**Energy Policy**

**TESC MPA Program Summer 2010 Syllabus 6 1 10**

Saturday/Sunday, June 26-27; Saturday, July 10; Saturday/Sunday, July 24-25th , 9a-6p Sem II E1105

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TESC Masters in Public Administration Program Mission Statement:

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”--  Mohandas K. Gandhi

The Gulf oil spill is the latest energy challenge to capture the nation’s attention. In 2008 it was skyrocketing gasoline prices; more recently the effects of global climate change have prompted policymakers to craft comprehensive energy legislation. Viewed from one perspective, our energy policies have been remarkably successful. They have fostered the creation of technologically complex systems that generate vast quantities at relatively low prices. Yet the liabilities of these systems are clear: they are highly centralized, cause significant pollution, and generate unequal results. The very sustainability of fossil fueled civilization is now an issue, as we wrestle with how to transition to sources of energy that will provide the services we want. This course will provide an introduction to the many dimensions of energy, including sources, technologies, the operation of energy markets, and the economic, social, national security and environmental implications of energy use. The underlying theme of the course will be the crafting of public policy in the energy sector in the U.S. and other countries.

Course learning objectives. Students will gain:

1. Knowledge of energy sources, energy services and the operation/regulation of energy markets;

2. An understanding of the social and environmental effects of energy use;

3. Improved understanding of energy interventions, policy setting processes, including policy analysis, and how to influence energy policy.

We will read portions of 4 texts plus a variety of shorter articles, governmental reports, and research studies, and discuss these in class. Lectures, films, guest presentations and workshops will be featured during our class sessions. Students will write two short papers, and prepare one longer paper, on which they will deliver a presentation the last day of class.

**Absences and late assignments: You must inform me ahead of time if circumstances will force you to turn in a paper late. Because of the format of this class, missing one class session (one day) will necessitate a make-up assignment. Missing more than one day of class will result in a no credit. If you want to take the course but will not be available for one or more days of class, completing the course as a contract may be an option (this will require additional readings and assignments to make up for missed class time). I will not be available during the month of August. Late final papers or other assignments may not be accepted.**

**Evaluation and Credit:** Students will receive 4 credits at the completion of the course if all course requirements have been successfully completed. Students will be evaluated based upon their progress towards the learning goals, as assessed from classroom and assignment performance. Partial credit may be awarded at the discretion of the instructor. Plagiarism (i.e., using other peoples’ work as your own), failing to complete one or more assignments, completing one or more assignments late (without having made arrangements *before* the due date), or multiple absences may lead to denial of total credit. Unexcused absences or lack of academic work may result in no credit at the discretion of the faculty.

No evaluation conferences will be required; however, consistent with MPA program requirements, a self-evaluation will be required for credit. Evaluations will be emailed to students the week of July 25th, 2010.

**Course Moodle site:** <http://elms.evergreen.edu/>

Select “Summer 2010 Courses.” Then Energy Policy. Enrolment key: ENERG1060Su-TESC.

I’ll post articles, each weekend’s lecture notes and Powerpoints on this site.

A list of energy policy weblinks and other resources will be posted on the site.

**Texts**

Smil, Vaclav (2008). *Energy in Nature and Society: General Energetics of Complex Systems*.

Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. ISBN-10: 0262693569; ISBN-13: 978-0262693561

MacKay, David JC (2009). *Sustainable Energy - Without the Hot Air*. Cambridge, UK:UIT.

Available online at: <http://www.withouthotair.com/>. ISBN-13: 9780954452933.

Hansen, James (2009). *Storms of My Grandchildren*. New York: Bloomsbury USA. ISBN-10: 1608192008; ISBN-13: 978-1608192007.

McNabb, David and Laurance Geri (2010). *Energy 2030*. To be published in 2010 by CRC Press.

Draft of Chapters 1-6 of the text will be provided the first weekend of class; Chapters 7-11 will be provided on July 10th.

**Assignments**

All papers should be typed in 11 or 12-point font size, **single spaced**, with page numbers inserted, and **STAPLED**. Please turn in paper copies of all your assignments.

**Seminar papers**. Write short (1-2 pages single spaced) papers on the texts by Smil (**Due June 26th),** and the separate sections of the book by McNabb and Geri (**due July 10th, and July 24th).** You may focus on a main theme in the reading you found memorable, or disagreed with, or provide a broader critique of an argument, or chapter. Rely primarily on facts and analysis, with only a hint of gut-level reaction.

Optional assignment: provide feedback on the draft text, *Energy 2030*. You may critique the text as a whole, identify duplicative sections, errors, or points you disagree with. What worked well for you in the book, and what didn’t? What would you suggest adding?

1. In *Sustainable Energy Without the Hot Air*, MacKay is doubtful that the United Kingdom can generate enough renewable energy to be self sufficient (*Hot Air*, Chapter 18). He is more optimistic that the U.S could do so, given certain assumptions (*Hot Air,* Chapter 30). Carefully examine those assumptions about energy consumption in the U.S. and how renewables could meet demand. How realistic are his assumptions? (One source of comparison stats is Jacobson, “Review of Solutions to Global Warming,” on Moodle) 1-1/2 to2 pages; **DUE Sunday, June 27th.**

2.Hansen describes how his approach to public policy evolved from that of a dispassionate scientist to an anti-carbon, anti-coal activist. In your view, what should be the role of the scientist as analyst providing advice to policymakers? Does the degree of uncertainty involved in the relevant science influence your answer? 1-1/2 to2 pages; **DUE Saturday, July 10th.**

3**.** Pick an energy policy at the state or federal level. Prepare a logic model of the policy. Write a short (one page, single spaced) analysis of the policy,informed by your logic model**.** Who benefits from this policy? Who bears its costs? Has the policy has been successful? **Due July 10th.**

4. **Final paper:** Research and write a paper of 5-10 pages (single spaced) in which you analyze an energy policy issue. *Come to the first class session with two or three potential topics for this paper*. The paper should be written as a policy brief in which you explore an important energy issue in depth and provide recommendations to policy makers. More details on the format will be provided in class.

**Due Saturday, July 24th**. Prepare a 10-minute presentation summarizing your findings; be prepared to deliver it on **Sunday, July 25th**.

**Tentative Class Schedule. Subject to Change.**

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| **Saturday, June 26 Concepts, definitions. Oil, Gas, Coal. The World of Energy** Readings**:** Smil, Chapters 1, 2,8-13Articles: Hirsch, 2005, “The Inevitable Peaking of World Oil Production” (on Moodle)Kunstler, 2007, “Making Other Arrangements” (on Moodle) Skim: World Energy Assessment (WEA), Ch. 1 At: <http://www.undp.org/energy/activities/wea/drafts-frame.html> **Due: Seminar paper on Smil**  |
| **Sunday, June 27 Electricity; International Dimensions of Energy Policy**Readings: MacKay, Part I, Chapters 27-31 of part IIArticle: Yergin, “Energy Security”; Karl, “Perils of the Petro State”Skim: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2010 overview: <http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/aeo/index.html>Skim: BPAmoco, *Statistical Review of World Energy*; on class Moodle site or at: <http://www.bp.com/liveassets/bp_internet/globalbp/globalbp_uk_english/reports_and_publications/statistical_energy_review_2008/STAGING/local_assets/2009_downloads/statistical_review_of_world_energy_full_report_2009.pdf>**DUE: Assignment 1.**  |
| **July 10 Science, Policy and Climate Change; Introduction to Energy Policy**Readings: Hansen: *Storms of My Grandchildren*McNabb and Geri, chapters 1-6Skim website of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report:* [*http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4\_syr.pdf*](http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4_syr.pdf)(or summaries/FAQ’s )Articles: Lewontin, “The Politics of Science”**DUE: Assignments 2 and 3.** |
| **July 24 Alternatives; Energy Policy II**McNabb and Geri, Chapters 7-11Article tbd**DUE: Final Paper.** |
| **July 25 Student Presentations**  |

**Expectations of Students and faculty**: We will promote a cooperative, supportive atmosphere within this learning community; give everyone opportunity for self-reflection and expression; Use high standards in reading the text and preparing our papers, lectures, and comments in seminar; Handle all disputes in a spirit of goodwill. Discuss any problems involving others in the learning community directly with the individuals involved (so long as the concerned party feels safe doing so), with the right to support from other program members during those discussions, if that seems helpful.

**We will abide by the social contract**: WAC 174-121-010 College philosophy. <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=174-121-010>; **We will abide by the student conduct code: Chapter 174-120 WAC Student Conduct Code & Grievance/Appeals Process** <http://search.leg.wa.gov/wslwac/WAC%20174%20%20TITLE/WAC%20174%20-120%20%20CHAPTER/WAC%20174%20-120%20%20CHAPTER.htm> **We will abide by the non-discrimination policies and procedures at TESC:** <http://www.evergreen.edu/policies/g-nondiscr.htm>