

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTICUT, 3rd EDITION

Instructor's Guide

This instructor's guide is designed to assist the instructor in stimulating class discussion and to bring to life the chapters in the book. This guide offers three different categories for the chapters:

Class Discussion

Class Assignment

Field Trips-Other Ideas

Class Discussion is based on the chapter reading, and is designed to stimulate a dialogue on the chapter contents. The regular use of these class discussion suggestions will be helpful in reminding students they have to stay current on the reading of the assigned chapters. Instructors can involve the students by breaking the class into teams that compete against one another, or just be listing on the board the answers they come up with. For example, in Chapter 21, Education, class discussion involves having the students identify all of the people involved in the school district, and in one way or another, are part of seeing that students receive an education-this list can be very long!

Class Assignments are geared more toward team and group activities, and can result in numerous debates and dialogue on different sides of topics. These assignments often will encourage the students to have discussions with their parents/guardians since the topics deal with real life issues. In some chapters, questions are asked to help lead discussions and then the teacher can determine what the interests of the class are and what assignments can then be made from these discussions.

Field Trips-Other Ideas provide suggestions for out of the classroom activities, but if this is not practical, these suggestions offer direction as to what organizations can be contacted and asked if they could send a representative to class. These field visits or representatives can bring to life the day to day issues that local governments face. Suggestions on whom to contact are identified, with specific references to various Appendices in the textbook.

Connecticut with its 169 municipalities and regional planning organizations have incredible resources to bring into the classroom, and for the most part, have employees that would love to share their work and experiences with students. This interaction will bring to life the readings, and hopefully, stimulate student interests to consider careers in local government. These career opportunities are spelled out in Chapter 30.