

Career Outlook: Political Science

Political Science Programs Available at Bemidji State University:

Major: Political Science (B.A.)

Minors: Political Science, Applied Public Policy, International Relations

Related Majors: Social Studies: Political Science (B.A.)

Pre-Law: (Listed under the Pre-Professional programs)

Certificate: Public and Non-Profit Management

Department Website: <https://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/political-science/courses-programs/political-science-major/>

EMPLOYMENT AREAS AND PROJECTED DEMAND:

The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" (OOH) reports that political scientists held 6,300 jobs in 2021. Many work as researchers and administrators for various employers, including governments, educational institutions, religious organizations, and research and development firms. Most political scientists—about 57%—work for the federal government. Others work for think tanks, nonprofit organizations, colleges and universities, political lobbying groups, and labor organizations. Openings for these positions tend to be quite competitive, and most candidates hold advanced degrees.

OOH reports that the nationwide demand for political scientists is expected to grow 6% (as fast as average) through 2031, with people established in their career generally earning between \$61,480 and \$172,490 per year. The median pay for political scientists in 2021 was \$122,510 per year. These jobs typically require an advanced degree.

PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATES:

Of the 12 Bemidji State University 2020-2021 Political Science graduates (B.A.), 66.7% reported obtaining employment within one year of graduation and four of the graduates went on to continue their education. This does not include students who were not seeking employment, unavailable, or had unknown status.

PARTIAL LIST OF EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE REPORTED HIRING BSU POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATES*:

(This list includes employment within one year of graduation for the years 2017 through 2021.)

California Republican Party	Data Coordinator	Sacramento, CA
FullerWallner, Attorneys at Law	Legal Clerk	Bemidji, MN
Grassroots Campaigns	Field Manager	Brooklyn, NY
Gulf International Forum	Research and Publication Coordinator Chief	Washington, DC
Lead for America	American Connection Corp Fellow	Warroad, MN
Minnesota Senate	Committee Legislative Assistant	St. Paul, MN
Rainbow Research	Researcher Assistant	Minneapolis, MN
Take the Majority	Field Organizer	Dale City, VA
University of South Dakota Foundation	Annual Fund Coordinator	Vermillion, SD

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WHERE PREVIOUS BSU POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATES HAVE GONE TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION:

University of Missouri, Columbia, MO

University of South Carolina at Columbia, Columbia, SC

*Degrees alone do not get students jobs. Internships, summer jobs, volunteer work, part-time jobs, work-study positions, and active participation in student organizations on campus are all ways to become more competitive in a tight job market.

Bibliography:

Annual Graduate Follow-Up Study 2020-2021. Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2023)

Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2022-2023. Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2023)

Occupational Outlook Handbook. U.S. Dept. of Labor, JIST Publishing Inc., Indianapolis, IN (2022)

For more information, contact Career Services; Decker Hall/218-755-2038/career@bemidjistate.edu

For more job listings please visit:

Handshake

<https://www.bemidjistate.edu/services/career/events-guides-resources/job-listings/>



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