

What can I do with my degree in...Bachelor of Arts, Political Studies?

Knowing What's Expected

If you have excellent research, organizational, writing, planning, and critical thinking skills as well as interest in power and conflict, you will enjoy the options that the Bachelor of Arts degree with a Political Studies major affords.

Jobs in political studies require a strong command of language and the ability to think logically and analytically.

The ability to identify and predict trends is also important. Being able to speak and write French would be an asset in some positions.

Transferable Skills

- ❖ Effective interview skills and techniques
- ❖ Strong written communication skills
- ❖ Understanding of international politics and policy
- ❖ Continually improving interpersonal and communication skills
- ❖ Knowledge of current events and social trends
- ❖ Ability to analyze detailed information
- ❖ Efficiency in Oral presentation
- ❖ Comprehensive and accurate research skills

Your Choices

Political Studies majors study history, philosophy, government and political systems. As a result, you may pursue occupations in sectors such as communications, culture, law, social work, non-profit, business and administration.

**Some of these occupations will require further education.

Careers for Political Studies Majors

- ❖ Public Administration
- ❖ Lobbyist
- ❖ Political Campaign Manager
- ❖ Politician
- ❖ Writer, Editor, or Journalist
- ❖ Lawyer
- ❖ Researcher or Consultant
- ❖ Policy or Program Officer
- ❖ Parliamentary Aid
- ❖ Social Worker
- ❖ Political Pollster
- ❖ Paralegal
- ❖ Writer/Author
- ❖ City Manager
- ❖ CSIS Agent
- ❖ Foreign Service Officer
- ❖ Teacher or Professor

Necessary Skills

- ❖ Oral & written communication
- ❖ Research skills
- ❖ Problem-solving & analytical skills
- ❖ Leadership

What Employers Want

Contributions you make to your community reflect well on you as an individual. Employers are looking for students who are dedicated, hard working, and show a commitment to their interests.

By getting involved in on-campus societies (see-www.mountstudents.ca) and volunteering early, you will not only show credibility in your area of interest but also a willingness to work towards goals.

Associations

Why join now? Professional associations are a great way to network within your field of study. Not only do these organizations help get you connected, they also help keep you well-informed. Many also have discounted student membership rates.

- ❖ Canadian Political Science Association
www.cpsa-acsp.ca
- ❖ Association for Canadian Studies
www.asc-aec.ca
- ❖ Nova Scotia Barristers' Society
www.nsbs.ns.ca
- ❖ Canadian Association of Journalists
www.caj.ca
- ❖ Writer's Federation of Nova Scotia
www.writers.ns.ca
- ❖ Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration
www.cappa.ca
- ❖ Institute of Public Administration of Canada
www.ipac.ca

Available Reference Materials

What To Do With Your Degree

- ❖ What You Can Do with Your Political Studies Degree
- ❖ Great Jobs for Political Science Majors

Occupation Information

- ❖ Careers for Writers & Others Who Have a Way with Words
- ❖ www.careercruising.com

Directories

- ❖ Who's Hiring
- ❖ Associations Canada
- ❖ Canadian Career Directory

Job Searching

Job Hunting Websites

- ❖ www.msvu.ca/careerplanning
- ❖ The Halifax Herald
www.jobspress.com
- ❖ Nova Scotia Public Service Commission
www.gov.ns.ca/psc/services/employ
- ❖ Government of Canada
<http://jobs.gc.ca>
- ❖ Atlantic Canada Careers
www.acc.net
- ❖ Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS)
www.csis.gc.ca
- ❖ Foreign Service Exam
www.foreignserviceexamprep.com

For More Information Visit:

www.msvu.ca/careerplanning
Career Planning Services
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Mount Saint Vincent University
Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3M 2J5
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