Public affairs is an area of research and practice that includes public management, public administration, and public policy. A degree in public affairs will allow students to put their passion into action and prepare them for a number of leadership and analytical positions in the public and nonprofit sectors. Public affairs is an interdisciplinary field that examines how organizational, administrative, financial, and policy factors impact the performance of government and nonprofit organizations. Students in public affairs learn about public sector organizations and managerial, analytical and financial skills necessary to succeed as a public servant on local, county, state, federal levels; or with a nonprofit organization. Students will choose one of several specialization tracks, including urban policy and management, community organization and civic engagement, and nonprofit management.

**Career Areas/Job Titles:**

**Management and Industry**
- Consultant
- City Manager
- Financial Analyst
- Urban Planner
- Human Resource Manager
- Campaign Manager
- Project Manager

**Communication and Media**
- Marketing Director
- Press Secretary
- Law Enforcement

**Government/Politics**
- Secret Services
- Intelligence Officer
- Education
- Researcher
- Social Sciences Teacher
- Professor
- Librarian
- Student Affairs Administrator
- Non-Profit/Advocacy
- Peace Corp Volunteer
- Fundraiser/Development Officer
- Human Rights Activist
- Grant Writer
- Lawyer
- Policy Analyst
- Lobbyist
- Elected Official
- Legal Mediator
- Court Clerk
- Program Director

*Some careers may require licensure, certification, or further education. Talk to an advisor about specific requirements.*

**Transferable Skills:**

- Economics and Accounting
- Business Fundamentals
- Law and Policy Awareness
- Expressing Ideas
- Persuasion
- Provide/Respond to Feedback
- Speaking Effectively
- Written Communication
- Motivating Others
- Service Orientation
- Social Perceptiveness
- Teamwork
- Developing Evaluation Strategies
- Gathering Information
- Attention to Detail
- Judgment & Decision Making
- Initiative
- Managing Time/Stress
- Strategic Planning/Visioning
- Creating Innovative Solutions
- Analytical/Critical Thinking
- Problem Solving

*This is not an extensive list of transferable skills. See larger list of skills you might develop here:*

http://ccss.osu.edu

**Professional Links:**

National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration: http://www.naspaa.org/
Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management: http://www.appam.org/
National Academy of Public Administration: http://www.napawash.org/
The American Society for Public Administration: http://www.aspanet.org/public/

http://majors.osu.edu/pdfview.aspx?id=196