What you can do with a degree in Political Science

The following is a sample of occupational titles and work settings related to Political Science. Keep in mind that career options are not dictated solely by choice of major. Just as there are many careers open to graduates of any major, there are many paths to careers that do not require a specific degree. Use this information as a beginning guide to exploring options.

Sample Job Titles:

- Adjudicator
- Administrative Assistant
- Ambassador
- Arbitrator (Labor)
- Archivist
- Biographer
- Budget Officer/Analyst
- Bureau Chief
- Campaign Manager
- Canvassing Director
- CIA Agent
- City Manager or Clerk
- College/University Personnel
- Columnist/Commentator
- Community Development Program Administrator
- Conflict Resolution Specialist
- Congressional-District Aide
- Contract Manager
- Customs Agent
- Community Organizer
- Demographer
- Detective or Criminal Investigator
- District Program Manager
- Election Official
- Election Supervisor
- Emergency Management Coordinator
- Executive Analyst
- FBI Agent
- Financial Analyst
- Financial Manager
- Foreign Correspondent
- Foreign Service Officer
- Government Reform Activist
- Governmental Analyst
- Health Services Administrator
- Higher Education Administrator
- Import-Export Agent
- Inspector, Staff Assistant
- Intelligence Specialist
- Internal Auditor
- International Relations Specialist
- Job Analyst
- Journalist
- Lawyer (Real Estate, Patent, International, Insurance, Entertainment, Environmental, Immigration, Corporate, Family, Divorce, Tax, Employment, Accidental, etc)
- Legal Assistant
- Legislative Analyst
- Legislative Assistant
- Legislative Correspondent
- Lobbyist
- Management Analyst
- Management Consultant
- Market Research Analyst
- Military Officer
- Municipal Clerk
- Newspaper Writer/Journalist
- Paralegal
- Parole Officer
- Personnel Manager
- Labor Relations Manager
- Law Librarian
- Mediator
- Police/Detective
- Policy Administrator
- Political Action Committee Organizer
- Political Campaign Manager
- Political Party Staffer
- Political Risk Analyst
- Political Scientist
- Program Auditor
- Program Manager
- Public Administrator
- Public Affairs Director
- Public Transportation Specialist
- Quality Improvement Advisor
- Recruiter
- Risk Manager
- Researcher: Public & Private
- Retail Sales Representative
- Special Agent/FBI
- Teacher/Professor
- Teacher: High School, College
- Urban & Regional Planner

Possible Professional Settings:

- Archives, Federal/Municipal
- Business Corporations
- C.I.A.
- City Government
- Chambers of Commerce
- Children & Family Services Department
- Churches
- Civic & Taxayers’ Associations
- City Chamber of Commerce
- Colleges & Universities
- Community Development Organizations
- Consumer Affairs Office
- Corporations
- Correctional Institutions
- Court System (Federal, State, Local)
- Defense Department
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Lottery
- Drug Enforcement Agency
- Economic Development Agencies
- Educational Institutions
- Employment Offices (National, State, Local)
- Environmental Protection Agency

(continued…)
Possible Professional Settings continued:

- Executive Office of the President
- F.B.I
- Federal Labor Relations Board
- Federal/State Government Agencies
- Foreign Service
- Government Agencies
- Government Printing Office
- Government Representatives’ Offices
- Governor’s Office
- Grassroots Organizations
- Health & Human Services Department
- Historical Societies & Research Agencies
- Housing & Urban Development
- Housing Authorities
- Import/Export Companies
- Labor Unions
- Law Firms
- Libraries
- Magazines, Newspapers
- Market-Research Departments & Firms
- Media Companies
- Municipalities
- Newspaper/News Bureaus
- Non-Profit Public Service Agencies
- Peace Corps
- Political Action Committees
- Political Candidates
- Political Consultants
- Political Party Headquarters
- Professional Associations
- Professional Periodicals
- Public Interest Groups
- Public Opinion Research Companies
- Public Relations Firms
- Radio/Television Stations
- Regional Planning Councils & Associations
- School Boards
- Social Service Agencies
- U.S. Dept of Commerce
- Urban Renewal Agencies
- Workforce Development Agencies

Resources:

The following lists are samples of resources available for learning more about majors and careers.

Professional Associations - Samples
- American Association of Political & Public Affairs Professionals: www.theaapc.org
- American Foreign Service Association: www.afsa.org
- American Political Science Association: www.apsanet.org

Websites Related to Law
- Find Law: http://www.findlaw.com/
- Law School Admissions Council: www.lsac.org/
- Personal Statement School: http://personalstatementschool.com/

Sample Internship Sites & Volunteer Opportunities
- http://www.spu.edu/depts/cdc/students/internships/documents/PoliticalScienceGeographyInternshipSites.pdf

General Career Information
- Washington Occupation Information System: www.wois.org
  Contact the CCC at 206.281.2485 or spucareercenter@spu.edu for the WOIS site key.
- Occupational Outlook Handbook: www.bls.gov/oco

SPU Resources
- Political Science Department Website: http://www.spu.edu/depts/polisci/
- Information on Pre-Law at SPU: http://www.spu.edu/depts/polisci/pre-law.asp
- SPU Student Clubs: PreLaw Society, Political Union, Young Democrats
- Major & Career Exploration (GS 2001 - 2 credits, offered every quarter)
- Career Counseling: call 206.281.2485 or stop by the Center for Career and Calling on the second floor of the SUB
- Academic Advising: www.spu.edu/depts/sas
- Academic Catalog: www.spu.edu/academics.aspx
- On Track Degree Planner: http://spu.edu/academics/on-track-degree-planner/

* Websites are current as of September 2013. If any go inactive, please let us know.