

FOR UPDATING!!

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION 9917

Issues in Local Government

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June 2016

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Course Dates and Times

The class will meet from 9:00am until 12:00 noon and 1:00pm until 4:00pm from Monday to Friday, June 13 to 17 inclusive in SSC 4255. We will take one 30 minute break each morning and afternoon.

*** Schedule exceptions:* On Wednesday, June 15, we will NOT take a lunch break, but will end the class at 1:00pm. I encourage all those who are available to join next year's MPA students at the Grad Club for the post-orientation social event, which starts at 3:30pm. On Friday June 17, I anticipate a 2pm end to the course.

Objectives

This is the 'capstone' course in the MPA program. The objectives are two-fold:

First, the course provides a venue for students to review and apply what they have learned in other courses, by discussing a selection of topics related to local government. A couple of these topical discussions will be introduced by the instructor. In addition, the course will feature three guest presenters. Students will also apply what they have learned in the MPA program to a short written response to a recent book on local / urban issues (see below).

Second, the course provides a venue for students to get constructive critical feedback on their final MPA research projects. About ½ of the course time is devoted to hearing and discussing student presentations, and all students are expected to be active participants in critiquing and questioning the work of their peers.

Readings

The reading load for this course is kept to a minimum. The only required reading assignment involves one book of your choice (see list below), to which you will write a short critical response paper, due ten days after the end of class.

Course Evaluation

Your grade will be composed of the following:

Participation in class discussion:	20%
Presentation on research project (see below):	40%
Critical response assignment (see below):	40%

Participation:

Each of you will participate actively in the class by asking questions and providing feedback to your peers on their project presentations, and by engaging with guest speakers and the instructor.

Presentation on research project:

You will prepare a short presentation – *no more than 10 minutes* – on your final MPA research project. The main purpose of this presentation is to allow for constructive critical input on your MRP-in-progress from the instructor and your peers.

The content of your presentation will vary depending on how well advanced your project is. In general, I expect you to: State the research question; briefly outline your research design; present a couple of highlights of what you have done so far, if anything, and what you still need to do; tell us about some challenges / issues / problems that you are facing.

Since a major purpose of the presentation is to allow for critical feedback, it is in your interest to acknowledge and discuss any significant challenges that you have faced. PowerPoint facilities will be available, but PowerPoint is not required (it's your choice).

We will have time for about 20 minutes of discussion after each presentation.

Critical response assignment:

You will write a brief (about 2000 words, or 5-7 pages) **critical response** to **one** of the books listed below. "Critical" here means reflective and analytical – you may really like the book, but you're invited to also reflect on its weaknesses. Guiding questions: What did you learn that you did not know before? Which arguments made sense to you, and which did not? Why or why not? You can use reading material from other courses to support your arguments and positions if you like, but you need not do so.

The critical response will be worth 40% of your course grade. It will be due on Monday, June 27 (ten days after the last class of the course).

I include a very brief annotation on each book below to help you make your choice. Many of these books are available at Weldon and other libraries, and all of them can be purchased for a reasonable price from major online booksellers such as Amazon.ca.

Book list:

Bird, Richard M. and Enid Slack, eds. 2015. *Is Your City Healthy? Measuring Urban Fiscal Health*. Toronto: Institute on Municipal Finance & Governance.

A brand new multi-country overview of how to measure municipal fiscal health, and what those measures mean for policy.

Blais, Pamela. 2011. *Perverse Cities: Hidden Subsidies, Wonky Policy and Urban Sprawl*. Vancouver; University of British Columbia Press.

An innovative book about how it takes more than zoning change to rein in sprawl.

Bradford, Neil and Alison Bramwell, eds. 2014. *Governing Urban Economies: Innovation and Inclusion in Canadian City-Regions*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

A wide-ranging edited volume that examines how local governments in a number of Canadian cities connect to community actors and to other levels of government in order to address economic challenges.

Henstra, Daniel, ed. 2013. *Multilevel Governance and Emergency Management in Canadian Municipalities*. Montreal: McGill – Queens University Press.

A strong new edited volume in the series that has come out of Bob Young's MCRI project on multilevel governance and public policy in Canadian municipalities.

Lucas, Jack. 2016. *Fields of Authority: Special Purpose Governance in Ontario, 1815-2015*. University of Toronto Press.

A brand new historical study of special purpose bodies in Ontario, half of it devoted to a detailed history of ABCs in Kitchener. Lively and engaging writing on what may seem like a dry subject. Note that this book is only out in hardcover so far, so it's a bit more expensive (but UTP is selling it with an online discount for less than \$50).

Moore, Aaron A. 2013. *Planning Politics in Toronto: The Ontario Municipal Board and Urban Development*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Important reading for those who are interested in the OMB, this book presents lots of data on how the Board shapes development in Toronto.

Siegel, David. 2015. *Leaders in the Shadows: The Leadership Qualities of Municipal Chief Administrative Officers*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

A pathbreaking study of what it takes to be an effective CAO. Based on in-depth research into the careers of five respected Canadian CAOs.

Spicer, Zachary. 2016. *The Boundary Bargain: Growth, Development, and the Future of City-County Separation*. McGill-Queen's University Press.

Why does Ontario have separated cities, and should it still have them? This brand new book looks at these questions in historical perspective.

Urbaniak, Tom. 2009. *Her Worship: Hazel McCallion and the Development of Mississauga*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

For students of political leadership, a readable account of (most of) the former Mississauga mayor's remarkable political career.

Valverde, Mariana. 2012. *Everyday Law on the Street: City Governance in an Age of Diversity*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

A law professor explores the hidden inequities of bylaw application on the ground in the City of Toronto in this study, based on participant-observation.

Course Schedule

Monday, June 13, Morning Session

9:00am – 10:00am: *Introduction to the Course*

10:30am – noon:

Martin Horak Canadian Local Government in Comparative Perspective

Monday, June 13, Afternoon Session

1:00pm – 4:00pm: *Guest Workshop*

Dan Mathieson (Mayor of Stratford)

Should Local Governments Sell Data? Technology, Data, and Commercialization

Tuesday, June 14, Morning Session

9:00am – 10:00am: *Elections and Representation*

Michael Genova Should the Niagara Region Chair Be Directly Elected?

Rachel Barnett Partisanship, Electoral Systems and Women's Representation

10:30am – 11:30: *Provincial Policy Change and Local Impacts*

Natalie Early The Impact of the AODA 2005 on Municipal Transit

Josh Machesney Examining the Equity of the New OPP Costing Formula

11:30 – noon:

Ellen Balmain TBD

Tuesday, June 14, Afternoon Session

1:00pm – 2:00pm: *Municipal Restructuring*

Karen Casselton-Bower The Consolidated Municipal Service Manager Merger in
Haldimand-Norfolk

Steve Fletcher Did Amalgamation Achieve its Aims?

2:30pm – 4:00pm:

Martin Horak Globalization and Cities: Causes and Consequences

Wednesday, June 15, Morning Session

9:00am – 10:30am: *Strategic Planning and Management I*

Peter Avgoustis Strategic Management in Ontario Municipalities

Jeffrey Barillas The Region of Peel Strategic Plan 2015-2035

Robert Delorme Digital Strategies in Ontario Local Government

11:00am – noon: *Strategic Planning and Management II*

Jaclyn Rodrigues Factors Affecting Emergency Preparedness in Ontario
Municipalities

Kale Brown Strategic Progress in Economic Development

noon – 1:00pm: *Transportation Services: Delivery and Regulation*

Maureen Cosyn Heath Student Transportation Consortia & Shared Services

Lisa Shields Regulating Uber in Toronto

* NB: you are all invited to a social with incoming students at the Grad Club at 3:30pm *

Thursday, June 16, Morning Session9:00am – 10:00am: *Growth and Development I: Infrastructure*

Remy Caruso Downtown Growth and Infrastructure in Toronto

Jie Bian The Effectiveness of Using the PPP model for Urban Rail Transit

10:30am – 12:00pm: *Growth and Development II: Development Planning*

Stephanie Egelton Surplus Dwelling Severances in Middlesex and Huron Counties

Daniel Scheid OMB Decisions in London: Developer or Municipal Favoritism?

Michael Witmer Implementing the Growth Plan: What Went Wrong? Waterloo Region Case

Thursday, June 16, Afternoon Session1:00pm – 1:30pm: *Growth and Development II, cont'd.*

Ying Qiu Land-oriented Urbanization in China

1:30pm – 2:30pm: *Strategic Human Resource Management*

Mike Szarka Retirement and Administrative Leadership Renewal

Lowell Rubin-Vaughan Implementing Knowledge Management Systems

3:00pm – 4:00pm: *Guest Speaker*Hugh John Cook (former Councilor, Thunder Bay, and former CAO, St. Catharines)
Leadership in Local Government: Then and Now***Friday, June 17, Morning Session***9:00am – 10:00am: *Issues in Social Service Delivery*

Juan Cardona Income Inequality and Municipal Social Assistance Provision

Shelly Steffler Homelessness and Housing First in London

10:30am – noon: *Guest Speaker*

Glenn Hadley (Sergeant, Risk Management Unit, London Police)

Risk Management in Emergency Services: A Practical Approach

Friday, June 17, Afternoon Session ** 2:00pm end time **

1:00pm – 2:00pm:

Martin Horak Issues in MPA Research Reports: Review and Discussion