Political Science

Political science is the study of the theory and practice of politics, which is the process by which groups of people make decisions on who controls or influences choices within society. Political scientists study the allocation and transfer of power in decision-making, the roles and systems of governance including governments and organizations, political behavior and public policies. They measure the success of governance and specific policies by examining many factors, including stability, justice, material wealth, and peace.

Political science majors can apply the skills, perspectives, and issue awareness they develop to a wide range of professions, many of which are not directly related to the practice of politics. Skills students gain and can apply include: researching and understanding community needs and power options; analytical thinking and problem-solving; leadership and developing and marketing ideas; oral and written communication; working within a team; and decision-making. While the employment outlook for graduates practicing political science directly is often limited to government, educational, or research organizations, and therefore highly competitive, the outlook is much more open for other arenas in which they apply their skills.

Some career possibilities for Political Science majors:

- Activist, Advocate/Organizer
- Administrator—Corporate, Government, Non-Profit, etc.
- Announcer
- Anthropologist
- Archivist, Online Political Data
- Attorney
- Banking Analyst or Executive
- Budget Examiner or Analyst
- Campaign Director/Worker
- Chamber of Commerce Manager
- City Housing Administrator
- Congressional Staffer
- Coordinator of Federal or State Aid
- Communications Director
- Corporate Analyst
- Corporate Public Affairs Advisor
- Corporate Economist
- Corporate Manager/Executive
- Corporate Information Analyst
- Corporate Adviser for
- Governmental Relations
- Corporation Legislative Issues Manager
- Criminologist
- Curriculum Development Specialist
- Customs Officer
- Development Director (grant-writing & fundraising)
- Diplomat
- Editor (especially of political journals)
- Educator
- Entrepreneur
- Federal Government Analyst
- Financial Consultant
- Foreign Service Officer
- Foundation
- Representative/President
- Free-lance writer
- GAO Evaluator
- Geographer
- Government Chief Exec/Legislator
- Government Worker
- Historian
- Immigration Officer
- Information Manager
- Intelligence Analyst (CIA/FBI)
- International Agency Officer
- International Research Specialist
- Issues or Policy Analyst—Corporate,
  Political, Social Policy, etc.
- Journalist
- Juvenile Justice Specialist
- Judge
- Labor Relations Specialist
- Legislative Analyst/Coordinator
- Lobbyist
- Management Analyst
- Market Research Analyst
- Mayor
- Mediator
- Military Officer
- News Reporter
- Paralegal
- Parole/Probation Officer
- Penologist
- Press Officer
- Police Chief/Official
- Political Reporter/Commentator
- Political Consultant/Advisor
- Political Scientist
- Politician
- Pollster
- Program Director/Administrator
- Public Affairs Research Analyst
- Public Health Official
- Public Interest/Consumer Advocate
- Public Opinion Analyst
- Public Recreation Director
- Publisher
- Research Analyst or Assistant
- Strategic Planning Specialist
- Student Affairs Director/Coordinator
- Teacher
- Technical Writer
- University Professor
- Urban or Regional Planner
- Web Content Editor
- Writer
**Possible employers of Political Science majors:**

- Advertising Agencies
- Archives
- Banks
- Businesses or Corporations
- Chambers of Commerce
- Colleges/Universities
- Community Organizations
- Correctional Institutions
- Court Systems
- Historical Agencies
- Import/Export Companies
- Journalist/Correspondent
- Labor Unions
- Law Enforcement Agencies
- Law Firms
- Libraries
- Lobbying Firms
- Local, State, Federal & Tribal Government
- Newspapers, Journals & Magazines
- Professional Periodicals
- Political Action Committees
- Political Campaigns
- Political Party Headquarters
- Public or Consumer Interest Organizations
- Public Opinion Research Firms
- Publishers
- Regional Planning Councils
- Research Organizations
- Schools
- Senators/Representatives
- Social Service Organizations

**Professional Organizations & Additional Information:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Political Science Association</td>
<td>1527 New Hampshire Ave, NW Washington, DC 20036-1206</td>
<td><a href="http://www.apsanet.org/">www.apsanet.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Society for Public Administration</td>
<td>1301 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 840 Washington, DC 20004</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aspanet.org">www.aspanet.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Society of Political Psychology</td>
<td>Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs, 346 Eggers Hall, Syracuse University Syracuse, NY 13244</td>
<td><a href="http://ispp.org/">http://ispp.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute for Policy Studies</td>
<td>1112 16th St. NW Suite 600 Washington, D.C. 20036</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ips-dc.org">www.ips-dc.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Political Science Association</td>
<td>1590, av. Docteur-Penfield, bureau 331 Montreal, QC H3G 1C5 Canada</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ipsa.org">www.ipsa.org</a></td>
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[http://online.onetcenter.org]