

# WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY POLITICAL SCIENCE DEGREE?



UMBC - CAREER SERVICES CENTER

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## **PUBLIC POLICY**

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

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

## **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

## EDUCATION

### High Schools, Colleges, Universities

≡ Teacher ≡ Admissions Counselor ≡ Financial Aid Counselor

## HUMAN SERVICES

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

≡ Community Service Agency Worker ≡ Race Relations Specialist ≡ Social Service Administrator  
≡ Recreation Coordinator ≡ Volunteer Coordinator ≡ Caseworker  
≡ Family Services Specialist ≡ Community Outreach Worker ≡ Activities Leader  
≡ Youth Director ≡ Social Service Aide ≡ Community Organizer  
≡ Eligibility Specialist

### Foundations

≡ Aide ≡ Researcher ≡ Proposal Reviewer

## BUSINESS

### Advertising / Marketing / Public Relations

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

### Human Resources

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

### Insurance

≡ Claims Representative/Examiner ≡ Insurance Agent ≡ Underwriter

### Banking / Finance

≡ Branch Manager ≡ Loan Representative ≡ Property Manager

### Retail / Sales

≡ Assistant Buyer ≡ Store/Department Manager ≡ Sales Representative

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

≡ Editorial Assistant ≡ Salesperson ≡ Promotions Assistant  
≡ Reporter ≡ Technical Writer ≡ Circulation Personnel  
≡ News Writer ≡ Researcher

### **KEEP IN MIND...**

This list is just a brief introduction to your career options - it is *not* a complete list! Also keep in mind that although these career fields are open to you as a political science major, you must take extra steps to prepare yourself for a competitive job market. It is important to:

- (1) **obtain relevant internship, co-op, or volunteer experience** (see CSC about their part-time, major-related job announcements and the Shriver Center about co-op, internship *and*
- (2) **supplement your political science course work** with classes that would be relevant and beneficial to your chosen career field.

Make an appointment with a career specialist for suggestions on researching your career options, choosing a career field, and preparing for your chosen occupation.

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

**Internet sites:** that allow you to explore career options for Political Science degree:

≡ Career Services Center - Links by Major: [http://www.careers.umbc.edu/students/websites\\_major.php](http://www.careers.umbc.edu/students/websites_major.php)

### **CSC Career Resource Center**

≡ *100 Jobs in Social Change*

≡ *Great Jobs for Political Science Majors*

**National Associations:** **American Political Science Association** ([www.apsanet.org](http://www.apsanet.org))