

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY POLITICAL SCIENCE DEGREE?



UMBC - CAREER SERVICES CENTER

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

Foundations

- ≡ Aide
- ≡ Researcher
- ≡ Proposal Reviewer

BUSINESS

Advertising / Marketing / Public Relations

- ≡ Marketing Research Analyst
- ≡ Advertising Salesperson
- ≡ Media Buyer/Assistant
- ≡ Public Relations Specialist
- ≡ Marketing Coordinator
- ≡ Special Events Coordinator
- ≡ Consumer Survey Supervisor
- ≡ 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

Retail / Sales

- ≡ Assistant Buyer
- ≡ Store/Department Manager
- ≡ Sales Representative

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

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

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

CSC Career Resource Center

- ≡ *100 Jobs in Social Change*
- ≡ *Great Jobs for Political Science Majors*

National Associations:

American Political Science Association (www.apsanet.org)