Political Science 220 State and Local Government  
Credit Hours: 3  
Scheduled hours per week  
Lecture: 3  
Lab:  
Other:  

Catalog Course Description: Politics and policy at the state and local level in the American political system. Areas for study include constitutional, cultural, and financial constraints on state and local politics; community power structures; state legislatures; governors and other elected executives; and judicial elected institutions.

Pre-requisites: NA  
Co-requisites: NA  

Course Learning Outcomes:  
At the end of the course, students will be able to:  
1. Develop an understanding of how state and local governments are structured  
2. Develop analytical and critical perspectives on politics at the state and local level  
3. Develop and understanding of the basic terms and concepts used to describe state and local government  
4. Develop an awareness of state and local government policies  
5. Develop a thorough understanding of West Virginia state and local government  

Topics to be studied:  
- Our Mid-Ohio Valley Jurisdictions  
- The Constitutional Basis for State & Local Governments  
- The Potential of Local Governments to Deliver Services  
- Federalism & its Diverse Elements  
- The Role of Trust  
- Structures of Local Government  
- Sustainable Governance  
- State courts and law  

Relationship of Course to General Education Learning Outcomes:

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<td><strong>Composition and Rhetoric</strong> Students illustrate a fundamental understanding of the best practices of communicating in English and meet the writing standards of their college or program-based communication requirements.</td>
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<td><strong>Science &amp; Technology</strong> Students successfully apply systematic methods of analysis to the natural and physical world, understand scientific knowledge as empirical, and refer to data as a basis for conclusions.</td>
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<td><strong>Mathematics &amp; Quantitative Skills</strong> Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts.</td>
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<td><strong>Society, Diversity, &amp; Connections</strong> Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.</td>
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### Human Inquiry & the Past
Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills.

### The Arts & Creativity
Students successfully articulate and apply methods and principles of critical and creative inquiry to the production or analysis of works of art.

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**Special requirements of the course:**

**Additional information:**

**Prepared by:** Torie Jackson

**Date:** October 20, 2017