

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: AN INTRODUCTION TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Status: Definitive
Code: **7003NSGMPA** (116832)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool Business School
Teaching School/Faculty: National School of Government

| Team | Leader |
|--------------|--------|
| Nick Hawkins | Y |

Academic Level: FHEQ7
Credit Value: 15.00
Total Delivered Hours: 12.00
Total Learning Hours: 150
Private Study: 138

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Runs Twice - S1 & S2

| Component | Contact Hours |
|-----------|---------------|
| Online | 12.000 |

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

| Category | Short Description | Description | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|----------|-------------------|--|---------------|---------------|
| Essay | Essay | Written assignment: situational analyses, 3,000 - 5,000 words. | 100.0 | |

Aims

To equip students with a critical understanding and appreciation of the structure, activities, and impact of local government and its public sector partners.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- LO 1 Critically evaluate the organisation, relationships, and core processes of local government (including community leadership and multi-agency processes).

LO 2 Critically analyse a local community (as defined by the political boundaries of local government), with the aim of producing a situational assessment (trends and developments in terms of social, economic, environmental, etc factors) and an assessment of public needs and concerns.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

| | | |
|-------|----|----|
| Essay | LO | LO |
| | 1 | 2 |

Outline Syllabus

Local government structures, the processes of local democracy, and the relationships between members and officers.

The function of Local Government in community leadership and the significance of this for its activities in commissioning and providing services, as well as in catalysing local problem solving.

Local Government finance, how budgets are made up, and the decision making process for spending.

The roles of other public sector bodies operating at the local level, and how they interact with local authorities and each other.

Local economies and economic assessment: the role of local government in local economic development.

The dynamics of the relationship between central and local government.

Case studies of the strengths and weaknesses of local government (in different settings and regions).

Researching local communities: processes and techniques.

Inclusive community planning processes.

Community development processes.

Learning Activities

The learning activities of this module comprise independent learning activities and projects supported by on-line resources.

References

Notes

Coursework: Tutor marked written assignment – Prepare and compare the situational analyses of 2 contrasting local communities and comment on the strategic vision, leadership, organisational capacity and effectiveness of the local authority and public sector partnerships within them. Length: 3,000 to 5,000 words.

