

What Can I Do with My Degree In...

## Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy Studies?



### Know What's Expected

Public Policy Studies majors have a general interest in learning about current Canadian global issues. If you major in Public Policy Studies, employers will expect that you have skills in policy analysis and communication. The program prepares students for potential careers in public service in government and non-government organizations. French may also be an asset in some positions.

### Transferable Skills

- Strong critical thinking skills
- Written and spoken communication skills
- Gathering and interpreting data
- Utilizing survey research methods
- Presenting and defending a position
- Computer literacy

### What Employers Want to See

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 on-campus (for societies visit [mountstudents.ca](http://mountstudents.ca)) or off-campus early in your degree, you will not only show credibility in your area of interest but also a willingness to work towards goals.

You can also build your Mount Co-Curricular Record (CCR) with these activities at [msvu.ca/CCRP](http://msvu.ca/CCRP) and present this official document to future employers.

### Necessary Skills

- Strong communications skills
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Ability to multitask and work under pressure
- Strong research skills

### Where Can You Work?

A Public Policy Major offers a broad background in the humanities, politics, government and social sciences. Graduates from Public Policy programs may find careers in government, the non-profit sector, consulting firms, and in selected private sector firms.

A Public Policy Studies degree is also a great stepping stone for further education. Visit the Bachelor of Arts— Public Policy Studies webpage for more information.

### Possible Job Titles

- Government Administrator
- Human Resources Coordinator
- Management Consultant
- Urban Planner, Regional Planner
- Demographer
- Teacher/Professor
- Economic Development Officer,
- Public Policy Analyst, Social Policy Researchers
- Political Scientist

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### Where Can I Volunteer?

Volunteering provides a great opportunity to get involved in your field of study and make some great connections. Here are a few options for you to consider:

- Local government offices
- Local Non-Profit Organizations
- Universities
- Libraries
- Student Societies
- Students Union

Visit [msvu.ca/ccrp](http://msvu.ca/ccrp) for more local organizations.

### Online Job Resources

Many organizations will promote their job opportunities online. Visit the Job Search Resources page at [msvu.ca/careerplanning](http://msvu.ca/careerplanning) for links to frequently used job boards.

### Professional Associations

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.

- Public Affairs Association of Canada  
[www.publicaffairs.ca](http://www.publicaffairs.ca)
- Institute of Public Administration of Canada  
[www.iapc.ca](http://www.iapc.ca)
- Canadian Political Science Association  
[www.cpsa-acsp.ca](http://www.cpsa-acsp.ca)
- The Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators  
[www.camacam.ca](http://www.camacam.ca)
- The Canadian Institute of Strategic Studies  
[www.ciss.ca](http://www.ciss.ca)
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management  
[www.appam.org](http://www.appam.org)

### MSVU Career Services

At the Mount, we offer a variety of career related services, workshops, resources and opportunities for students. Whether you need help making a career decision, are looking for a job, or are wondering what your can do with your degree, we can help you plan a realistic career path and perform a successful job search.

Drop by Career Services to book an appointment with a Career Counsellor, schedule a resume critique with a Career Assistant, or just explore our resources!

#### Career Services

Mount Saint Vincent University  
McCain 306

166 Bedford Hwy | Halifax, NS | B3M 2J6

For General Inquiries: [\(902\) 457-6765](tel:9024576765)

For an Appointment: [\(902\) 457-6139](tel:9024576139)

[www.msvu.ca/careerplanning](http://www.msvu.ca/careerplanning)

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