

Have You Seen This Major?

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political Science is the study of American Government, International Relations, Comparative Governments, Public Administration, Political Theory and Public Law. We study political values, attachments, behaviors and activities. Students need to have a desire to develop strong reading, writing and analytical skills to excel in this major.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ABOUT THE DEGREE

Does this major require a minor? What minors work well with this major?

A minor is required. Popular Political Science minors are economics, communication, journalism, history, philosophy and business are all frequent and excellent choices for a minor.

Does this major require a practicum or internship?

No internship is required, but it is strongly recommended. PLS majors have interned in state, local and federal government offices as well as non-profit organizations. We do offer service learning with several of our classes that will provide students with practical work experience.

What courses should a student take to explore this major?

PLS 101, American Democracy and Citizenship. Followed by PLS 169, Introduction to Political Science. PLS 169 explores not only the study of political science but also careers in political science through guest speakers and seminars on political science career opportunities.

What are the admission requirements to the major?

There are no admission requirements.

What websites, books or other resources would you recommend for students who would like more information?

Careers and the Study of Political Science, 6th ed. American Political Science Association. (Available in the PLS office, Strong 307); apsanet.org (American Political Science Association)

AFTER THE DEGREE

How would you describe the demand for graduates with this major?

Political Science prepares students for careers in a wide variety of fields (journalism, government, business, law and non-profit) which offers graduates a wide range of job opportunities.

What are some typical jobs for graduates with this major?

City manager, finance director, campaign manager, legislative aide, non-profit manager, issue advocate, lawyer, embassy work and data analyst

What are some of the most successful graduates from the major doing?

Judges, elected representatives, clerk of state legislature, executives of Fortune 500 companies, political consultants, city managers and lawyers

Do careers in this field require or prefer graduate study?

Not necessarily, but public administration careers often require the Masters of Public Administration and practicing law requires a Juris Doctorate.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

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