

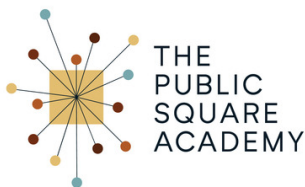
# KNOW YOUR COUNTY GOVERNMENT

BECKY STARNES, PH.D.

PROFESSOR OF  
PUBLIC MANAGEMENT

AUSTIN PEAY STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Dr. Becky Starnes is a Professor of Public Management at Austin Peay State University and the Founder of Academic Creations which develops curriculum and assessments. Dr. Starnes has been in higher education for 25 years following a military career with the Air Force and US Marines. She holds a Ph.D. in Public Administration and Public Policy from Auburn and an MBA from Gonzaga.



Becky Starnes, Ph.D.  
starnesbeckyjo@gmail.com  
Michael Freedman  
Michael@ThePublicSquare.Academy

## OVERVIEW

County governments affect our lives daily through the provision of vital services, property assessments, and the administration of elections. County governments consist of many departments - often fifty or more - such as law enforcement, health and human services, and transportation. In general, the public participates in and follows Federal politics and elections much more than local. In the book *State and Local Government*, Herbert Marx (1962) reminds us that we are governed only as well as we are informed voters and active participants in civic affairs- at any level.

The primary purpose of this course is to encourage learners to become familiar with county governments and how they function. The goal is to encourage civic-minded individuals to become engaged citizens and involved in local political processes.

Specifically, participants will learn:

- why county government is important,
- the history of counties,
- the organization of county government structures,
- the work of county governments,
- where county revenues come from,
- how to become engaged citizens.

## SUGGESTED AUDIENCES

- members of professional, civic, and nonprofit organizations,
- individual citizens wanted to learn more about county government operations,
- local government employees,
- high school social studies students and teachers,
- county governments, as an internal training program, or for local citizen education programs,
- political science and public administration college students.

## COURSE DETAILS

The program will run for eight weeks, students are expected to spend 3-4 hours/week in study, complete written assignments, and participate in online discussions.

A program will run from April 1 – May 31, 2019. To register, click here or visit [www.ThePublicSquare.Academy](http://www.ThePublicSquare.Academy).

The Program is delivered online and via mobile app by The Public Square Academy, offering students 24x7 access to program content and discussions. Custom Programs for your group or organizations are available.