

Bossier Parish Community College  
Master Syllabus

**Course Prefix and Number:** POSC 202

**Credit hours:** 3

**Course Title:** State and Local Government

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Textbook(s):** Bowman and Kearney. *State and Local Government*. Cengage.

**Course Description:** Principles of state and municipal organizations and administration with emphasis on government of Louisiana. The Louisiana Statewide Common Course Catalog name and number for this course are CPOL 2113: Intro to State and Local Government.

**Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of the course, the student will:

- A. demonstrate knowledge of the new directions for state & local governments, concepts of federalism & the states, state constitutions, citizen participation and elections, political parties-interest groups & campaigns, state legislatures, governors, state bureaucracy (public administration), and the judiciary;
- B. analyze current political issues related to state-local relations, local government: structure and leadership and taxing & spending;
- C. examine and explain basic unique governmental aspects associated with state and local governmental operations in Louisiana not covered in the text (police jury system, utilization of parish versus county territorial governance structure, and the fiscal/general session Louisiana Legislative calendar).

To achieve the learning outcomes, the student will:

- 1. explain the power and responsibilities of subnational governments in the federal structure; (A) (C)
- 2. identify major features of state constitutions and explain the historical development of those documents, with specific attention to Louisiana and its state and local government; (A) (C)
- 3. distinguish between various forms of local government for counties, parishes and municipalities with specific attention to Louisiana and its state and local government; (B) (C)
- 4. explain the major structures and processes of state government including the legislative, executive, judiciary and bureaucracy with specific attention to Louisiana and its state and local governments; (A) (B) (C)
- 5. explain examples of policies addressed by state and local governments and the difficulties of implementing those policies, with specific attention to Louisiana; (B) (C)
- 6. explain the role of interest groups and political parties in American subnational governments with specific attention to Louisiana. (A) (B) (C)

**Course Requirements:** The following are intended to help the learner meet the stated learning outcomes of the course: students will attend class; students will be evaluated on results of semester exams; students will be required to participate in class discussions and activities.

**Course Grading Scale:**

A 90-100%  
B 80-89%  
C 70-79%  
D 60-69%  
F 59% or below

**Course Fees:** None

**Nondiscrimination Statement:** Bossier Parish Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, qualified disability, marital status, veteran's status, or sexual orientation in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of its operations. Bossier Parish Community College does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices.

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