

The University of Western Ontario  
Department of Political Science  
**Advanced Local Government**  
Public Administration 9901a/Political Science 4901a  
Spring, 2011

Professor: Tim Cobban  
Phone: 661-2111, ext. 84929  
E-mail: [tcobban@uwo.ca](mailto:tcobban@uwo.ca)  
Office: 4218 Social Science Centre

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](mailto: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 9 (am)	<b>Introductions, Definitions, and Systems of Local Government</b> Readings: Sancton, Ch. 1, 2.
May 9 (pm)	<b>Intergovernmental Relations and Special Purpose Bodies</b> Sancton. Ch. 3, 4.
May 10 (am)	<b>Local Government Structures</b> Sancton, Ch. 5, 6.
(pm)	Sancton, Ch. 7, 8.

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

Assignments:

Test (40 %)

A two-hour test will be held on the morning of Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Students will have the option of either manually hand-writing the test or typing the test on a computer provided to them in the Faculty of Social Science 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 17<sup>th</sup>. 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.