



Careers: Government & Politics

The Government & Politics major combines philosophical and scientific concerns in its overall program as well as in specific courses. It emphasizes broad areas such as political development, policy analysis, social justice, political economy, conflict, and human rights.

Using information from the University of Maryland graduation survey, we have compiled details about GVPT majors, such as their post-graduation adventures. Review additional resources at the [University Career Center @ BSOS](#) Your Career webpage.

TITLES/INDUSTRIES OF RECENT ALUMNI *(Sample)*

Explore career paths of GVPT majors with LinkedIn's [Alumni tool](#).

Note: Must have a LinkedIn account to access.

Government/Political/Policy

Job Titles:

Assistant Federal Content Manager
Assistant Legislative Correspondent
Campaign Manager
Chief of Staff
Communications Director & District
Economic Research Analyst
Federal Audit Associate
Field Director/Organizer
Finance Assistant
Government Account Representative
Government Relations Assistant
Legislative Aide
Legislative Correspondent
Legislative Director
Management Trainee
Policy Analyst
Program Analyst
Proposal Specialist
Public Policy and Government
Relations Analyst
Public Policy Specialist
Regional Field Director
Regional Organizing Director
Research Assistant/Associate
Researcher
Visa Restrictions Program Assistant

Organizations:

Angela Alsobrooks for County
Executive
Baron Public Affairs, LLC
Delegate Jazz Lewis
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Federal Reserve System
Fors Marsh Group
Howard County, MD Government
Leadership Connect
Lift Up Houston PAC
Maryland Democratic Party
Maryland General Assembly
Maryland Republican Party
Montana Democratic Party
National Security Agency
National Commission on Military,
National, and Public Service
States Attorney's Office
U.S. Dept. of Energy
U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security
U.S. Dept. of Justice
U.S. Dept. of State
U.S. Dept. of the Treasury
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Senate
U.S. Dept. of Justice Office of the
Inspector General

Entry tips:

Federal opportunities:

- [USAJobs](#)
- [Application tips](#)

Political internship tips:

- There will be times of the year when Congress is not in session. August is a recess month; November & December of an election year can also be very slow.
- Fall and spring are generally less competitive than summer, thus giving some students an opportunity to stand out.

For detailed tips, visit Vault's Guide to [Politics, Public Policy, and Activism Jobs](#)

Identify organizations and issues of interest:

- [Policy issues](#), U.S. Department of State
- [Major public policy organizations](#), U.S.
- [Public policy issues](#) by country



Nonprofit/Advocacy

Job Titles:

Development Assistant
Environmental Justice Coordinator
Fundraiser
Global Health Coordinator
Office Assistant
Project Leader
Public Outreach Officer
Stakeholder Relations Associate

Organizations:

Alliance to Save Energy
Critical Relief for Children Inc.
East Side House Settlement
National Council of Jewish Women
Save the Children US

Entry tips:

Volunteer/intern at organizations working on causes you believe in.

Apply for internships. Employers recruit full-time employees from their internship programs.

International Affairs

Job Titles:

Archivist
Assistant- Middle East and North Africa
China Power Project Intern
Data Assessor
International Affairs Specialist
International Cooperation Analyst
Interpreter
Mishelanu Program Manager
Program Coordinator
Research Assistant

Organizations:

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)
Chemonics International
Creative Associates International
Foundation for Law and International Affairs
ICF International
International Center for Religion and Diplomacy
Israeli-American Council
Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare Japan
Open Data Watch
Pakistan Ministry of Health
Provincial Government of Sucumbios – Ecuador
Tahir Institute for Middle East Policy
Turkish American Steering Committee
World Bank Group, The

Entry tips:

Language skills are important in this field. Consider minoring in a language.

Resource: [International Affairs Resources](#), highlights IA resource directories, repositories, and databases.

Locate tips from professionals working in the field in [Careers4Terps](#) (the Document Library is accessible to UMD students).

Sample of the topics:

- Chemonics
- Diplomacy
- Human Rights
- International Development
- International Humanitarian
- Public Policy
- U.S. Department of State

“As a government and politics student, the proximity of The University of Maryland to Washington, D.C. was an important factor for me in choosing the college I would attend. Interning on the Hill was an aspiration I’ve had since high school and I am eternally grateful to the donors of the Bright Futures Scholarship fund for helping me to achieve it.”

-GVPT Major, Class of 2017 (Intern, Congressman Andy Harris), Recipient of UMD’s Bright Futures Scholarship Spring 2016



Law/Legal

Job Titles:

Administrative Assistant
Background Investigator
Case Assistant
Immigration Paralegal
Investigative Specialist
Investigator
Legal Administrative Assistant
Legal Assistant
Legal Secretary
Paralegal/Paralegal Specialist
Police Officer
Program Analyst

Organizations:

Covington & Burling LLP
Edwards Neils PLLC
Google
Law Office of Luis C. Diaz
Madison Associates
Morrison & Foerster LLP
New York County District
Attorney's Office
Ocean City Police Dept.
Public Defender Service of the
District of Columbia
Quinn Emanuel
Seyfarth Shaw LLP
Trombly & Singer PLLC
U.S. Department of Justice

Entry tips:

Important qualities/skills generally include: communication, interpersonal, organizational, research, analytical, speaking, problem solving and writing skills.

Apply for internships. Gaining experience in the field will test your interest and demonstrate interest to law school programs.

For detailed tips, visit Vault's Guide to [Law Careers](#).

Fellowships/Gap Year Programs

Job Titles:

City Year Corps Member
English Teacher (Korea)
Intramural Research Training Award
Mikva Fellow
Peace Fellow
Peace Corps Volunteer
Spring Fellow
Teaching Assistant Program in France

Organizations:

AmeriCorps
Council on International Educational
Exchange
First Focus
National Institutes of Health
Oceana
Peace Corps
TAPIF
The Advocacy Project

Entry tips:

Apply early. Applications are sometimes open one year before the start date.

Demonstrate interest in the population or area of the fellowship through your past experiences on your resume.

- [Fellowship opportunities](#)
- [Peace Corps- UMD Recruiter](#)
- [Gap year programs](#)



Consulting/Business Services

Job Titles:

Accounting
Administrative Assistant
Analyst/Associate Analyst
Auxiliary Reporter
Branch Financial Consultant
Business Process Analyst Associate
Business Risk Analyst
Communications Coordinator
Consultant
Content Marketing Manager
Creativity Consultant
Cultural Assistant
Customer Care Specialist
Donor Relations Assistant
Editor
Financial Advisor
Global Strategy Analyst
Government & Public Sector Advisory
HR Business Partner
Junior Professional Associate
Labor Relations Analyst
Mid and Major Gifts Coordinator
News Associate/Producer
Operational Support Technician
Operations Analyst
Political Sales Coordinator
Portfolio Management Officer I
Production Assistant
Project Manager/Associate
Quality Assurance
Recruitment Coordinator
Reporter/Photojournalist
Researcher
Senior Account Executive
Staff Assistant
Talent Acquisition Recruiter

Organizations:

Abt Associates
Amazon.com
American Civil Liberties Union
Ashoka
Booz Allen Hamilton
Breakthru Beverage Group
Bully Pulpit Interactive
CBS This Morning
Consero Group
Cornerstone Research
Deloitte
Epic Systems
Ernst & Young
General Dynamics Information
Goldman Sachs
Technology
Ketchum
Keystone Fireworks
KPMG
Laurel TV
Lockheed Martin
McKlinley Advisors
Morgan Stanley
NCC Media
New Era Real Estate Investments
Northrop Grumman
Oxfam America
PNC Financial Services
Prevalent, Inc.
PricewaterhouseCoopers
TD International
Under Armour
Voice of America
Washington Business Journal

Entry tips:

Important qualities/skills generally include: analytical, communication, creativity, decision making, interpersonal, and organizational skills.

For detailed tips, visit Vault's Guide to [Business Administration Jobs](#)

Consulting:

- Be willing to learn and take the initiative to learn.
- When you first start, you are mostly a generalist, so be open to learning from colleagues and joining any training opportunities.
- Diversify your experiences – there is not just one clear cut path.
- Prepare for case interviews.

Key skills required: tell a compelling story, communication skills, logical thinking, and a genuine interest in the topic you are working on.

For detailed tips, visit Vault's Guide to Interview Practice Guide: [Case Interviews](#)



University Career Center @ BSOS

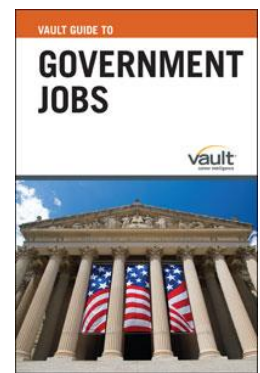
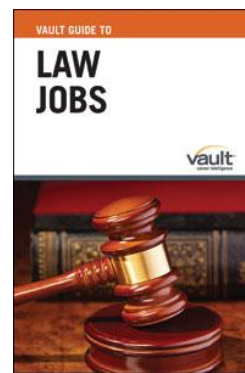
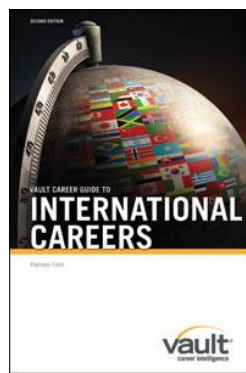


EXPLORE CAREER PATHS: RESOURCES

Use the sample job titles (mentioned above) to start exploring career paths. The links below provide search boxes for you to locate more information on the titles as well as search for other options.

- [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#), a career title dictionary
- [O*NET Online](#), the nation's primary source of occupational information
- [FOCUS2](#), explore career paths using self-assessment questionnaires
- [Terrapins Connect](#), talk with professionals working in the field through UMD's alumni network

[Vault Guides](#) - browse 100's of industry guides to gain inside tips (*see examples below*).



Note- Access Vault through your [Careers4Terps](#) account for FREE.

EXPLORE CAREER OPTIONS: GAIN EXPERIENCE

The links below will be a helpful starting point in locating opportunities.
[Identify the type of experience](#) that meets your needs.

Sample list of opportunities:

- [BSOS Engagement Opportunities](#), features programs for BSOS students
- [Careers4Terps](#), a job and internship database of openings for UMD students
- [Federal government internships](#), links to openings and application tips
- [Internship search tips](#), from the University Career Center @ BSOS
- [Positions related to GVPT](#), featured in Careers4Terps
- [Research Opportunities](#), advice and links for undergraduate students pursuing research experiences
- [UMD Department of Government & Politics Blog](#), lists openings
- [UMD ENSP Internship: Policy](#), lists organizations that typically host interns
- [UMD National Scholarships Office](#), lists opportunities for UMD students

The [President's Promise](#) ensures that the University of Maryland is chock-full of opportunities outside the classroom to help you identify your passions and gain a competitive edge.

Did you know?

“Whether or not one has an internship impacts short-term and longer-term career success. Survey takers who completed at least one internship received a job offer more quickly and had a higher first position salary than those who did not.”

-[NACE 2018](#)



UMD Internship Programs:

- [Capitol Hill Internship Program](#)
- [Public Policy Internship Program](#)
- [Maryland Internship Program](#)
- [UMD Federal Semester](#), enroll in a course + internship to learn about the policy-making process and discuss related issues in a seminar led by an industry expert
- [UMD Undergraduate Legal Aid Office internship program](#), allows students to gain valuable hands-on experience while earning 3 hours of academic credit. The office selects 8 students per semester

Learn about more internship sites for
GVPT majors! [Click here.](#)

WHERE ARE GVPT MAJORS INTERNING?

Internships are a great way to try out an interest, regardless if they are directly related to your major. Employers tend to favor job seekers who have had an internship in the field they are hiring for. Review [inspiring internship stories](#) from BSOS students to gain ideas.

Sample internship sites/title

- Congressional Intern, *U.S. House of Representatives*
- Federal Advocacy Intern, *National League of Cities*
- International Policy and Diplomacy Fellow, *United Macedonian Diaspora*
- Legal Intern, *Student Legal Aid Office*
- Legislative Intern, *CASA de Maryland*
- Legislative Intern, *Maryland General Assembly*
- Media Assistant, *Washington Peace Center*
- Policy Intern, *The Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth*
- Policy Intern, *U.S. Department of Energy*
- Research Assistant, *U.S. National Archives*
- Research Intern, *Hudson Institute's Center for Political Military Analysis*
- Translator, *Washington Post*

SKILLS DEVELOPED AS A GVPT MAJOR

Skills lead to jobs. Which skills do you possess?

- [Assess your skills](#), abilities, interests, and values and explore how they relate to career options.
- Complete this [skills inventory](#) to get started.

Sample list of skills developed in class by Government & Politics majors.

- Accumulating and interpreting information
- Analytical skills
- Contending analytical and theoretical approaches
- Oral and written communication
- Presentation
- Proactive and display initiative
- Quantitative methods
- Research
- Understanding of basic political science concepts

What skills are in demand?

Check out these [“Must Have” Career Readiness Competencies](#), according to employers - NACE



Add to your skills set with these courses or videos...



GRADUATE SCHOOL PROGRAMS GVPT MAJORS ARE PURSUING

Review a sample of the universities and programs GVPT undergraduates were accepted to below.
Around 50% of **GVPT majors** who pursue additional education after graduating apply for a JD program.

Law Programs:

Cornell University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Temple University
University of Baltimore
University of Maryland, Baltimore
University of New Hampshire
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Pennsylvania
University of Richmond
University of Virginia

Select Other Programs:

George Washington University
Medicine
Political Science
Georgetown University
Public Relations/Corporate Communications
Johns Hopkins University
Government and Politics
Ohio State University
Political Science
University of Baltimore
Public Policy
University of Exeter
Business and Management
University of Maryland, College Park
Public Policy
Education
Applied Economics
Arabic Studies
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Political Science
Yale University
Epidemiology

Graduate School Resources:

- *U.S. News & World Report* prepares annual ranking lists for [graduate school programs](#)
- [UMD Pre-Law Advising](#), offers guidance on law related graduate school
- [Questions to consider](#) before applying to graduate school
- [Application timeline](#): stay on track with your graduate school application
- [Tips](#) for completing the application and [financing](#) the experience



CONNECT & GROW YOUR NETWORK

Meet professionals in your field of interest to learn about the field, establish new networking contacts, and conduct [informational interviews](#).

Engagement Opportunities (sample)

- [Connect with alumni](#) - gain tips on specific career paths using **Terrapins Connect** to review a listing of alumni who have volunteered to share career information, review resumes, etc.
- [Employer networking events](#) - attend on-campus events to meet professionals and gain knowledge of openings
- [UMD Event Calendar](#) - listing of career exploration panels and career readiness workshops on-campus
- [Join LinkedIn groups](#) to meet alumni. Connect with other BSOS alumni in the UMD College of Behavioral and Social Sciences LinkedIn group
- [Tips for using LinkedIn](#) to make industry specific connections

Did you know?

“Studies reveal 85% of all jobs are filled via networking.”

-[LinkedIn](#)

Community Opportunities:

- [Young Professionals in Foreign Policy](#), DC events (membership required for some events)
- [DC Link Tank](#), find citywide events, organizations and people engaging on topics that matter to you
- [DEM LIST](#), a free calendar and resource information connecting Democrats nationwide

Need help starting your career exploration or job search? Schedule a [career consultation appointment](#) with the University Career Center & The President's Promise. Get started mapping your [career action](#) plan today!



University Career Center & The President's Promise

College of Behavioral and Social Sciences

[@UMDCareerCenter](#) | www.careers.umd.edu | go.umd.edu/UCCBSOS

CAREER the Turtle...because **UCC**ESS starts here.