

What to do with a major/certificate/degree in... Political Science

JCCC Contact Information

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Degrees/Certificates Available at JCCC Transfer Program

Description of Major

The study of government focusing on structure, function and the need for human social order.

Branches include political theory and philosophy, comparative government, American government and politics, public administration and international relations.

Job Titles*

Administrative Affairs (Foreign Service)	Legal Assistant
Advertising	Military Officer
Anchorperson	Non-Profit Management
Broadcasting Journalist	Paralegal
Campaign chairperson/worker	Peace Corps/Vista Worker
Central Intelligence Agency	Political Affairs (Foreign Service)
Chamber of Commerce	Political Consultant
City or Town Management	Political Party Chairperson
Consumer Advocate	Politician
Diplomat	Public Opinion Researcher
Economic Affairs (Foreign Service)	Public Policy Maker
Elected official	Public Relations
Federal Bureau of Investigation	Regional Planner
Federal Government Management	Researcher
Fund Raiser	Social Service Administrator
Historic Preservationist	State Government Management
Intelligence Specialist	Teacher/Professor
Journalist	
Labor Relations Specialist	
Lawyer	

**Careers mentioned above are a sample of job titles. Some careers may require additional education or training.*

Personal Characteristics to be Successful

Ambitious	Creative
Articulate	Cultured
Charismatic	Dedicated
Competitive	Discrete

Energetic
Flexible
Independent
Objective
Organized
Outgoing

Patient
Poised
Responsible
Risk taker
Tactful

Workplace Skills

Conduct and explain social science research
Conduct seminars
Critical thinker
Evaluate problems and make appropriate decisions
Exhibit oral and written communication skills
Exhibit persuasive skills
Exude personality
Knowledgeable of many subject areas and diverse matters

Organize and interpret social, economic, and political data
Possess excellent communication and social skills
Possess human relation skills
Possess leadership qualities
Provide conflict management
Relate to people from varying backgrounds
Speak to groups

Professional Organizations

American Political Science Association
<http://www.apsanet.org/>

International Political Science Association/Association Internationale De Science Politique
<http://www.ipsa.ca/>

Poly-Cy Guide to Internet Resources for Political Science
<http://www.polsci.wvu.edu/polycy/psprof.html>

Advanced Degrees in the Major?

Yes

Sources:

Phifer, P. (2000). College Majors and Careers. Chicago, IL: Ferguson Publishing Company

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook Online (visited July 2006):
<http://www.bls.gov/oco/home.htm>

Creighton University, Career Services Web site (visited July 2006):
<http://www.creighton.edu/careerservices/careerexploration/careersrelatedmajors.html>

University of North Carolina-Wilmington, Career Services (What can I do with a major in...) Web site (visited July 2006): <http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/index.htm>