

Linking Majors to Careers

POLITICAL ECONOMY

Political Economy

Political economy is the integration of economics and political science. At the national level, political economy investigates how political parties, bureaucracies, government decision makers, and special interest groups mold policies in areas such as taxes, the environment, and economic growth. At the international level, political economy studies how national governments, non-governmental organizations, and multinational businesses interact to achieve goals such as national sovereignty, development of global business enterprises, economic growth in developing countries, and conflict resolution.

- Political economy is an excellent preparation for careers in public service, including foreign service.
- It provides an excellent preparation for further studies in law, economics, political science, and international relations.
- As a field of study, it recognizes that all government policies are strongly colored by political decisions, and that almost all political decisions have important economic consequences.

SKILLS: The person who majors in **Political Economy** at Regis University has the opportunity to learn a variety of essential **skills** such as:

- analyzing
- critical thinking
- assessing
- seeing patterns
- categorizing
- comparing
- synthesizing
- data collection
- evaluating
- making presentations
- information gathering
- mathematical reasoning
- writing
- interpreting
- research
- preparing reports
- computer skills

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL ENTRY INTO A CAREER USING A POLITICAL ECONOMY MAJOR:

1. Finely developed reading and writing skills are important in order to comprehend and explain the complex subject matter related to the field of political economy.
2. As with all fields of study that utilize broad skills, practical work experience and career exploration while in school are extremely important. This can be achieved through internships and volunteer work in your field of interest. Involvement in a political organization, a campaign, or student government would provide insight into the field of politics.
3. Travel and study abroad can offer a broadened perspective and, because governmental units are continually interacting, fluency in a foreign language is a desired skill.
4. Well-developed communication skills such as debate, persuasive speaking and negotiation are important in this field.

RELATED CAREERS: Some political economy graduates pursue careers in law or politics. Others enter fields that require a broad view of the way society's political and economic systems are related to one another. Advanced study is required for university teaching positions and is often required for many positions in government. Typical career fields for Political Economy majors include the following:

Foreign Service officer
Intelligence specialist
International business
Economist
International relations advisor
Correspondent/journalist
Lawyer*
College professor *
Political advisor
Administrative officer/ government agency
Import-export specialist
CIA employee
Political scientist
Legislative lobbyist
Teacher
Local government administrator
Staff person in local or national governmental organization
Politician
Consultant
Research analyst
Lawyer*

* Requires a higher degree beyond the bachelor's level.

CAREER RESOURCES IN:

- CAREER SERVICES LIBRARY (CS)
 - DAYTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY (DM)
 - ON THE INTERNET
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Career and Occupational Information

Occupational Outlook Handbook (CS, DM, and <http://www.bls.gov/oco>)

ONET <http://online.onetcenter.org>

Adams Jobs Almanac (CS, DM)

Dictionary of Occupational Titles (CS, DM)

Great Careers for... series (CS)

Careers for ... series (CS)

Careers in ... series (DM)

Encyclopedia of Career and Vocational Guidance (DM)

Liberal Arts Career News (CS)

Professional Organizations

National Directory of Non-Profit Organizations (DM)

Denver Meets (DM)

Encyclopedia of Associations (link on DM online catalog)

Internet Public Library listing at: <http://www.ipl.org/div/aon>

Employer Directories

Reference USA (link on DM online catalog)

Denver Business Journal Top 25 Book of Lists (CS, DM)

Colorado Business Directory (DM and available via link on DM online catalog)

Directory of Colorado Manufacturers (DM)

Rocky Mountain High Tech. Directory (DM)

Almanac of American Employers (DM)

Job Banks for US cities (CS, DM)

Standard & Poor's Register of Corp. Directory (link on DM online catalog)

Thomas Register of American Manufacturers
<http://www.thomasregister.com>

Directory of Colorado Non-Profits (DM and <http://www.coloradonoprofits.org>)

Employment Outlook

Occupational Outlook Quarterly (CS, DM)

Job Rated Almanac (DM)

CAM report (CS)

Employment Outlook for Colorado (DM)

Internships

Internships are placements with employers that give Regis College students with a GPA of 2.5 or better the opportunity to combine coursework with real-life experience while earning academic credit. Internships enhance academic knowledge, personal development and professional preparation. In addition, a successful internship can give students an edge when hiring decisions are made because employers seek applicants with practical experience in their field. Students interested in an internship need to register with the **Academic Internship Program** for help with determining a site placement, learning objectives and academic criteria.

Graduate School Information

Real Guide to Grad School (CS, DM)

Peterson's Graduate and Professional Programs (CS, DM and <http://www.petersons.com>)

Gorman Report (CS)

Graduate School Admissions Advisor (CS)

Getting what you came for (CS)

Educational Rankings Annual (DM)

College Blue Book (DM)

Directory of Post-Secondary Institutions (DM)

Salary Information

Colorado Occupational Wages
(<http://www.coworkforce.com/lmi/wages/wages.asp>)

Compensation & Working Conditions (DM)

NACE Salary Survey (CS)

Salary.com - <http://Salary.com>

Alumni Career Network

One of the best resources for career information is people who work in the field you are considering. Contact information for Regis Alumni who have agreed to talk with students investigating career fields is available on the Alumni Career Network, a program located under "Alumni" at <http://www.ecampusrecruiter.com/regis>

World Wide Web Sites

Regis Career Services: <http://www.regis.edu/careerservices>

Dayton Memorial Library article and research database:
<http://www.regis.edu/libdatabase.asp?sctn=lib&p1=empty>

JobWeb (NACE): <http://www.jobweb.org>

Career Magazine: <http://www.careermag.com>

America's Job Bank: <http://www.ajb.dni.us>