When I’m About to Graduate, What Do I Do to Get a Job?

**Step 1**: Try to do an internship in the summer before your senior year in an area you are interested in getting a job after graduation. If you have not done so, try to do one in your senior year. Talk to our faculty internship coordinator (718-997-5470) or the Center for Career Engagement and Internships (718-997-4465; Frese Hall, Room 213).

**Step 2**: Work on your resume and cover letter. Schedule an appointment with Mark Klein (mark.klein@qc.cuny.edu) to get help.

**Step 3**: Get references from professors and/or employers who know you well.

**Step 4**: Apply for jobs (see list of job sites on back page).

**Step 5**: Ready for that interview?

**Useful Job Search Sites**

- Indeed Job Search
- Glassdoor Jobs
- LinkedIn
- Google for Jobs
- Monster
- ZipRecruiter
- Simply Hired
- CareerBuilder
- Snag (Formerly Snagajob)
- LinkUp
- Craigslist Jobs
- US.jobs
- Robert Half
- Job.com
- USAjobs.gov
- Facebook job search

**More Information?**

Go to the website of the Political Science Department to read the longer version of this brochure.

[http://qcpages.qc.cuny.edu/Political_Science/](http://qcpages.qc.cuny.edu/Political_Science/)
WHY BE A POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR?
Almost every aspect of our lives is affected by decisions made by local, state, and national governments. Yet Americans are surprisingly uninformed about the processes and institutions that produce those decisions. But not our majors! A political science major is better able to understand how political systems work and apply this knowledge in the real world.

What Skills Can I Learn?
Political and Policy Process
First and foremost, our program helps students:
- understand how our government and other governments work and why.
- understand policy platforms and options.
- understand interest groups and public opinions.
- evaluate, formulate, and implement policies.

Civic Learning and Engagement
But more! Our democracy depends on the ability and willingness of people to demand rights and accountability of our country’s leaders. Our program helps students understand how they might:
- exercise leadership and citizenship in a dynamic society.
- address issues of public concern.
- take or lead collective actions to promote changes.
- influence public policy through civic, electoral, and political voice.

Critical Thinking Skills
The ability to think clearly and rationally is important in whatever you will choose to do. The new knowledge economy places increasing demands on flexible intellectual skills and the ability to analyze and integrate information in solving problems. Our students acquire analytical skills to:
- assess problems and policies from a variety of perspectives.
- discern useful information/data from bad information/data to solve problems or make decisions.
- think “outside the box.”
- think logically, independently, and globally.

Leadership and Organization
Both the public and private sectors need people who can think and plan strategically and who can manage diverse people and interests and mobilize them for actions and decisions. Our program helps students understand how they may:
- coordinate group efforts and collective actions.
- aggregate interests and develop consensus.
- interact with government and non-government officials.
- organize information and resources.

Communication Skills
In the information age, we rely heavily on sharing information and ideas. Good verbal and written communication skills are essential to ensure effectiveness and accuracy. Our program helps students hone skills to:
- present ideas clearly and effectively, in writing and speaking.
- listen actively and critically.
- negotiate and mediate conflicts.
- manage social media and digital communication.

Global Skills
Our program helps students acquire skills to succeed in today’s global economy. They will learn how to:
- understand diverse cultures and international relations.
- understand global threats and conflicts, from conventional to unconventional ones.
- work individually and in teams across countries.
- understand global diplomacy and negotiation.

Methods and Research
How comfortable are you with today’s data-driven world? How do you approach problem solving with scientific approaches? Our program helps you learn to:
- interpret and analyze data.
- perform basic quantitative analysis.
- perform data interpretation for broad audiences.
- design and conduct research.

What Kind of Jobs Can I Get as a Political Science Major?
What happens after a degree in political science? Our graduates go on to careers that harness their civic engagement, their awareness and understanding of power dynamics, their critical thinking ability, and the oral and written communication skills they learned and honed in the QC Political Science department!

Government and Public Service
- Employee in a federal, state, or city government agency
- Staff member to an elected official at the city, state, or federal level
- Policy or political analyst for a government agency or legislature
- Member of the foreign service
- Elected official, e.g., a member of a city council, assembly, or Congress

Law
- Legal assistant or paralegal
- Attorney
- Compliance officer or inspector
- Police officer, federal agent, or other enforcement officer

Politics and Public Policy
- Political consultant or pollster
- Policy analyst or researcher
- Campaign staff
- Lobbyist

Private Sector
- Government affairs director
- Events coordinator/director
- Human resources manager
- Business person

Marketing
- Survey researcher
- Data analyst
- Market research analyst
- Marketing manager

Public Relations
- PR representative
- Campaign worker
- Press release writer
- Government relations director

Education
- Schoolteacher
- School administrator
- College professor
- Librarian