

March 2027

# Course outline form version: 05/18/2018

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# **OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM**

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: CIVI 311		Number of Credits: 3 Course credit policy (105)						
Course Full Title: How Cities Work								
Course Short Title:								
(Transcripts only display 30 characters. Departments may recommend a short title if one is needed. If left blank, one will be assigned.)								
Faculty: Faculty of Access and Continuing E	ducation	Department (or program if no department): Continuing Education						
Calendar Description:								
Examines the mechanisms of local governance through the experience of B.C. municipal and regional governments, including the organization and internal logic of city and regional governments, local bureaucracies, and relationships with the communities they serve. Emphasis is on organizational cultures and practices, and the networks that develop within and across governments.								
				rnance and Innovation certificate and one of: CIVI 200, CIVI , CMNS 125, PHIL 100, or POSC 100.				
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	None							
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE): None							
Antirequisite Courses (Cannot be taken for	additional cr	edit.)	Specia	Special Topics (Double-click on boxes to select.				
Former course code/number:			This co	This course is offered with different topics:				
Cross-listed with:		🛛 No	No Yes (If yes, topic will be recorded when					
Dual-listed with:			Independent Study					
				If offered as an Independent Study course, this course may				
(If offered in the previous five years, antireque included in the calendar description as a note for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this	ts with credit	□ No	repeated for further credit: ( <i>If yes, topic will be recorded.</i> ) No ⊠ Yes, repeat(s) □ Yes, no limit					
				Fransfer Credit				
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours			Transfer credit already exists: (See <u>bctransferguide.ca</u> .)					
Lecture/seminar hours	20	_						
Tutorials/workshops				Submit outline for (re)articulation:				
Supervised laboratory hours		🖄 No	No [] Yes (If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)					
Experiential (field experience, practicum, int	)	Gradin	Grading System					
Supervised online activities	25	🛛 Lette	🖾 Letter Grades 🛛 Credit/No Credit					
Other contact hours:			Maxim	um enrolment (for inforn	nation only): 20			
	Total hours	s 45		ed Frequency of Course				
Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: No Yes Winter, Spring (Every semester, Fall only, annually, etc.)								
Department / Program Head or Director: Carolyn MacLaren				Date approved:	October 16, 2020			
Faculty Council approval				Date approved:	November 6, 2020			
Dean/Associate VP: Sue Brigden				Date approved:	November 6, 2020			
Campus-Wide Consultation (CWC)			Date of posting:	March 19, 2021				
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval			Date of meeting:	March 26, 2021				

#### **CIVI 311**

### Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the legislative context in which local governments in British Columbia operate.
- Detail the types of relationships that emerge between elected officials, local bureaucracies, the private sector, and residents.
- Critically discuss how organizational structures contribute to or reduce opportunities for shared problem solving within local government.
- Communicate the significance of mentorship, inclusive hiring, and multigenerational teamwork in carrying out the responsibilities of local governments.
- Compare how decision-making processes typically evolve within different local government cultures and hierarchies.
- Elaborate on processes for public engagement and their comparative shortcomings and strengths.
- Debate the differences that arise in public engagement with local government that result from residents being viewed or viewing themselves as taxpayers, citizens, clients, consumers, or experts.
- Articulate the importance of including Indigenous knowledge in decision-making processes.
- Reflect upon one's own biases regarding where knowledge and expertise in decision making is most often produced (e.g., through elected leadership, business leaders, trained professionals, the public, etc.).

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Yes No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because

**Typical Instructional Methods** (Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.; may vary at department's discretion.) Seminar discussion, webinars and on-line discussions, guest speakers.

#### NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Text(s) and Resource Materials (If more space is required, download Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.)						
	Author (surname, initials	) Title (article, book, journal, etc.)	Current ed.	Publisher	Year	
1.	Curry, D	Multi-level governance in British Columbia: Local perspectives on shifting relations and structures (article)		BC Studies	2018	
2.	Brydon, M., and Vining, A.	Combining Citizen Participation and Expert Analysis: A wild, wild horses problem in British Columbia (article)		Local Government Studies	2016	
3.	Newell, R., and Picketts, I	Spaces, places, and possibilities: A participatory approach for developing (article)		City and Environment Interactions	2020	
4.	UBCM	Local Government in British Columbia, 4th edition	$\boxtimes$	UBCM	2008	
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**Required Additional Supplies and Materials** (Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.) None.

#### Typical Evaluation Methods and Weighting

Final exam:	%	Assignments:	75%	Field experience:	%	Portfolio:	%
Midterm exam:	%	Project:	25%	Practicum:	%	Other:	%
Quizzes/tests:	%	Lab work:	%	Shop work:	%	Total:	100%

### Details (if necessary):

Sample evaluation includes:

- Internal communications project (team): 25%
- Organizational map analysis: 25%
- Simulations: 20%
- Structured discussions, debates, and presentations: 20%
- Reflection: 10%

# **Typical Course Content and Topics**

Module 1: Course introduction and themes

- Overview of course; role of course within certificate program
- Review of local government mandates, purpose, and intergovernmental essentials in BC
- Asked to do more, often with less: The legislative context for local government in BC and how this compares to local governments elsewhere in Canada and in the US.
- Local government as organization, as system, and as network
- Protocols for engaging with elected officials, including councils

# University of the Fraser Valley Official Undergraduate Course Outline

Module 2: Local Government as Structure vs Local Government as System

- Where does the power lie? Differentiating between decision making by elected officials, appointed leadership, and rank-and-file local government employees
- Internal Logics: How does the structure of local government often reflect past priorities and legislated mandates, rather than necessarily future needs?
- In the boardroom or lunchroom...or not at all: How do units within local government 'talk' to each other?
- Flexibility and adaptability within local government: disruptive, productive, or just frustrating?

#### Module 3: Public Hearings vs Hearing the Public

- How do relationships between local government entities and the public differ from other forms of government-public relations?
- Why does public trust in government matter for day-to-day operations?
- Examining the mechanisms (legal and optional) for public engagement and the points at which the public informs decisionmaking
- Who are John and Jane Q Public, Part I? Balancing the identities of the taxpayer, citizen, client, consumer, and knowledge keeper
- Who are John and Jane Q Public, Part II? Recognizing who gets involved and whose voices are often over-represented or, alternatively, not heard at all
- Building public knowledge of and confidence in local government systems and processes
- Creating reciprocal systems in government innovation, including one with shared benefits and knowledges

Module 4: Who are the Experts in the Room?

- Building inclusive teams and developing mentors within local government
- Technological change, internal organization, cross-functionality, and skills gaps
- Incorporating Indigenous knowledge into decision making
- Finding balance between expert-led processes vs grassroots, authentic public engagement