

Simon Fraser University
Political Science & Latin American Studies Departments
ENERGY POLICY
(POL 459)

Spring 2009
10:30-14:20
WMC 3535
Office Hrs: M-F 9-16:00

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Description and Schedule
Updated: Jan. 6, 2009
Description

Objectives

This course is designed to review international energy policy issues with students, with an emphasis on developing countries. The course starts with a historical perspective focusing on the development of global markets. It then moves to a review of how energy policy frameworks operate in economic, political, and regulatory terms. We close with a discussion of recent issues, including climate change and policies to develop alternative energy policies. Students will learn how to write a policy analysis and review on a current problem that will be useful to those considering either an academic or public sector career at any level.

Required Books

This is an upper class course, and the topics are wide ranging. All material will be available at the bookstore through custom courseware and via article databases from SFU libraries. Custom courseware is numbered sequentially as it appears in the course and the package. *All books in the custom courseware are available on reserve or articles available through library databases or via e-mail in the case of my own works.* I will also supplement the material with a list of relevant websites of energy agencies where you will find a plethora of policy documents.

Assignments

The keys to success in any course for both the professor and student are thorough preparation and active participation. Students must not only attend every session, but also be prepared to participate in each meeting. In order to accomplish this, students should prepare an outline of the readings for each meeting.

Students will be graded upon participation, examinations, and writing assignments. The assignments are the following:

- 1- Thorough preparation and active participation in every class. Students should make notes from the readings and come prepared to discuss them in class. The powerpoint slides, avail. from my website, will be a good guide to the topics of the lecture and discussion for each class.
- 2- A short original analytical paper (7 pp) on a topic we will cover and a 10 minute presentation about it to the class. We will book topics in the first weeks of the class and suggestions are included under each week in the schedule below. Any date exc. for Jan. 16, and the debate dates is possible depending on space.
- 3- A Short Issue Brief (5 pp.) to be used in 1 of 2 policy debates we will have in the class. Instructions will be given.

- 4- A policy paper (15 pp) that studies a contemporary country's (or state or province's) policy or one of the energy issues we are discussing in the course. The student will be instructed on how to complete a policy review, with feedback along the way. A group project can be completed, with grade shared. Group papers should be 20-25 pp.

Grading

The assignments will be graded proportionally as follows:

- participation, 15%, includes regular attendance and contributions to the class
- 1 short essay of 7 pp., 10%; powerpoint presentation of essay 5%
- 1 policy brief, 5 pp., 10%
- final paper of 15 pp, 60%, including
 - 10% identification of topic and annotated bibliography including data sources
 - 10% literature review
 - 10% detailed outline of paper
 - 20% final paper
 - 10% presentation to class

Assignments are due promptly at the beginning of class. There will be an increasing penalty for any work that is late. Pls. see my website (listed at the top) for grading philosophy, lecture slides and other material that you can download.

Office Hours I am available 9-4 M-F for you to drop in, except for teaching and meeting times. You are welcome to consult by e-mail or set up an appointment. I will set up a class e-mail list.

Schedule

The schedule is planned by weeks. Readings should be done prior to each class.

I. Introduction to Course (Jan. 9)

- About the Professor, the students, and the course; jargon primer
 - assignment of short presentations
 - geography of energy resources and survey of issues
- Recommended Film: *There Will be Blood*, 2007; gives good context on the rise of the oil barons & the 7 sisters.

Ia. Guest Lecture Dr. Peggy Meyer, Russian Energy Policy in East Asia (Jan. 16)

II. History of Energy Development (Jan. 23)

Readings: Yergin, Daniel, *The Prize: epic quest for oil, money, and power*. NY: Free Press 2003, HD 9560.6 Y47 2003 19-77 (1).

Film: *The Prize*, part 1

Suggested topics: history of petroleum, other energy sources; early developments in energy use, such as the development of the gas car vs. electric vehicle

III. Energy Issues in Developing Nations (Jan. 30)

Assignment: Research Topic and Annotated Bibliography

Readings: - P. Jones Luong & E. Weinthal, *Prelude to the Resource Curse: Oil and Gas Development Strategies in Central Asia and Beyond*, Comparative Political Studies, vol. 34 no. 4 (May, 2001), pp. 367-399.

-Listhaug, Ola, 2005. 'Oil Wealth Dissatisfaction and Political Trust in Norway: A Resource Curse?', *West European Politics* 28(4): 834-851.

-Rosser, Andrew (2007) 'Escaping the Resource Curse: The Case of Indonesia', *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 37.1: 38 – 58

Suggested topics: see how the resource curse has (not) played in a particular country over time; see if the resource curse holds for other commodities

IV. Petroleum and Natural Gas (Feb. 6)

Readings:

-Oil Market Basics, found at:

http://www.eia.doe.gov/pub/oil_gas/petroleum/analysis_publications/oil_market_basics/full_contents.htm

-Jerome Davis, ed. *The changing world of oil: an analysis of corporate change and adaptation*. Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2006 HD 9560.5 C463 2006, 143-60 (4).

Film: *The Prize* part 2

Suggested topics: business and economic analysis of the petrol or gas industry; political economy of an oil producing state; Chinese and/or Indian demand effects on world markets; what a post petroleum economy might look like

V. Regulation and Electricity (Feb. 13)

Readings

-Martin Chick, *Electricity and Energy Policy in Britain, France and the United States since 1945*, Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar HD 9502 A2 C48 2007, 110-32 (2)

-David G. Victor and Thomas C. Heller, eds. *The Political Economy of Power Sector Reform: the experiences of five major developing countries*, NY: Cambridge U Press 2007, HD 9685 D452 P65 2007, 1-30 (3).

-Barry Barton, ed., *Regulating energy and natural resources*, NY: Oxford U, K 3981 R44 2006, 9-33 (5)

-Denise Warkentein, *Electric Power Industry: In Nontechnical Language* Tulsa, OK: PennWell, HD 9685 A2 W28 1998, 3-25 (6).

-Anil Hira, *Political Economy of Energy in the Southern Cone*. Praeger, 2003, selections will be sent electronically.

Suggested topics: Should BC privatize electricity; (dis)advantages and requirements for state-owned vs. privatized utilities; how to increase energy efficiency; how to reduce consumption

VI. Nuclear (Feb. 20)

Assignment: Literature Review

Readings: David Elliot, eds., *Nuclear or not? Does nuclear power have a place in a sustainable energy future?* NY: Palgrave Macmillan 2007 HD 9698 G72 N84 2007, 9-33 (7)

-Alan M. Herbst and George W. Hopley, *Nuclear energy now: why the time has come for the world's most misunderstood energy source*, Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, HD 9698 U52 H46 2007, 93-125 (8)

Suggested topics: nuclear proliferation; possible terrorist threats; nuclear safety; nuclear storage

Films: *Sheltering-in-place* HV 551.3 Sf53 2005; *Arlit* TD 195 U7A76 2005

VII. Alternative Energy Sources Debate (Feb. 27)

Readings:

-Minqi Li. 2007. Peak Oil, the Rise of China and India, and the Global Energy Crisis. *Journal of Contemporary Asia*. 37,4 (Nov): 449-71.

-Anil Hira, biofuels paper will be sent electronically

-Christopher A. Simon, *Alternative energy: political, economic, and social feasibility*, Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2007 HD 9502 U52 S544 2007, 39-61 (9)

Debate: Choose an alternative energy source or a mix that you think should be adopted in BC. Be prepared to argue why your view is correct. Explain what steps need to be taken and why your proposal is financially, physically/technically, and political feasible.

VIII. Energy Integration (Mar. 6)

Assignment: Detailed Logical Outline of Paper

-Hira, "Does Energy Integrate?" with Libardo Amaya, *Energy Policy* 31 (2003), 185-99.

-Hira, "Measuring International Electricity Integration: A Comparative Study of the power systems under the Nordic Countries, MERCOSUR, and NAFTA," with Pierre Olivier Pineau of U Victoria and Karl Froschauer of SFU, *Energy Policy*, 32 (2004) 1457-75.

- Hira, "¿Es Posible el Matrimonio de las Siete Hermanas del Sur? Posibilidades de Cooperación en Petróleo y Gas en América Latina," accepted at *Comentario Internacional -Revista del Centro Andino de Estudios Internacionales*, in Spanish (Quito, Ecuador), forthcoming 2007 (English trans. will be sent electronically)

Suggested topics: how the WTO treats energy trade; examination of regional treaties, such as NAFTA; potential integration elsewhere; (dis)advantages of integration with concrete examples

IX. Site Visit (Mar. 13)

We will visit Stowe Falls, a de-commissioned generation plant., see

http://www.bchydro.com/community/recreation_areas/stave_falls_visitor_centre.html I have set up a 2 hour guided tour for \$4/person starting at 11:30. We need to arrange rides (45 minutes away); discuss whether to have a lunch catered there (\$10/person) or brown bag it.

X. Climate Change Debate (Mar. 20)

Readings:

-Bjorn Lomborg, *The Skeptical Environmentalist: measuring the real state of the world*. NY: Cambridge U Press 2001 GE 149 L65 2001, 3-33 (10)

-IPCC 2007 synthesis report, will be sent electronically

-World Bank, *International trade and climate change: economic, legal, and institutional perspectives*, Washington: WB, 2008, selections tbd, will be sent electronically

-Check out the web site, <http://www.lowcarbonlife.net/>

Recommended:

- Kyoto Protocol, available on-line

- Joseph E. Aldy and Robert N. Stavins, eds., *Architectures for agreement: addressing global climate change in the post-Kyoto world*, NY: Cambridge U Press 2007

-Danile Sperling and James S. Cannon, eds. *Driving climate change: cutting carbon from transportation*, Boston: Elsevier, 2007

-Jeffrey Simpson, Mark Jaccard and Nic Rivers, *Hot air: meeting Canada's climate change challenge*, Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 2007, TD 885.5 G73 S54 2007

-William James Burroughs, *Climate change: a multidisciplinary approach*, Cambridge: Cambridge U Press, 2nd ed. 2007

Debate topics: How bad is climate change? How does it compare with AIDS or poverty as a global priority? Why is it so controversial? What are the obstacles to action? What can and should be done at various (international, domestic, local) levels of action? What is and should be Canada/BC's policy towards it?

XII. Student Presentations (Mar. 27)

XIII. Student Presentations and Final Paper Due (Apr. 3)