



POLITICS



- *WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY POLITICS MAJOR?
- *WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE MYSELF MORE MARKETABLE?
- *WHERE CAN I FIND CAREER INFORMATION?

• CAREER PLANNING • SUNY POTSDAM • 206 SISSON
Web Site: www.potsdam.edu/offices/career E-mail: career@potsdam.edu
TEL: 315-267-2344

WHAT POLITICS MAJORS DO TODAY:

1. Study the role of government, public law, political institutions, political behavior, public policies/administration in America and other countries and political and economic relations among nations.
2. Conduct political research in areas including political parties, voting behavior, public opinion, political trends and tactics of interest groups.
3. Keep politicians informed.
4. Campaign.

EXAMPLES OF FIELDS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR POLITICS MAJORS:

1. Politics
2. Government
 - a. Federal
 - b. State and Local
3. Law/Legal
4. Business/Consulting
5. Education
6. Media (Journalism)

SAMPLE JOB TITLES OF SUNY POTSDAM POLITICS ALUMNI:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| * News Reporter | * Private Investigator |
| * Teacher | * Attorney |
| * Professor | * Economist |
| * Police Officer | * Lobbyist |
| * Research Assistant/NYS Assembly | * Judge |
| * Campaign Manager | |

SAMPLE JOB DESCRIPTIONS:

1. Foreign Service Officer: Performs duties in the economic, business, political and cultural areas Serves in counselor, officer and administrative positions. Works outside the U.S.
2. Public Interest Advocate: Persuades incumbent politicians to vote in favor of or against particular policies.
3. Lawyer: Argues to protect the rights of society and of individuals, and addresses the fundamental questions of what is fair and just.

ENHANCING EMPLOYABILITY:

1. Get involved in the career development process early, *freshman* year.
2. Select minors or elective courses that will demonstrate interest/applicability to your career objectives.
3. Get career related experience: internships, summer and/or part-time employment, volunteer. Join a career-related association or organization.
4. Develop the following job search and self-marketing skills: resume writing, cover letter writing, create a portfolio and self-marketing brochure, researching employers, interviewing, networking, and employment searching.
5. Skills to develop: conducting research, writing, analyzing behavior and evaluating ideas, using computers, creative persuasion, precision in presenting information, critical thinking, oral and written communications, dealing effectively with people, precision of thought, organizational skills, recognizing and managing conflict and statistical analysis.
6. Classes you should take: Symbolic Logic and Statistics



SAMPLE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES:

- * Central Intelligence Agency
 - Coordinates the nation's intelligence activities by collecting, evaluating, and disseminating information that affects national security.
 - Responsibilities include technical and analytical hands-on work experience.
- * Canadian Embassy
 - Represents Canadian government to the U.S. government and protects, advances, and defends.
 - Canadian interests in the U.S.
 - Interns will assist Program Officers in research, reports, and public speaking.

PREPARING FOR THE JOB SEARCH MARKET:

- * Write an employer targeted resume and cover letter
- * Learn job search strategies
- * Borrow resources from SUNY Potsdam's Career Planning Library
- * Seek advice from faculty
- * Network w/employers at Career/Job Fairs
- * Prepare for an interview
- * Design a portfolio and self-marketing brochure
- * Visit SUNY Potsdam's Career Planning Web Site at: www.potsdam.edu/offices/career
- * Develop Networking Cards

SOME EMPLOYERS OF SUNY POTSDAM POLITICS MAJORS:

- * Women's Caucus for Political Science
- * Foundation for International Human Relations
- * U.S. Department of State
- * The National Security Agency
- * NYS Child Support Enforcement
- * NYS Child Support
- * Riverview Correctional Facility
- * United States Congress
- * NYS Legislature
- * United States Congress

WHERE TO GET INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE:

1. POLITICS DEPT., SUNY Potsdam, Satterlee 311

- * Talk with Faculty
- * Talk with Students
- * Talk with Alumni

2. CAREER PLANNING OFFICE, SUNY Potsdam, 206 Sisson Hall

- * Individual Career Assistance
- * Workshops/Seminars
- * Employer Literature
- * Career Assessment Programs
- * Career and Job Fairs
- * Networking Assistance
- * Alumni Mentor
- * Job Vacancies
- * Summer Jobs
- * Reference file
- * Career Planning Web Site
- * Career Library
- * A Major Affair
- * Free Handouts Available

WHAT IF I WANT TO GO TO GRADUATE SCHOOL?

RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE CAREER PLANNING OFFICE:

- * On-Campus Graduate School Fair
- * Graduate School handout
- * GRE, GMAT, MCAT, LSAT and MAT forms and bulletins (GRE computerized tests and graduate study books)
- * Graduate books - listings of schools and programs
- * Financial aid information about graduate school
- * Peterson's Graduate Programs (G7F, G7G, G7H, G7I, G7J, G7K)
- * Web Site: www.potsdam.edu/offices/career/graduate

RESOURCES FOR FINDING EMPLOYERS & CAREER INFORMATION:

RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE CAREER PLANNING OFFICE:

- * The Career Guide Employment Opportunities Directory (R8GG)
- * Job Hunter's Sourcebook (R26D)
- * A Guide to Career Opportunities in NYS Government (C16B)
- * US Government Jobs (C16C)
- * Corporate Public Affairs (R16B)
- * Summer Jobs Worldwide (S2A)
- * Federal Jobs for College Graduates (R16A)
- * Great Jobs for Political Science Majors (C38C)
- * Alternative Careers for Political Scientists (C38A)
- * Careers and the Study of Political Science (C38B)
- * New York State Correctional Facilities (R27A)
- * Career Planning Job Search Internet Links www.potsdam.edu/offices/career/jobsearch/index.cfm
- * Additional material found by using the Career Planning Library Bibliography



OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

- * American Political Science Association
1527 New Hampshire Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 462-7849
www.apsanet.org
- * Academy of Political Science
475 Riverside Dr., Ste. 1274
New York, NY 10115-0012
(212) 870-2500
www.psqonline.org
- * American Association of Political Consultants
1211 Connecticut Ave.,
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 371-9585
www.theaapc.org

