What can I do with my studies in POLITICAL SCIENCE?

The information in this handout will provide you with ideas as to some typical careers/jobs that are associated with your degree, along with alternative careers that may not be as directly related to what you have studied. This by no means implies that these jobs are the only options you have. These careers are just samples of what you can do if you have the appropriate skills and experience.

I can look for work now with my B.A. in Political Science. Depending on my interests and experience, possible job titles include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Analyst</th>
<th>Customs Inspector #1228</th>
<th>Foreign Service Officer #4168</th>
<th>Lobbyist #4161, #4163, #4164</th>
<th>Public Affairs Officer #5124</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development Officer #4164</td>
<td>Volunteer Coordinator #4212</td>
<td>Immigration Officer #1228</td>
<td>Legislative Assistant #1222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Relations Consultant #5124</td>
<td>Investment Advisor #1112</td>
<td>Political Organizer #4164</td>
<td>Politician #4169</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campaign Worker</td>
<td>Intelligence Analyst</td>
<td>Public Opinion Pollster</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

I can look for work now outside my area of study. Depending on my interests and experience, possible job titles include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Management Consultant #1122</th>
<th>Benefits Officer #1432</th>
<th>Marketing Specialist / Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Insurance Agent #6231</td>
<td>Financial Advisor/Planner</td>
<td>Market Researcher #4163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recruiter #1223</td>
<td>Human Resources Specialist #1121</td>
<td>Job Analyst #1121</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bank Officer</td>
<td>Investment Advisor #1112</td>
<td>Entrepreneur / Venture Capitalist</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actuary #2161</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Academic Advisor #4143</td>
<td>Educator / Trainer #4131</td>
<td>Alumni Relations Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writer #5121 / Author / Columnist</td>
<td>Editor #5122</td>
<td>Reporter #5123 / Correspondent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Journalist #5123</td>
<td>Broadcaster #5231</td>
<td>Publisher #0016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Production Assistant</td>
<td>Web Developer/Producer</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Communications
With additional education/training or experience, I can become:

University Professor #4121 | College Instructor #4131 | Political Scientist #4169 | Lawyer #4112
---|---|---|---
Corporate Trainer | Trade Specialist | Senior Management Consultant |

Corporation Government Relations

For career descriptions, profiles and job outlooks visit the National Occupational Classification Website (http://www23.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/2001/e/generic/welcome.shtml), Job Futures (www.jobfutures.ca), and Career Cruising (www.careercruising.com, username & password available by contacting CAPS).

If you wish to explore your interests, identify your goals, and discover how to make the most of your education, we encourage you to sign up for the P.A.C.E. program (Program for the Advancement of Career Exploration). For more information visit http://www.caps.mcgill.ca/programs/pace/

Feel free to come by the CAPS office to make an appointment with a career advisor to discuss your career options and job search strategies.

Employers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Firms</th>
<th>Charities</th>
<th>Campaigns</th>
<th>Computer Firms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consulting Firms</td>
<td>Educational Institutions</td>
<td>Government</td>
<td>International Development Agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Firms</td>
<td>Large Corporations</td>
<td>Newspapers &amp; Magazines</td>
<td>Non-profit Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Parties</td>
<td>Public Interest Agencies</td>
<td>TV &amp; Radio Stations</td>
<td>Welfare Organizations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Skills of Political Science Majors

- Broad understanding of how different political systems generate solutions to political problems
- Ability to analyze the multiple dimensions of an issue and select critical information
- Ability to systematically investigate a problem
- Ability to carry out tasks with thoroughness, precision and attention to detail
- Experience in gathering political data relevant to a research problem and in employing various data analysis research techniques
- Ability to define political problems by applying concepts of political theory
- Skills in writing careful, clear, concise and reasoned reports and essays
- Proficiency in locating sources of information and in using research libraries
- Ability to conduct and explain research clearly
- Ability to explain complex concepts and theories to others
- Ability to make keen observations, solve problems, and make appropriate decisions
- Understanding of the influence of “perspective” on facts
- Ability to synthesize a large amount of information and draw conclusions based on that information
- Ability to develop systematic procedures for investigating a problem
- Proficiency for detailing information accurately
- 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
- Work well under pressure

Professional Associations

- Canadian Political Science Association (www.cpsa-acsp.ca)
- American Political Science Association (www.apsanet.org)
- International Studies Association (www.isanet.org/)

McGill University Career & Placement Service
www.caps.mcgill.ca