

# What can I do with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Economy?

*A guide compiled by CUE Career Services and the Faculty of Arts*

## General Skill Sets

A Bachelor of Arts degree is versatile. Graduates are employed in almost every industry and every company in North America. When employers are hiring, they are interested in transferable skills attained through university study. Examples include:

- Ability to analyze policies, public issues, legislation or the operations and activities of governments, business corporations and regional, non-governmental and international organizations.
- Research skills developed in course work-observing and analyzing institutions, political processes, public policy and law relating to domestic and international politics
- Study of public opinion, political parties, elections, interest groups, social movements, non-governmental organizations, inter-governmental relations, international law and organizations
- Ability to collect, analyze and interpret data/ compare and contrast information (for example, election results and surveys, public documentation).
- Ability to make projections
- Knowledge of governmental and non-governmental organizations
- A strong interest in political affairs and research
- Strong written, oral communication & decision making skills
- Problem-solving skills
- Critical and analytical thinking skills and the ability to understand the world
- Exposure to a variety of political, cultural and community perspectives
- Initiative and the ability to work effectively in groups or alone
- Organizational skills
- Ability to access and explain information in the context of conflict resolution
- Critical listening skills

Often, university graduates who have been employed for approximately two years may transition to a new job. Although factors such as the state of economy and work performance may affect one's career journey, there tends to be a greater potential for people who have degrees to be promoted or to attain leadership positions.

As graduates combine their degree with accumulated work experience, they may transition into positions with increased responsibilities and higher salaries, or leave their current employer to take new roles elsewhere.

## Careers related to Political Economy degrees

### Education

- Teacher
- Curriculum Consultant
- University or College Professor
- Student Affairs Administrator
- Post Secondary Student Advisor

### **Provincial and Local Government**

- Treasurer
- Deputy Minister
- Assistant Chief of Police
- Program Director
- Legislative Coordinator, Mayor's Office
- City Planner
- Labor Relations Specialist

### **International**

- Foreign Service Officer
- Customs Officer
- Strategic Planning Specialist
- Translator
- Researcher for International Marketing
- International Marketing Specialist

### **Business**

- Management Consultant
- Manager/Supervisor
- Human Resources Professional
- Marketing Researcher
- Public Relations Professional

### **Journalism**

- Writer/Editor
- Editorial Assistant
- Producer (TV or Radio News)
- Director of Corporate Public Affairs
- Reporter (TV, Radio, Newspapers)

### **Law/Politics**

- Public Policy Analyst
- Lawyer
- Consumer Advocate
- Politician (municipal, provincial, federal)
- Criminologist
- Labour Union Official
- Human Rights Advocate

### **Non-Profit and Charitable Organizations**

- Administrator
- Public Relations Professional
- Fund Raiser
- Support Group Facilitator

- Urban Planner
- City Project Coordinator
- City Housing Administrator
- Administrator
- Corrections Officer
- Probation Officer
- Legislative Aide

- Recruiter for Employees in Overseas Subsidiaries
- Policy Analyst
- Consultant to Multinational Corporations
- International Correspondent (Media)
- International Business Development Consultant

- Advertising Account Manager
- Executive Search Consultant
- Sales and Promotions Manager
- Industry Lobbyist

- Public Affairs Research Analyst
- Director of Surveys, Television Network
- Consultant for Media
- Public Affairs Reporter

- Lobbyist
- Environmental Advocate
- Mediator
- Political Campaign Consultant
- Paralegal
- Political/Economist Advisor in government

- Client Advisor
- Major Gifts and Planned Giving Coordinator



## REFERENCES

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*Philosophy A Brief Guide for Undergraduates, American Philosophical Association, 1982*

For more information or assistance with career and educational planning, please contact CUE Career Services at +1 780 378 8461 or email us at [careerservices@concordia.ab.ca](mailto:careerservices@concordia.ab.ca).

