

# CAREERS FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJORS

*The skills and knowledge you develop as a result of your education, as well as in your work and community activities, have the greatest impact on hiring decisions. Listed below are some key skills and knowledge you will acquire as a result of your WCU education and your focus on Political Science. Also visit our career website at <http://www.wcu.edu/as/politicalscience/career.html>.*

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## POTENTIAL CAREERS

- Attorney
- Campaign Worker
- City Manager
- International Market Researcher
- Business Administrator
- Diplomat
- Editor
- Executive assistant
- Journalist/Political Correspondent
- Intelligence Agent
- Researcher
- Foreign Service Worker
- Policy Analyst
- Public Opinion Analyst
- Technical Writer
- Educator/Teacher
- Politician
- Political Consultant
- Media Specialist
- Public Relations Director
- Human Rights Officer
- Urban Policy Planner
- Parole/Probation Officer
- Strategic Planning Consultant
- Paralegal
- Lobbyist/Organizer
- Consumer Advocate
- Sales Manager

## POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

- Law Firms
- Federal, State, and Local Governments
- Marketing Research and Consulting Firms
- Law Enforcement Agencies
- Political Office Holders
- Lobbying Firms
- Publishing Firms/Newspapers/Magazines
- Television and Radio
- Political Parties
- Interest Groups
- Secondary Schools
- Research Firms
- College and Universities
- Federal Agencies
- Community Groups

## SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE AREAS

- Understanding the origin, development, and operation of various political systems
- Knowledge of the factors that influence and change public opinion
- Understanding the interrelationship of politics, the economy, and geography
- Understanding policies and strategies of resource allocation among competing groups
- Familiarity with the policy-making process and the relevance of legislation
- Understanding the factors shaping world politics

### Communication Skills

- The ability to develop and create carefully reasoned reports using current technology
- Skills in preparing effective, interesting, and informative presentations
- Listening skills which will enable you to gather complex information and consider various view points

### Learning and Information-Gathering Skills

- Ability to perform comparative and critical analyses
- The skills required to access relevant information and resources
- The ability to understand, interpret, and apply information to new situations
- A commitment to continued education and training

### Thinking Skills

- Ability to critically evaluate the arguments of others and debate effectively
- Ability to analyze and interpret a wide range of information to support or reject ideas, opinions, reports, and proposals
- Enhanced ability to think creatively about new and unfamiliar information
- Problem-solving skills and the ability to make appropriate and well-reasoned decisions

### Organizational Skills

- Ability to set priorities and meet deadlines
- Skills in planning and managing time, data, and resources
- Ability to compile and organize facts and information
- Ability to work effectively as a team leader to understand, identify, and contribute to the goals of a team