Political Science

Typical Career Fields:

**Government** (projected growth 15% - 21%)
- Public Policy
- Research
- Regional Planning

**Law** (projected growth 15% - 21%)
- Paralegal
- Law firms

**Politics** (projected growth 3% - 7%)
- Elected or Appointed
- Campaign Mgmt.

**Nonprofit** (projected growth 15% - 21%)
- Administration
- Management

**Business** (projected growth 3% - 7%)
- Human Resources
- Management

**Journalism** (projected growth projected decline 3%)
- Editing
- Reporting

Source: O*NET

Top Ten Career Fields Chosen by ESU Political Science Grads: *(Source: Linkedin)*

Where Our Grads Go (top ten):
- US Army
- ACCC
- Kansas State Department of Education
- Salt Lake County Library
- Oregon State Univ.
- State of Kansas
- Washburn Univ.
- King County Library
- Blue Valley School District
- University of Michigan

View a list of required courses for this major at [http://www.emporia.edu/sac/list-of-majors.html](http://www.emporia.edu/sac/list-of-majors.html).

Career Services
career@emporia.edu
www.emporia.edu/careerservices

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Political Science Majors
Strategies on how to become more marketable at graduation

Government Jobs
- Employment opportunities in local government tend to follow population trends in terms of growth and decline in availability of positions. Check statistics on growing communities to find the most opportunities. Be prepared to relocate.
- Develop a network of contacts through referrals and informational interviews.
- Conduct research, e.g. education, homelessness, etc. that could be useful to your community.
- Get involved in civic organizations and events.
- Complete an internship in a government agency.
- Participate in local or national election campaigns.
- Take courses or minor in applicable interest area(s).
- Seek leadership roles in relevant campus organizations such as model United Nations, student government, and cross-cultural organizations.
- Write for campus publications focused on national and international affairs.
- Acquire foreign language competency and travel experience for international positions.
- There are a large number of specialized agencies within the federal government. Do extensive research in order to find the area that best fits your interests.
- Conduct informational interviews with government employees.

Law Jobs
- Develop strong research skills and attention to detail.
- Participate in debate or forensic team to hone communication skills.
- Choose courses or a minor to specialize in a particular area of law, e.g. a minor in business for a career in corporate law.
- Find part-time or summer work in a law firm.
- Shadow an attorney to learn more about the field and various specialties.
- Get involved in pre-law organizations.
- Plan to attend law school and earn a law degree.
- Maintain a high grade point average and secure strong faculty recommendations. Prepare for the LSAT (Law School Admission Test).

Political Jobs
- Volunteer for national or local campaigns.
- Be prepared to begin a political career as a volunteer before moving to paid positions.
- Many elected public officials begin careers in other fields (law, medicine, business) before campaigning for office.
- Gain experience through internships with government agencies or legislatures.
- Obtain leadership roles in campus organizations.
- Become involved in campus political groups, student government, publications, or community service projects.
- Take courses in statistics, public policy, or other specific interest areas.
- Get involved with a political party/group and develop a personal network. The ability to build networks, coalitions and alliances with other associations is highly valued.