

What Can I Do With a Major In **POLITICAL SCIENCE?**

Political Science is the branch of knowledge that deals with systems of government; the analysis of political activity and behavior. It is the theory and practice of politics which is commonly thought of as the determining of the distribution of power and resources. As a social science, it focuses on group power, the 'how' and 'why' of collective decision-making.

Typical Coursework

This undergraduate program typically includes courses in the following subjects:

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|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| American Political Systems | American Public Policy |
| History of Political Thought | International Politics |
| Public Administration | State and Local Politics |

Students also choose elective political science courses to fulfill the major requirements. Courses may include:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Constitutional Law | Criminal Justice |
| Environmental Policy | Governments of Latin America |
| Governments of Asia | Governments Western Europe |
| International Affairs | The First Amendment |
| The Politics of War | Urban Government |
| Voting and Elections | |

Related Skills

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Oral & written communication | Interact with diverse populations |
| Decision-making | Able to develop & market ideas |
| Problem-solving | Understanding of community needs |
| Analytical thinking | Computer literate |
| Research skills | Team worker |
| Leadership abilities | |

Directly Related Occupations – may need advanced education

Federal Government

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|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Officer, FBI | Teacher, Overseas School for... | Program Analyst |
| Researcher | Foreign Service Officer/Specialist | Ambassador |
| GAO Evaluator | Public Affairs Specialist | Intelligence Specialist, CIA |
| Staff Aid, Congressional Committee | | |

State & Local Government

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| County Treasurer | County Council Member | Assistant Chief of Police |
| State Chief Purchasing Officer | City Planner | City Project Coordinator |
| City Housing Administrator | City's Coordinator of... | |

Campaigns and Polling

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Campaign Manager/Consultant | Political Director | Survey Researcher |
| Political Reporter | Pollster | Fundraiser |
| Dir., Political Action Committee | Press Officer for Candidate | Issue Analyst |
| Political Consultant | | |

Law

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Paralegal | Deputy Secretary to the Governor | State Legislator\Mediator |
| Research Consultant | Corporate Legal Counsel | Law Professor |
| Public Interest | Consumer Advocate | Lobbyist |
| Public Policy Analyst | CIA Inspector | Criminologist |
| Attorney | Commissioner | Politician |
| Juvenile Justice Specialist | Broadcast/Newspaper Reporter | |

Journalism

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Writer/Editor/Reporter | Director of Corporate Public Affairs | Press Officer |
| Public Affairs Research Analyst | | |

Education

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|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Government/Politics Teacher | Researcher | College Professor |
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Who Hires for this Occupation?

Political Scientists work in business and industry, research firms, colleges/universities, schools or the government.

Minnesota Colleges and Universities with a major in POLITICAL SCIENCE

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|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Augsburg College | Bemidji State University | Bethel University |
| Carleton College | College of St. Benedict | College of St. Scholastica |
| Concordia College | Gustavus Adolphus College | Hamline University |
| Macalester College | MN State University, Mankato | St. John's University |
| St. Catherine's University | MN State University, Moorhead | St. Olaf College |
| St. Mary's Univ, Winona | St. Cloud State University | Southwest State University |
| University of MN – Duluth | University of MN – Morris | University of MN – Twin Cities |
| Winona State University | University of St. Thomas | |

Professional Association Links

The American Political Science Association, <http://www.apsanet.org/>
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, <http://www.appam.org/>
International Association for Political Science Students, <http://www.iapss.org>
Midwest Political Science Association, <http://www.mpsanet.org>

For More Information

Contact ARCC Career Counseling: (763) 433-1240 (CR campus), (763) 433-1840 (Cambridge campus)
or stop by the campus Information Desk

Information adapted from: Minnesota Career Information System <https://mncis.intocareers.org>, and the Career Center at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington <http://uncw.edu/career/WhatCanIDoWithaMajorIn.html>