

# What can you do with a major in ***POLITICS?***

## Nature of Work

*Politics* is the study of the ways in which political power is organized, distributed, and used. Political Scientists study a wide range of subjects such as Soviet-American relations, the beliefs and institutions of nations in Asia and Africa, the politics of a New England town or a major metropolis, and the decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court. Topics such as public opinion, political decision making, and ideology are examined in order to analyze the structure and operation of governments. They also study the aspects of political behavior, such as origin, development, operation, and interrelationships of political institutions, so that they may formulate and develop political theory. Political Scientists conduct research into political philosophy and theories of political systems, using information available on political phenomena; such as public laws and administration, political party systems, and international law. Depending upon the topic under study, a political scientist might conduct a public opinion survey, analyze election results, or analyze public documents. They consult with civic bodies, government officials, research agencies, and political parties. They analyze and interpret results and prepare reports detailing findings, recommendations, or conclusions.

## Personal Qualities

Helpful qualities for individuals interested in the field of *Politics* include:

- an inquiring mind
- a keen interest in solving problems
- commitment to public service
- an ability to think logically and methodically
- analytical skills
- good communication skills
- an ability to work independently
- creativity

## Work Settings

*Political Scientists* work for:

*federal/state government (at home and abroad), banks and business firms, research organizations and consulting firms, trade associations, international organizations, colleges and universities, public interest groups and other organizations*

They work in offices, conference rooms, and classrooms. Those on foreign assignments have to adjust to unfamiliar cultures and climates. Those in diplomatic service work long hours.

## Related Occupations

*International Politician, Genealogist, Foreign Affairs, Scientific Linguist, Researcher, Social Welfare, Conservator, Artifacts, Consultant, Politics/Government*

## Career Services Resources

- *The Complete Guide to Public Employment*
- *Career Opportunities in Politics, Government, & Activism*
- *Opportunities in Federal Government Careers*
- *Kaplan's Guide to Careers in the FBI*
- *Opportunities in State & Local Government Careers*
- *An Insider's Guide to Political Jobs in Washington*
- *American Foreign Service Officer*

## For More Information Contact

**American Political Science Association**  
1527 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036-1206  
(202) 483-2512  
www.apsanet.org

**Political Department of the AFL-CIO**  
815 16th Street NW, 7th Floor  
Washington, DC 20006  
www.aflcio.org

# A Sample of Ithaca College Politics Graduates

One method of exploring careers is to examine the occupations of alumni who majored in a discipline in which you are interested. Below is a representative sample of occupations held by Ithaca College alumni who majored in Politics.

Legislative Assistant	House of Representatives	Washington, DC
Claims Representative	Social Security Administration	Brooklyn, NY
General Dentist	Richard L. Wilck, DDS, PC	Melville, NY
Program Officer	Young America's Foundation	Falls Church, VA
Outreach Coordinator	Higher Education Policy Commission	Charleston, WV
Field Researcher	The People's Court	Wallingford, CT
Constituent Service Representative	Senator Connie Williams, D-PA	Narberth, PA
Training & Employment	Rural Opportunities, Inc.	Alton, NY
Legislative Correspondence	Congresswoman Shelley Berkley	Washington, DC
Financial Advisor Associate	Sanford C. Bernstein & Company	New York, NY
Account Executive	Ikon Office Solutions	Wetboro, MA
Scheduler	Autonomy, Inc.	Los Angeles, CA
Assistant Language Teacher	Nova International Institute	Japan
Human Resource Recruiter	Gartner Group	Stamford, CT
Vice President	NAJO Emergency Products	Providence, RI
Teacher	Colorado Springs School	Colorado Springs, CO
Communications Consultant	Telepath Inc.	Richmond, VA
Business Development Coordinator	Pagano, Schenck & Kay	Boston, MA
Currency Analyst	Morgan Stanley & Company	New York, NY
Compliance Examiner	Mutual Service Corporation	West Palm Beach, FL
Fulfillment Coordinator/Marketer	Bankers Trust	Wilmington, DE
Legal Assistant-Paralegal	Whitman, Breed, Abbott & Morgan	New York, NY
Conference Coordinator	International Media Partners	New York, NY
Sales Representative	Sailways & Performance Inc.	Fairfield, CT
Field Coordinator	Direct Impact	Alexandria, VA
Stenographer	Massachusetts Turnpike Authority	Boston, MA
Campaign Manager	Assemblywoman Loretta Weinberg	Teaneck, NJ
Projects Coordinator	Senator Connie Mack	Washington, DC
International Trade Analyst	U.S. International Trade Commission	Washington, DC
Government Relations Specialist	Nestle, USA	Washington, DC
Employee Relations Specialist	MMI/GE Exchange	Atlanta, GA
Fundraiser	The Fresh Air Fund	New York, NY
Public Relations Representative	The Cherson Group	Livingston, NJ
Advertising Staff Member	Busch Media Group	New York, NY
Political Affairs Director	Office of Assemblyman Scott Stringer	New York, NY
Assistant District Attorney	District Attorney Queens County	Kew Gardens, NY
Vice President/Shareholder	Gregory Communications, Inc.	Ardmore, PA
Clinical Social Worker	Family and Children's Center	Ithaca, NY
Media Planner	Jordan, McGrath, Case & Taylor	New York, NY
Job Specialist	Mass. Div. of Employment Training	Cambridge, MA
Attorney	Dudley, Topper & Feuerzeig Law House	St. Thomas, VI
Sales and Marketing Specialist	Fellowes Manufacturing	Itasca, IL
Director of Social Work	Kent Nursing Home	Holmes, NY
Manager of Research	New School for Social Research	New York, NY
Media Relations Coordinator	Communications Dept., Chicago Park	Chicago, IL
Press/Media Director	Environmental Defense Fund	Washington, DC
Loan Review Officer	First Federal Savings & Loan	Rochester, NY
Publicist	David Granoff Public Relations Inc.	New York, NY
Staff Assistant/Legislative Correspondent	United States Government Congress	Washington, DC