

**HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE**

DIVISION:	Natural & Social Science
COURSE TITLE:	State and Local Government
COURSE NUMBER:	SS 142
CREDITS:	3 Credits (3,0)
DATE:	REVISED: Spring 2006
GRADE TYPE:	Letter
PREPARED/REVIEWED BY:	Jeffrey Steele

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of the institutions, structure, organization and operation, finances and politics of state and local governments with a particular emphasis on New York State.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the semester, the student will demonstrate the abilities to:

1. Recognize that American Society is a compound of communities, with major and increasing proportions of an urban population, an industrial economy, and national problems in a complex and changing world.
2. Understand the functioning processes of these community governments below the national level in the political, legislative, executive and judicial fields.
3. Relate our continental geographic base, cultural heritage, and institutional developments as backgrounds for our contemporary multiplicity of governmental units.
4. Understand the growing role and relationship of our national government with respect to the governance of states and state subdivisions.
5. Understand how contemporary state, national and international issues impact the state and local political structure.
6. Understand their roles and responsibilities as a citizen on all levels of our federal system of government.
7. Show evidence of firsthand experience in dealing with issues, representatives and community-based resources on the state and local levels.

OUTCOMES

Through tests, papers, research assignments and other learning activities, students will be expected to achieve the above listed course objectives as outcomes.

90% of the time or greater – will be considered to have exceeded the standard

80-89% of the time – will be considered to have exceeded the standard

70-79% of the time – will be considered to have met the standard

60-69% of the time – will be considered to have approached the standard

Below 60% of the time – will not be considered to have met the standard

MAJOR DIVISIONS OF SUBJECT MATTER

- I. Introduction of State and Local Government
- II. State Constitutions
- III. Federalism
- IV. Election Machinery
- V. Parties, Pressure Groups, and Elites
- VI. The Governor
- VII. The Legislature
- VIII. Courts and Law
- IX. Counties, Towns, Townships, and Special Districts
- X. Cities and Metropolitan Areas
- XI. Taxation and Finance
- XII. Civil Servants
- XIII. Agencies and Functions

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Please see individual instructor's syllabus.

EVALUATION/GRADING

Please see individual instructor's syllabus

TEXTBOOK

Please see individual instructor's syllabus

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Cell phones, food, drink, and inappropriate language are not allowed in class. Regular attendance and punctuality are expected.

Please see individual instructor's syllabus for a more detailed explanation of classroom policies.