

# POLITICAL COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY COUGAR MAP



**Saint Xavier**  
UNIVERSITY

## BACHELOR OF ARTS: POLITICAL COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY MAJOR

The Cougar Map is intended to guide you with suggestions for potential activities and career paths that can help you along your educational journey. Although everyone has different abilities, experiences and obstacles, this Cougar Map can be used with the help of your advisors to prepare for the future you want with a clear vision of your college-to-career pathway.

Please refer to the SXU Academic Catalog and academic planning resources for detailed degree requirements.

	FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR	THIRD YEAR	FOURTH YEAR
Competence (major/minor, summer suggestions, academic research)	<p>Explore scholarship opportunities.</p> <p>Develop a study group with like-minded individuals.</p> <p>Meet with your advisor regarding a possible minor.</p>	<p>Taking your Methods course? Become familiar with the HUB and CIDAT for all your technical needs.</p> <p>Take advantage of your summer by taking courses to graduate on time or earlier.</p>	<p>Visit the library for help in building the bibliographies for your research papers.</p> <p>Work with a faculty member on a research project.</p>	<p>Begin work on your topic for your Senior Seminar independent research project.</p> <p>Be mindful of important dates, i.e. semester ends and begins, deadline to withdraw from a course, petition for graduation.</p>
Character (Service, global perspective, study abroad, clubs/RSOs, volunteering)	<p>Consider joining a student club or intramural sports team.</p> <p>Enroll in Cougars LEAD that supports leadership development and begin working on your leadership certificate.</p>	<p>Explore opportunities to work on campus or participate in service opportunities through Campus Ministry.</p> <p>Participate actively in registered student organizations.</p> <p>Volunteer at a local organization or political campaign.</p>	<p>Become active in student government or serve as a Student Ambassador or other leadership position.</p> <p>Consider participating in a spring break service trip or study abroad.</p>	<p>Mentor the next generation of student organization members.</p> <p>Explore opportunities for local volunteering.</p>
Career Success (career or grad school prep, internships, jobs)	<p>Complete your SXU Handshake profile for student employment with the help of Center for SUCCESS.</p> <p>Work on the Xavierite or WXAV Radio Station.</p> <p>Attend SXU's career-related events throughout your time at SXU and network with professionals.</p>	<p>Create a LinkedIn profile and make connections within your academic and personal circles.</p> <p>Learn more about the career options for a student in the Political Communication and Advocacy major.</p> <p>Look for opportunities that allow you to work with public policy, local government, or communications and outreach.</p>	<p>Explore internships at places like the Illinois Senator's Office, Illinois Press Association, Illinois News Broadcasters Association or a political advocacy group.</p> <p>Get your resume in order and prepare to take graduate entrance exams such as the GRE.</p> <p>Research graduate schools and prepare for post-graduate academic/professional exam(s), if applicable.</p>	<p>Moving into the work world? Get your resume in shape and identify references.</p> <p>Ensure that your LinkedIn or other professional social media accounts reflect all your recent experiences.</p> <p>Explore entry-level full-time opportunities related to your skills.</p> <p>Apply to graduate schools/programs in December or January.</p>