

The University of Western Ontario
Department of Political Science
Advanced Local Government
Public Administration 9901a/Political Science 4901a
Spring, 2012

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Subject:

This course is designed to provide an advanced overview of local government in Canada. It surveys the structures, functions, and financing of local governments, and examines their relations with federal and provincial governments.

Organization:

The class will meet from 9:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 4:30 in Room 4255, Social Science Centre.

Course Outline and Readings:

The course text is Andrew Sancton's *Canadian Local Government: An Urban Perspective* (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2011). This is available for purchase in the University Bookstore. Readings must be completed before the class in which they are scheduled to be discussed.

Please contact poliscie@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

May 7 (am)	Introductions, Definitions, and Systems of Local Government Readings: Sancton, Ch. 1, 2.
May 7 (pm)	Intergovernmental Relations and Special Purpose Bodies Sancton. Ch. 3, 4.
May 8	Local Government Structures
(am)	Sancton, Ch. 5, 6.
(pm)	Sancton, Ch. 7, 8.

May 9	Political and Administrative Structures
(am)	Sancton, Ch. 9, 10, 11.
(pm)	Sancton, Ch. 12
May 10	Local Government Budgeting and Finance
(am)	Sancton, Ch. 13
(pm)	Sancton, Ch. 14, 15
May 11 (am)	TEST
May 11 (pm)	Discussion: Research Papers

Assignments:

Test (40 %)

A two-hour test will be held on the morning of Friday, May 11th. Students will have the option of either manually hand-writing the test or typing the test on a computer provided to them in a University computing centre. The test will consist of short answer and essay questions, and will be based on both assigned readings and lectures.

Research Paper (40 %)

Students must submit a formal essay of approximately 2500 words (12-15 type-written pages, double-spaced) on a topic of their choice related to any of the material covered during the course. The paper must be submitted to the instructor by June 15th. Papers submitted after this date without prior approval from the instructor will be penalized one mark (out of 40) each day that the paper is late.

Participation (20%)

You will be assigned a grade out of 20 on the basis of the quantity and quality of your overall contributions to class discussions and seminar activities.