What Can I Do With A Major In: Political Science

Western Carolina University Center for Career and Professional Development
828.227.7133, careers.wcu.edu

DESCRIPTION
Students learn how to research practical solutions for existing challenges. Research and skills will be applied to real-world social and political problems on a local, national, and global scale.

WHAT JOBS ARE AVAILABLE?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Activist/Organizer</th>
<th>Entrepreneur</th>
<th>Political Commentator</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archivist</td>
<td>Federal Government Analyst</td>
<td>Polling/Survey Analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attorney</td>
<td>Financial Consultant</td>
<td>Public Affairs Analyst</td>
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<td>Banking Analyst</td>
<td>Foreign Service Officer</td>
<td>Research Analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campaign Staff</td>
<td>Freelance Writer</td>
<td>State Legislator</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIA Analyst</td>
<td>Intelligence Officer</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>City Planner</td>
<td>International Agency Officer</td>
<td>University Administrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate Analyst</td>
<td>Journalist</td>
<td>University Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate Executive</td>
<td>Management Analyst</td>
<td>Urban Policy Planner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Scientist</td>
<td>Non-Profit Program Manager</td>
<td>Web Content Editor</td>
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WHO EMPLOYS STUDENTS WITH THIS MAJOR?
Private accounting firms | Non-profit organizations | Government agencies | Businesses and industries | Tax preparation companies | Hospitals and health organizations | Banks and other financial organizations.

INTERNSHIP INFORMATION
At Western Carolina University there are numerous internship opportunities for students. In some cases internships are established through a faculty member in the student's major. Oftentimes students find part-time jobs in an area related to their field of study. When this happens, students should discuss with their academic advisor the possibility of receiving college credit. Generally, three hours of general elective credit can be earned for a minimum of 200 hours of experience.

Our program has been successful in placing students into rewarding internships the in the government, nonprofit, and sometimes private sectors. In our program's history, students have been placed in federal, state, and local opportunities. Our faculty, program alumni, and career center are pleased to work with students to find an opportunity that will advance their career goals.

Many local businesses have hired WCU students as accounting interns. Some of these include:

- United States Federal Probation Office
- Asheville-Buncombe Homeless Initiative
- Asheville-Buncombe Community Relations Council
- North Carolina Department of Planning
- Land of Sky Regional Council
- NC Budgeting and Finance Office
- Ridgetop Associations
- Southwestern Regional Commission

**WHAT SKILLS ARE LEARNED IN THE CLASSROOM?**

Independent Worker | Information Handling & Organization | Curiosity and Creativity | Research Skills | Oral & Written Communication | Computer Literacy | Analytical Thinking | Innovative Talents | Problem Solving | Leadership Abilities | Teamwork

**KNOWLEDGE**

1. Effective communicators. Students will speak and write effectively.
2. Knowledgeable of ethical principles. Students will be knowledgeable of ethical principles and the application of those principles.
3. Decision makers and problem solvers. Students will be able to identify needed actions or presented problems, find and use appropriate information to address the action or problem, identify alternative solutions, and make decisions.
4. Skilled in the ability to work hard and do well under pressure.
5. Ability to interact with diverse populations.
6. Knowledgeable of creating development and marketing ideas.

Interested in the classes you’ll be taking? Check your eight semester program here:


**PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES**

- American Political Science Association - [http://www.apsanet.org](http://www.apsanet.org)
- International Political Science Association - [http://www.ipsa.org](http://www.ipsa.org)
- Southern Political Science Association - [http://spsa.net](http://spsa.net)
- International Association for Political Science Students - [http://www.iapss.org](http://www.iapss.org)
- Tip: Join LinkedIn groups that are related to your career interest. Need help finding groups? Check out the “Groups You May Like” link under the Interests/Groups tab. Consider joining groups that professionals in your field of interest have joined.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SOURCES**


**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Political Science & Public Affairs  
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