What can I do with my political science degree?

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

Press Assistant
Committee Staff Person
Legislative Correspondent
Political Pollster
Field Worker

Policy Organizations (Issue-Oriented/Political Party/Public Interest/Natl’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

Press Assistant
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 Specialist
- 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
- Personnel/Human Resources Asst.
- EEO/Affirmative Action Officer
- Labor Relations Specialist
- Claims Representative/Examiner
- Public Relations Specialist
- Marketing Coordinator
- Special Events Coordinator
- Benefits Coordinator
- Payroll Officer
- Staffing Specialist
- Insurance Agent
- Media Buyer/Assistant
- Copywriter
- Jr. Account Executive
- Trainer
- Recruiter/Interviewer
- Job Developer
- Underwriter
- Property Manager

### Banking / Finance

- Branch Manager
- Loan Representative
- Insurance Agent
- Salesperson
- Technical Writer
- Researcher
- Promotions Assistant
- Circulation Personnel

### 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:

- Firsthand: [https://careers.umbc.edu/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 Guide to Government Jobs”
    - “Vault Career Consulting Jobs”
- Professional Organizations:
  - American Political Science Organization: [http://www.apsanet.org/](http://www.apsanet.org/)
  - Foreign Policy Association: [http://www.fpa.org/](http://www.fpa.org/)

UMBC Career Center, MP 201, 410-455-2216, careers@umbc.edu, careers.umbc.edu