Political Science is the study of constitutions, law, and government at the local, national, and international levels; and of those things that influence the exercise of political power such as individual interests and attitudes, norms, institutions, and culture.

Political Science Marketable Skills

Ability to...

- Work well under pressure
- Develop and market ideas
- Think analytically
- Make decisions and solve problems
- Interact with diverse populations
- Demonstrate leadership abilities
- Strengthen oral and written communication
- Exhibit research skills (archival, qualitative and quantitative)
- Work with a team
- Better understand the needs of a community
- Understand the workings of the American political system

Areas of Study

- American Government and Politics
- Comparative Politics
- Constitutional Law
- International Conflict
- International Relations
- Legal Studies
- National Security
- Parties, Campaigns, and Interest Groups
- Political Culture and Behavior
- Political Institutions
- Political Methodology
- Political Theory
- Public Policy
- Race and Politics
- State and Local Government
- Women and Politics

Benefits of an Internship

- Gain practical experience specific to your career goals
- Develop a valuable professional network
- Earn 3-6 hours of college credit towards your degree
- Paid / unpaid opportunities are available
- Part-time / full-time opportunities are available
- Flexibility, internships are built to work around your school schedule
- Internships are available everywhere, from the local to international
- Internships offer the possibility of an easy transition into a job
- Increase marketability to employers
- Increase the possibility of a higher starting salary
- Learn about your strengths and weaknesses while in an educational environment and gain confidence in your abilities
Career Paths & Sample Job Options
Some of the occupations outlined in this brochure may require additional education or training.

... in Government (Public Service)

FEDERAL
- Ambassador
- Archivist or Historian
- Assistant Secretary of State
- Budget Analyst
- Citizen Consultant
- Deputy Undersecretary
- Foreign Service Officer / Specialist
- GAO Auditor
- Information Technology Manager
- Intelligence Specialist, CIA
- Management Auditor
- Officer, FBI

STATE & LOCAL
- Advisor
- Assistant Budget Examiner
- Assistant Chief of Police
- Chief of Staff
- City Housing Administrator
- City Planner
- City Project Coordinator
- County Council Member
- County Treasurer
- Deputy Secretary
- Juvenile Justice Specialist
- Labor Relations Specialist
- Legislative Coordinator, Mayor’s office
- Program Director
- Senior Criminologist
- State Chief Purchasing Officer
- State Personnel Officer

... in Education
- Civics, Social Studies, American Government, or Social Studies Teacher
- College Professor
- Curriculum Developer
- Educator
- Education Reporter
- Government / Politics Teacher
- High School and Middle School Teacher

... in Campaigns & Polling
- Campaign Manager / Consultant
- Director, Political Action Committee
- fundraiser
- Issue Analyst
- Political Consultant
- Political Director
- Political Reporter
- Pollster
- Press Officer for Candidate
- Survey Researcher

... in Journalism
- Director of Corporate Public Affairs
- Director of Surveys, Television Network
- Information Manager
- Press Officer
- Producer, Local Television News
- Public Affairs Research Analyst
- Writer / Editor

... in Nonprofit Organizations / Public Interest
- Budget Analyst
- Canvasser
- Community Development Associate
- Community Organizer
- Consumer Activist
- Director, fundraising Director, Nonprofit Agency
- Field Officer, Human Rights Campaign
- Human Rights Advocate
- Labor Union Organizer
- Lobbyist
- Political Director
- Program Manager
- Public Relations Specialist

... in Law
- Assistant Budget Examiner
- Assistant Chief of Police
- Attorney
- Broadcast / Newspaper Reporter
- CIA Inspector
- Commissioner
- Corporate Legal Counsel
- Criminologist
- Director, Nonprofit Fundraising
- Director, Political Action Consultant
- Director of Corporate Multinational Corporations
- Director of International Marketing

... in International
- Agent, International Bureau, FBI
- Analyst, CIA
- Consultant to Multinational Corporations
- Director of International Marketing
- Field Staff
- Foreign Service Officer
- Instructor
- International Banker
- International Correspondent
- International Research Specialist
- Lobbyist
- Peace Corp Volunteer
- Policy Analyst
- Press Officer
- Strategic Planning Specialist
- Translator

Resources
Texas State University - Student Organizations and Services
Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honors Society)
Phi Alpha Delta (Pre-Law Society)
Supporting Women in Political Science (SWIPS)
Model Organization of American States Program (MOAS)
Model United Nations Program (MUN)
Career Services, Division of Student Affairs

Professional Organizations
American Association for Public Opinion Research: www.aapor.org
American Association of Political Consultants: www.theaapc.org
American Federation of Government Employees: www.afge.org
American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations: www.aflcio.org
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees: www.afscme.org
American Political Science Association: www.apsanet.org
American Society for Public Administration: www.asapnet.org
American Society of Association Executives: www.asaecenter.org
Association for Conflict Resolution: www.acnet.org
Association of Fundraising Professionals: www.afpnet.org
Association of Government Relations Professionals: www.grprofessionals.org
Corporation for National and Community Service: www.nationalservice.gov
International Association for Political Science Students: www.iapss.org
International City / County Management Association: www.icma.org
National Association for Community Mediation: www.nafcm.org
National Association of Business Political Action Committees: www.nabpac.org
National Association of Counties: www.naco.org
Texas State University is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, committed to inclusive thought and action in support of our diverse community. Individuals from historically underrepresented groups and all those who share our commitment to inclusivity and passion for the strength of our diversity are strongly encouraged to apply.

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National Conference of State Legislatures: www.ncsl.org
National Council for the Social Studies: www.socialstudies.org
National Council of Nonprofits: www.councilofnonprofits.org
National Governors Association: www.nga.org
National League of Cities: www.nlc.org
Peace and Justice Studies Association: www.peacejusticestudies.org
Southern Political Science Association: www.spsa.net
U.S. Conference of Mayors: www.usmayors.org

Job / Internship Search Websites

Careers in Government: www.careersingovernment.com
Federal Agencies: www.dcjobsource.com/fed.html
Federal Jobs Network: www.federaljobs.net
Federal Job Search: www.federaljobsearch.com
Federal Jobs, Where to Begin?: www.gogovernment.org
Global Jobs: www.globaljobs.org
Global Policy Forum: www.globalpolicy.org
Idealist: www.idealist.org
Lobbying Jobs: www.lobbyingjobs.com
Nonprofit Jobs: nonprofitjobs.org
Public Affairs Council: www.pac.org
State and Local Agencies: www.statelocalgov.net
USAJobs: www.usajobs.gov

Additional Resources

American Political Science Review: www.apsanet.org/apsr
American Presidency Project: www.presidency.ucsb.edu
Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies: www.american.edu/spa/ccps
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: www.cbpp.org
Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee: www.dccc.org
Democratic National Committee: www.democrats.org
National Association of Schools of Public Affairs: www.naspaa.org
National Republican Congressional Campaign Committee: www.nrcc.org
Public Agenda: www.publicagenda.org
Republican National Committee: www.gop.com
Vote Smart: www.votesmart.org

Information for this brochure is compiled from: Texas State University Career Services, Career Center at University of North Carolina Wilmington, University Career Center at North Carolina State University, Career Services at the University of Montana-Missoula, Career Services at University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Career Services at University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and Political Science Department at California State University Channel Islands