

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>.

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