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

- Public Policy Analyst
- Community/Field Organizer
- Membership Coordinator
- Project Assistant
- Assistant Field Rep.
- Research Associate
- Program Developer/Coordinator
- Assistant for Special Projects
- 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/
- **Firsthand:** https://careers.umbc.edu/firsthand/
  - Log in and/or create an account
  - Use the top search bar to find these relevant guides:
    - "Vault Career Guide to Consulting"
    - "Vault Career Guide to Law Jobs"
    - "Vault Guide to Government Jobs"
    - "Vault Career Consulting Jobs""
- **Professional Organizations:**
  - American Political Science Organization: http://www.apsanet.org/
  - International Political Science Organization: http://www.ipsa.org/
  - The International Studies Association: http://www.isanet.org/
  - Foreign Policy Association: http://www.fpa.org/
  - National Association of Paralegals: http://www.paralegals.org/