Political science is the study of government and politics and involves analyzing how different forms of government operate. You will learn theories behind different governments, reasons for governmental change and failure to apply those theories to current political problems, and examine the human element of politics. You will gain insight into how government works in Indiana, the United States, and all over the world. In this major, you will become a critical observer, informed, an active participants, and be prepared for a variety of careers.

Skills and abilities this major develops include: problem solving, public speaking, communication, research, and an understanding of politics (IU School of Liberal Arts, 2017).

**OPPORTUNITIES AFTER GRADUATION**

**Career Opportunities**

Political science majors from IUPUI will find opportunities in many different fields including community and social services, local and state government, nonprofits, and more. According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook (2017), the field of public relations is expected to grow at an average rate of 6% and the field of social and community services is expected to grow at 10%. Employment for both lawyers and paralegals expected to grow as fast as average at a rate of 5-8% for 2014-2024.

**Salary Information**

The average starting salary for IU School of Liberal Arts graduates from IUPUI was $33,495 for the May 2016 graduating cohort. The median starting salary for liberal arts graduates was $50,000 for the class of May 2016 according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE, 2017).

(This section is intended for informational purposes, not prediction of actual salary.)

**Graduate & Professional School Paths**

This major is seen as a key pathway to law school. Political science majors often pursue advanced degrees in the following areas: Public Administration, Urban Planning, Political Science, Public Health, International Studies, Public Affairs, and International Development among others.

**WHERE TO GET MORE INFORMATION**

IU School of Liberal Arts
Philosophy Department
Cavanaugh Hall 331
liberalarts.iupui.edu/philosophy

Go Government
gogovernment.org

Liberal Arts Career Development Office
Cavanaugh Hall 243B
317-274-1224
liberalarts.iupui.edu/careers

Sample Coursework:

- Introduction to American politics
- Political theory
- Elements of political analysis
- Introduction to international relations
- Constitutional law
- Indiana state government
- Voting, elections, and public opinion

Possible Careers:

- Attorney*
- Journalist
- Labor relations specialist
- Lobbyist
- State or local politician
- Urban planner*

* = Career option requires additional training or education.

Where Could I Work?

- Business development
- City of Indianapolis
- Indiana Department of Child Services
- Nonprofits
- State of Indiana
- U.S. House of Representatives

Complementing Interests:

Enterprising Social Investigative

Get your interest code at go.iupui.edu/interests

Have questions for Academic & Career Development? Schedule an appointment:

acd.iupui.edu (317) 274-4856