The reading for this course will primarily be from Baker and Gillette, Local Government Law: Cases and Materials (3d ed. 2004). For our first meeting, Tuesday, January 11, at 2:05 p.m., in Room FH 210, please read pages 9-31. Please also take a brief look at pages 31-46 and review them more carefully at your leisure at an early point of the semester. These pages form the theoretical background for the entire course and should not be treated as mere introductory surplusage. We will spend the first session of the class discussing the competing perspectives of local government that are reflected in these pages. As you read these materials, you should ask yourself the following: What is the proper role of local government as conceived by each of these writers? What functions should localities perform under each of these conceptions? Who, in each of these conceptions, should decide how to allocate municipal resources among the residents of a given locality?