

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (LEGAL STUDIES EMPHASIS)

Web Site: <https://twu.edu/political-science/undergraduate-programs/bachelors-degrees-in-political-science/>

Marketable Skills

Defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 60x30 Strategic Plan (<https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/agency-publication/miscellaneous/thecb-60x30-strategic-plan/>) as, "Those skills valued by employers that can be applied in a variety of work settings, including interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skills areas. These skills can be either primary or complementary to a major and are acquired by students through education, including curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities."

1. Employers want employees who can work collaboratively in groups. The B.A. in Political Science (Legal Studies) develops these skills by requiring students to work on group projects (presented in front of the instructor and peers), identify clear roles within the group (e.g., spokespersons/team leaders), and present the findings of the group in a public forum.
2. Employers want employees who have solid writing and compositional skills. The B.A. in Political Science (Legal Studies) develops this skill by requiring students to engage in clear, persuasive, and grammatically and stylistically correct writing projects (research papers, policy briefs, reaction papers, memos, position papers, etc.).
3. Employers want employees who have solid oral communication skills. The B.A. in Political Science (Legal Studies) develops these skills by requiring students to present their research in a public forum (that is, in front of a class of peers and the instructor) using visual aids (slides, charts, graphs, etc.) and/or to role-play in a public forum requiring extensive research on that role.
4. Employers in the legal field want employees who have well-developed analytical skills, especially in dealing with legal issues. The B.A. in Political Science (Legal Studies) develops these skills through coursework content that extensively discusses legal issues and requires students to analyze information.