

Political Science Major Overview:

The Political Science major focuses on the study of politics, government systems, international relations, public policy, and the behavior of political actors. Students gain an understanding of political institutions, legal systems, and the processes that shape laws and policies at local, national, and global levels. The program emphasizes critical thinking, research, and analytical skills, preparing students for careers in law, government, public service, or policy analysis. Graduates are equipped to understand and influence political systems, engage in public advocacy, and contribute to democratic governance.

Typical Industry Sectors:

1. Government and Public Administration
2. Law and Legal Services
3. Public Policy and Research Organizations
4. International Relations and Diplomacy
5. Nonprofit and Advocacy Organizations

10 Sample Entry-Level Job Titles:

1. Legislative Assistant
2. Policy Analyst
3. Public Relations Specialist
4. Political Campaign Coordinator
5. Research Assistant (Political Science or Public Policy)
6. Government Relations Assistant
7. Public Affairs Specialist
8. Nonprofit Program Coordinator
9. Intelligence Analyst
10. Compliance Analyst (Legal/Regulatory)

5 Hard Skills:

1. Research and Data Analysis
2. Political Theory and Comparative Politics
3. Statistical and Survey Analysis (e.g., SPSS, Excel)
4. Legal and Policy Writing
5. Understanding of International Relations and Diplomacy

5 Soft Skills:

1. Communication (Written and Oral)
2. Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving
3. Public Speaking and Persuasion

4. Collaboration and Teamwork
5. Time Management

Additional Training or Certifications:

A Political Science degree provides a strong foundation, but many graduates pursue further studies (Master's or Law degree) to specialize in fields like public policy, international relations, or law. Some roles, particularly in law or policy research, may require certifications or advanced training in specific areas (e.g., paralegal certification or policy analysis tools). Internships with government agencies, law firms, or think tanks provide valuable experience and networking opportunities.

Student and National Organizations:

1. [American Political Science Association \(APSA\)](#)
2. [Pi Sigma Alpha \(National Political Science Honor Society\)](#)
3. [Public Affairs Council](#)
4. [International Relations Council \(IRC\)](#)