

University of Georgia
INTL 8279
Energy Security and Policy

Time: Tuesday, 12:45 PM – 3:30 PM

Place: Candler Hall, Room 115

David K. Gattie
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Office Hours:
By Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will extend the scope of energy beyond that of an economic commodity and explore the implications of energy as a security issue and a tool for geopolitical leverage. Specifically, the course will examine the security implications of energy resources—energy security, economic security, climate security and national security—particularly within the purview of energy transitions.

The final deliverable will be a group report and presentation comparing the energy transition challenges and constraints for the U.S. and one country to be identified by the group and approved by the instructor. Groups will be identified in the initial class session. The final deliverable will be comprised of the written report itself, an executive summary and a PowerPoint that will be presented during the final two class periods. This should be approached as a semester-long research project that will culminate in the presentation and defense of this final deliverable. As such, all weekly readings and assignments should be contextualized with this in mind and oriented as such.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Yergin, Daniel. *The New Map: Energy, Climate, and the Clash of Nations*, The Penguin Press, New York, 2020.

Smil, Vaclav. *Energy Transitions: Global and National Perspectives*. Praeger, Santa Barbara, California, 2017.

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

Additional readings and data resources related to contemporary treatments of energy and energy security issues may be assigned throughout the semester.

GRADING

Course Requirements and Grading Components

Professionalism	15%	Daily
Weekly Briefings	30%	Weekly
Midterm Presentations and Report	20%	October 11
Final Group Presentations and Report	35%	November 22 & 29

Professionalism (15%)

A student's professionalism grade is determined by one's class participation, attitude toward and enthusiasm for the topic and assignments, contribution to lectures and discussion, engagement in group activities, personal conduct and correspondence with the instructor and all class members. Finally, attendance and punctuality are the hallmarks of professionalism. Unexcused absences will result in a one letter decrease in the student's final grade. Tardiness is defined as being 15-minutes, or more, late for class. Each unexcused tardy will result in a half-letter grade deduction from the final grade. Late submissions will also be counted as tardy, as discussed in weekly briefings below.

Weekly Briefings (30%)

Weekly briefings should identify critical issues from the reading(s) that are relevant to energy security as well as issues that were particularly problematic or difficult to understand. The briefings are a group assignment, consisting of a five-minute PowerPoint briefing and a 2-page written brief drawn from that week's reading assignment. Lead authorship of the written brief will be on a rotational basis among group members with other students countersigning, indicating their respective concurrence. This is not to be a summary of the entire reading nor should it be an editorialized opinion or commentary. Rather, each group should identify key energy issues and succinctly, yet pointedly, convey the relevant aspects of those issues to energy security and energy transitions with the intent being to inform the audience and contribute to the final deliverable. Meaning, weekly briefings must convey core messages and demonstrate relevance. It is important to note that the readings will point to numerous other cited works, some of which should be explored and incorporated into the briefing.

The briefing should be in PowerPoint format (unless size prohibits, in which case pdf format will suffice) and the written brief should be in Word format. A template for the written brief will be provided. PowerPoints should be professional in appearance and, as much as possible, represent original compilations; meaning, not a collection of copy/paste information. All briefings must be emailed to Gattie by 12:00 PM on the Monday prior to class. Submissions sent after 12:00 PM will be treated as tardy for each group member and result in a half-letter grade deduction from the final grade. Each group will present its five-minute briefing during the first half of each class.

Reading assignments are listed in the syllabus for the day they will be discussed in class. Each student is expected to complete the required reading and be prepared to actively participate in discussions.

Midterm Presentation and Report (20%)

A midterm presentation will be required for each group. Each presentation must be accompanied by a PowerPoint and an executive summary limited to 3 pages. The planned date for midterm group presentations is Tuesday, October 11th and should be submitted by email by 12:00 PM on Monday, October 10th. Each group will be given 15 minutes.

Final Presentation and Report (35%)

As noted in the course description, the final presentation and report will be developed as a group report and presentation comparing the energy transition challenges and constraints for the U.S. and one country to be identified by the group and approved by the instructor. The final presentation will be during the final two class periods—November 22nd and 29th. The final report is limited to 5 pages and is due by email Monday, November 21st, 5:00 PM, along with the PowerPoint. Each presentation is limited to 30 minutes.

All electronic file submissions should be named using the following format:

Lastname Firstname INTL 8279 Topic

Example:

Gattie David INTL 8279 Nuclear Policy

IMPORTANT DATES

August 17-23	Drop/Add
September 5	Holiday (Labor Day)
October 10	Midterm
October 24	Withdrawal Deadline
October 28	Fall Break
November 22	Last Day of Classes (prior to Thanksgiving Break)
November 23-25	Thanksgiving Holiday
November 28	Classes Resume
December 6	Friday Class Schedule
December 6	Classes End
December 7	Reading Day
December 8-14	Final Exams
December 19	Grades Due

**The Final Exam period for INTL 8279 is scheduled for
Tuesday, May 11
12:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

CLASS STRUCTURE

Each class meeting should be viewed as a discussion of critical issues that will be leveraged to inform each group's final briefing to the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee. As such, it is imperative for each student and group to be prepared for each class by having completed the readings and being fully apprised of having submitted the weekly brief with critical questions, observations and core message. The class will be broken into six groups of three students each and one group of four students. For each class meeting, one student from each group will serve as recorder, memorializing key points from the discussion as a transmittal, by email, to their respective group and to the instructor by the following Friday.

The first half of each class session will be constituted by an initial briefing from each group and a class discussion of critical observations and questions. This will be an open discussion subject to critical comments and constructive input by everyone, with the intention being to inform and contribute to the final deliverable.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1 August 23

Acquire textbooks

Reading Assignment #1:

The New Map, Chapters 1-8 (America's Map)

Energy Transitions, Introduction & Chapter 1 (Energy Systems: Their Basic Properties)

Week 2 August 30

Discuss Reading Assignment #1

Reading Assignment #2: *The New Map*, Chapters 9-16 (Russia's Map)

Week 3 September 6

Discuss Reading Assignment #2

Reading Assignment #3: *The New Map*, Chapters 17-25 (China's Map)

Week 4 September 13

Discuss Reading Assignment #3

Reading Assignment #4: *The New Map*, Chapters 26-36 (Maps of the Middle East)

Week 5 September 20

Discuss Reading Assignment #4

Reading Assignment #5: *The New Map*, Chapters 37-40 (Roadmap)

Week 6 September 27

Discuss Reading Assignment #5

Reading Assignment #6: *The New Map*, Chapters 41-Conclusion (Climate Map)

Week 7 October 4

Work Day

Mid-term Preparation

Week 8 October 11

Discuss Reading Assignment #6
Mid-term presentations and report

Week 9 October 18

Mid-term presentations
Reading Assignment #7: Smil, Chapter 2 (Energy Transitions—Universal Patterns)

Week 10 October 25

Discuss Reading Assignment #7
Reading Assignment #8: Smil, Chapter 3 (National Transitions: Commonalities and Particularities)

Week 11 November 1

Discuss Reading Assignment #8
Reading Assignment #9: Smil, Chapter 4 (Decarbonization: Progress So Far)

Week 12 November 8

Discuss Reading Assignment #9
Reading Assignment #10: Smil, Chapter 5 (Looking Ahead: Possibilities and Constraints)

Week 13 November 15

Closing Class Discussion

Week 14 November 22

Final Presentations (Part 1)

Week 15 November 29

Final Presentations (Part 2)

Administrative Issues

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructors may be necessary. All academic work must meet the standards contained in the University of Georgia's "Culture of Honesty" (http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm). You are responsible to inform yourself about those standards before performing any academic work. Our policy for academic dishonesty is very simple: Don't plagiarize. If you turn in a written assignment that is (in part) not your own work you will receive a failing grade for the course. Disciplinary proceedings to dismiss you from the University may be initiated against you.

The University of Georgia seeks to provide students with disabilities the opportunity to fully participate in educational programs and services. In keeping with this philosophy, it is University policy that students with documented disabilities receive reasonable accommodations through access to classroom information. If you require **special accommodations** because of a university-documented condition, please contact me during the first two weeks of the semester and we can work with the Disability Resource Center in order to achieve a positive outcome.