What you can do with your
POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR

Political Science Major Skills

Written & Oral Communication
You learn to effectively communicate ideas and information verbally, visually and in writing.

Qualitative & Quantitative Data Analysis
You recognize challenges to research design, code and analyze qualitative and quantitative data, utilizing appropriate tools and software, interpret results of data gathering, identify ethical issues, present and visualize data.

Global & Multi-Cultural Competence
You understand and evaluate national and international political contexts and discourses that influence societies, institutions, and individuals and human motivation.

Analytical Thinking
You analyze forms and practices of government; relations among individuals, civil society, political institutions, and governments; motivations and consequences of political decisions and activities.

Critical Thinking
You define and analyze problems, considering a range of alternative points of view and evidence; you identify factors that contribute to outcomes and make connections.

Teamwork
You build collaborative relationships with peers representing diverse cultures, races, genders, religions, lifestyles, and viewpoints; and work within a team structure and negotiate and manage conflict.

Supplement Your Skills With:

Career, Mentorship & Self Development
Leadership & Teamwork
Experience Fostering Professional Equity & Inclusion
Research, Internships & Part-Time Work

Chart Your Path Forward
Activate Your Handshake Account for connections to jobs, internships, employer & alumni networking.

Explore Career Communities to discover a wide variety of fields where you can turn your Political Science major into success.

Get Career & Internship Advising from SuccessWorks to make a plan, whether you’re a first-year student or about to graduate.

Get Started: successworks.wisc.edu
Put your Political Science major to WORK

Common Alumni Job Titles
- Account Executive/Manager
- Attorney/Lawyer/Counsel
- Business Founder/Owner
- Chief Executive Officer
- Consultant
- Director/Executive Director
- Director of Operations
- Law Clerk
- Legal Assistant
- Partner/Principal
- President/Vice President
- Project Manager
- Professor

Common Employers of Alumni
- American Family Insurance
- Deloitte
- Epic
- Foley & Lardner LLP
- Godfrey & Kahn, S.C.
- Google
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Northwestern Mutual
- Quarles & Brady LLP
- State of Illinois
- U.S Bank
- U.S Department of Justice
- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- U.S. House of Representatives
- U.S. Navy
- U.S Senate
- Wells Fargo
- Wisconsin State Assembly

Recent Grads’ Career Plans
- 70% Employment
- 26% Continuing Education or Grad School
- 2% Volunteer or Service Program
- 2% Military

Industries of Employment
1. Government
2. Finance
3. Information Tech
4. Education
5. Healthcare
6. Legal
7. Media
8. Hospitality
9. Consulting
10. Marketing

Where Alumni Live & Work
- 30% Wisconsin
- 14% Illinois
- 8% Minnesota
- 8% New York
- 7% California
- 33% Other

“I started my career in politics and campaigns, and then shifted to investing in and helping launch and scale brands, like Warby Parker, Harry’s and Glossier. It turns out that developing positioning and scaling storytelling are the same whether you’re working for a politician or cause, or selling products.”

Jesse Derris, 2002
Founder & CEO, Derris
New York, NY

“In many companies, no one else truly knows how governments work, and how politics drives decision-making processes that affect business. Understanding and being able to explain and persuade people who do not understand the realm of government and politics is an underrated skill, and one that a Poli Sci grad often is uniquely equipped to do.”

Kevin M. Allexon, 1995
Manager, Sustainable Packaging Agency, Nestle USA
Fairfax, VA

Career Communities for Political Science Majors
- Government, Policy, International Affairs & Law
- Consulting, Finance & Other Business Roles
- Technology, Data & Analytics
- Non-Profit & Education

Not inspired by these options? Visit SuccessWorks to explore more widely.

successworks.wisc.edu