The University of Western Ontario  
Department of Political Science  

**Advanced Local Government**  
Public Administration 9901a/Political Science 9523a/Political Science 4901 – 004  
Autumn 2013

Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30  
Room SSC 4255

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Office Hours: Mondays 1:00-3:00, or by appointment

**Purpose:**  
This course provides 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 4:30-6:30.

**Course Outline and Readings:**  
The primary text for this class is Andrew Sancton’s *Canadian Local Government: An Urban Perspective* (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2011). This is available for purchase in the University Bookstore. All other assigned reading material will be available electronically through the course website on OWL (under PUBADM 9901a). Readings must be completed before the class in which they are scheduled to be discussed.

**Assignments:**

**Research Paper (70%)**  
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 Dec. 4th. Papers submitted after this date without prior approval from the instructor will be penalized 10% each day that the paper is late.

**Participation (30%)**  
You will be assigned a grade out of 30 on the basis of the quantity and quality of your overall contributions to seminar discussions and activities, which may include assigned presentations.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 11</td>
<td>Introduction, Organization, Definitions</td>
<td>Sancton, “Introduction,” Ch.1, 2</td>
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</table>
| Sept. 25 | Central-Local Relations                    | Sancton, Ch. 3  
| Oct. 2   | Special Purpose Bodies                     | Sancton, Ch. 4  
| Oct. 9   | NO CLASS                                   |                                                                                                                                         |
| Oct. 16  | Responses to Urbanization: Annexation      | Sancton, Ch. 5, 6  
| Oct. 23  | Regionalism vs. Public Choice              | Sancton, Ch. 7                                                                                                                           |
D. Cashaback, “Regional District Governance in British Columbia: A Case Study in Aggregation,” Institute on Governance, Simon Fraser University, June 2001.

Oct. 30  Amalgamations and De-Amalgamations
Sancton, Ch. 8

Nov. 6  Internal structures: Mayors, Councillors, and Politics
Sancton, Ch. 9, 10, 11

Nov. 13  Administration and Management
Sancton, Ch. 12

Nov. 20  Finance I: Budgets and Revenues
Sancton, Ch. 13

Nov. 27  Finance II: Property Tax
Sancton, Ch. 14

Dec. 4  TBA