



Career Options after

# Public Policy

Urban Public Policy and Governance, Minor

the study of policy-making

[www.uts.utoronto.ca/polisci](http://www.uts.utoronto.ca/polisci)

Co-op, Major

## What is Public Policy?

**Public Policy is a Social Science** that focuses on the development, implementation, and evaluation of public policy. It requires the ability to think clearly and critically, to design and execute research projects, to analyze both quantitative and qualitative data, and to write clearly. It also requires an understanding of the context, institutions, and processes of policy-making and implementation, as well as concepts and criteria for policy evaluation.

## Entry-Level Jobs for Bachelor Grads

Common employment destinations include:

- Junior Economic Adviser in Government
- Legislative Aide in Government
- City Planning Assistant in Government
- Policy Research Associate in NGOs
- Foreign Service Officer in Government
- Junior Researcher in Think Tanks
- Policy Analyst in Corporations

*The Career Directory:* [www.canadastop100.com/tcd](http://www.canadastop100.com/tcd)

## Skills of Public Policy Grads

- Think clearly and critically
- Design and execute research projects
- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data
- Write clearly
- Understand the context, institutions and processes of policy-making and implementation
- Understand concepts and criteria for policy evaluation
- Influence and persuade diverse groups
- Present ideas and data clearly
- Research and develop persuasive arguments using facts
- Conceptualize and implement projects
- Synthesize themes from complex issues
- Understand and apply social science theories

## Graduate & Professional Studies

Popular further education opportunities include:

- Political Science – Master of Arts
- Policy (many varieties) – Master
- Public Administration/Service – Master or Post-Graduate Certificate
- Economics – Master
- Business Administration – Master
- Law – JD (Juris Doctor)
- Paralegal – Diploma
- Public Relations – Post-Graduate Certificate
- Community Service Management – Post-Graduate Certificate

## What makes Public Policy at UTSC unique?

The Public Policy program offers cross-disciplinary training in a broad range of methodologies and access to world-class faculty from diverse backgrounds.

The Co-op option gives students the opportunities to gain paid work experience in public enterprises, the private sector and non-governmental organizations.

### Use LinkedIn!

UTSC Public Policy graduates are working in Education, Marketing, and Administration.

Attend our LinkedIn workshop to learn about the *Find Alumni* tool for networking!

Public Policy Grads from UTSC have gone on to:

- Habitat for Humanity (Office Administrator)
- Ontario Ministry of Labour (Policy & Program Assistant)



## Examples of Fields that 'Fit' the Skills of Public Policy Grads

- Research
- Consulting
- Media and Communication
- Legal Services
- Government (Federal, Provincial, Regional, Municipal)
- Program and Project Management
- Administration
- Operations

## Your 4-Year Career Exploration Action Plan

### 1 Do Your Research

The databases below provide you with details about job prospects, nature of work, educational requirements, working conditions, pay and related career paths:

**Career Cruising:** Log into [cln.utoronto.ca](http://cln.utoronto.ca), click on Resources, and click on Career Cruising to be logged in automatically

**O\*Net:** [online.onetcenter.org](http://online.onetcenter.org) (U.S. site)

Attend our workshop **Discover Your Skills and Career Options**, meet with a Career Counsellor, and use our resources to get to know your skills, values, personality and interests:

[www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/get-know-yourself](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/get-know-yourself)

Use the advice on our tip sheets for gathering info: [www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/tipsheets](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/tipsheets)

- Information Interviews
- Working On-Campus
- Internships
- Volunteering

### 3 Build Your Network

Explore **Professional Associations** and get involved: volunteer for their events and conferences, and get to know people in your industry of interest. These are your future mentors, supervisors and colleagues!

Political Science Student Association at UTSC - [about.me/pssa.utsc](http://about.me/pssa.utsc)

Canadian Political Science Association - [www.cpsa-acsp.ca](http://www.cpsa-acsp.ca)

Political Studies Association (UK) - [www.psa-ac.uk](http://www.psa-ac.uk)

Follow on Twitter: @ONgov @joblinkca @jobs\_gc

Check out government programs such as PSR, FSWEF, OIP, and OLIP!

List of Canadian and International Think Tanks - [www.hillwatch.com](http://www.hillwatch.com), which includes the following:

Institute for Research on Public Policy - [irpp.org](http://irpp.org) Fraser Institute - [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org)

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - [www.policyalternatives.ca](http://www.policyalternatives.ca)

Institute of Public Administration of Canada - [www.ipac.ca](http://www.ipac.ca)

### 2 Explore Career Options & Get Experience

Gain exposure to your options in the world of work and make connections while you're a student via campus events and programs listed on [cln.utoronto.ca](http://cln.utoronto.ca) and [ccr.utoronto.ca](http://ccr.utoronto.ca):

- [Extern Job Shadowing](#)
- [In the Field](#)
- [Explore It!](#) (course-based)
- [Partners in Leadership](#) (4<sup>th</sup> year students)
- [iLead, uLead, weLead](#) (Dep't of Student Life)
- Employer Information Sessions
- Career & Volunteer Fairs
- [Departmental Student Association](#) Events

Apply for [Work Study](#) jobs in CLN in Fall and Spring! You might also find work via [www.scsu.ca/jobs](http://www.scsu.ca/jobs).

Find networking opportunities, internship programs and entry-level jobs via websites like [www.talentegg.ca](http://www.talentegg.ca) and [www.charityvillage.ca](http://www.charityvillage.ca).

As an upper year student (14+ credits), attend UTSC's [Get Hired Conference](#) and participate in [Jobs for Grads](#).

As a graduate, explore internships and other trainee programs like [www.careeredge.ca](http://www.careeredge.ca)