



Your Degree What Next:

History and Political Science

History & Political Science provides students with an understanding of how contemporary political issues are informed by historical events. The initial broad-based education, combined with specialisation in areas of interest, creates a great platform for graduates to apply their unique skills across a range of disciplines and sectors such as in the public sector, media, accountancy and business.

What skills can I develop at Trinity?

You gain a wide range of skills while at College, through academic study, clubs and societies, voluntary work, student politics, work and other commitments. These are important to recognize as they inform your career decisions and are a critical ingredient in your applications for postgraduate study and jobs. Here are some skills you can gain through your course:

1. Critical Thinking - The most fundamental part of a university education is learning to work on your own and to make independent judgments. You have to discover the information that you need to analyse complex questions and develop your ideas about them and to present your arguments clearly and persuasively in a wide range of scenarios.

2. Teamwork - Learning to work as part of a team is an important skill; sharing the workload, agreeing roles and working as a team to develop ideas, analyse information and present a coherent group argument.

3. Independent Research - You will have learnt how to use the library and other complex information resources. You will develop research and analysis skills, enabling you to gather, organise and interpret evidence, data and information from a variety of sources.

4. Application of knowledge - You will understand different political systems and how to interpret political issues and events. You will gain an appreciation of the different factors that influence the activities of groups and individuals in society.

5. Logical argumentation - You will know how to bring together facts and arguments in order to answer a specific question or analyse a problem.

6. Time and project management - By working on assignments and studying for exams you will have developed the ability to revise and consolidate your work and know how to extract the essential points from a mass of information. You will also have learned how to manage your own time and to work under pressure of deadlines.

7. Verbal communication - You will know how to present your ideas orally such as in the presentation of research reports and to contribute constructively to discussions.

8. Written communication - You will have had the opportunity to present your ideas in writing accurately and concisely, using convincing arguments based on solid evidence; responding flexibly to different types of questions and expressing your thoughts concisely; carrying out in-depth research and developing the sustained writing skills needed.

9. Digital Skills - You will have the opportunity to develop your computer skills both from typing up your own essays and papers and from undertaking searches on the web & using databases.

10. Personal Development – You manage your own learning, recognising any gaps in your understanding and ensuring that these are addressed in ways that best suit your learning style. You will develop self awareness, openness and sensitivity to diversity in terms of people, cultures and management issues.

What can I do with a History & Political Science degree?

History & Political Science students have many options available upon degree completion. Careers are available in all sectors across a range of areas, such as cultural, arts & heritage administration, media, publishing, teaching, public service, consulting, marketing, banking or law, nationally and around the globe. Many students are also interested in pursuing academic research. Here are some sample employment opportunities:

Roles

Account Executive
Administrative Officer
Intern
Jameson Brand Ambassador
Parliamentary Assistant

Employers

Communications agency
Department of Education & Skills, Public Service
House of Commons
Irish Distillers Pernod Ricard
United Nations World Food Programme

Many History & Political Science students go on to postgraduate courses such as a Masters or PhD to develop skills in specific disciplines such as Library Studies or Peace Studies, but also to broaden and deepen their skill base, by studying areas such as international relations.

Useful Resources

The organisations and professional bodies listed below are useful resources for

Resources

gradireland (IE)
Targetjobs (UK)
Prospects (UK)
Gradpublicjobs (Irl)
Vault Career Insider (Global)

Professional Bodies

Irish Historical Society
Marketing Institute of Ireland
Political Studies Association of Ireland
Society of Archivists
The Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland

How can the Careers Service help you?

The Careers Service supports students in exploring their career options and connects students with employers. You can book an appointment with your careers consultant to help you decide your next step in your career.

Login to MyCareer at www.tcd.ie/careers and book your appointment today.

Contact Us

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