

University of Georgia
INTL 8279
Energy Security and Policy

Time: Tuesday, 12:45 PM – 3:30 PM

Place: Candler Hall, Room 214

David K. Gattie
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Office Hours:
By Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will extend the scope of energy beyond that of a market commodity and climate issue explore the implications of energy as a security issue. 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 proposed energy transitions.

The class will be divided into seven staffs (to be assigned). The final deliverable will be a staff report and presentation analyzing the energy transition challenges and constraints for the U.S. and one other country to be identified by the staff and approved by the instructor. The country must be a substantial economic power. The final deliverable will be comprised of the written report itself, an executive summary and a PowerPoint that will be presented during the final class period. 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, memos and briefings 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 will be assigned throughout the semester.

GRADING

Course Requirements and Grading Components

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-------------|
| Professionalism | 15% | Daily |
| Memos and Briefings (as assigned) | 30% | Weekly |
| Midterm Presentations and Report | 20% | October 17 |
| Final Staff Presentations and Report | 35% | November 28 |

Professionalism (15%)

A student's professionalism grade is determined by their class participation, attitude toward and enthusiasm for the topic and assignments, contribution to lectures and discussion, engagement in staff 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 memos below.

Weekly Memos and Briefings (30%)

Weekly memos should identify and speak to key issues from the reading(s) that are relevant to energy security. Memos will be done within staffs. Given that there is considerable information in the readings, not all of which can be conveyed in a single two-page memo, each staff will collectively select an issue or issues for their individual memo. However, the memo should include a list of key issues in the readings, with the memo focused on one or two of those issues.

In addition to the memos, one member from each staff will provide a weekly briefing that summarizes the staff memo. Each briefing will be comprised of a PowerPoint presentation and will be limited to 5 minutes. Staff members will rotate through taking the lead on briefings.

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 memos and 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 staff member and result in a half-letter grade deduction from the final grade. Each staff will present its 5-minute briefing at the beginning 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. It is important to note that the readings will point to numerous other cited works, which should be explored and incorporated into the briefing.

Midterm Presentation and Report (20%)

A midterm presentation will be required for each staff. Each presentation must be accompanied by a PowerPoint and 3-page report. The planned date for midterm staff presentations is Tuesday, September 30th and should be submitted by email by 12:00 PM on Monday, September 29th. Each staff will be given 20 minutes (+/- 1 minute)—this is a hard stop.

Final Presentation and Report (35%)

As noted in the course description, the final presentation and report will be developed as a staff report and presentation analyzing the energy transition challenges and constraints for the U.S. and one country to be identified by the staff and approved by the instructor. The final presentations will be November 4th and November 11th. The final report is limited to 5 pages and is due by email Monday, November 3rd, 12:00 PM, along with the PowerPoint. Each presentation is limited to 30 minutes (+/- 1 minute)—this is a hard stop.

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 13-19 | Drop/Add |
| September 1 | Holiday (Labor Day) |
| October 6 | Midterm |
| October 31 | Fall Break |
| November 12 | Withdrawal Deadline |
| November 25 | Last Day of Classes (prior to Thanksgiving Break) |
| November 26-28 | Thanksgiving Holiday |
| December 1 | Classes Resume |
| December 2 | Friday Class Schedule |
| December 2 | Classes End |
| December 3 | Reading Day |
| December 4-10 | Final Exams |
| December 15 | Grades Due |

**The Final Exam period for INTL 8279 is scheduled for
Tuesday, December 9
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 staff's final briefing and report. As such, it is imperative for each student and staff to be prepared for each class by having completed the readings and being fully apprised by having submitted the weekly memo and having discussed within their staff. The class will be broken into six staffs of four students each and one staff of three students.

The first half of each class session will be constituted by an initial briefing from each staff 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 19

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 26

Discuss Reading Assignment #1

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

Week 3 September 2

Discuss Reading Assignment #2

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

Week 4 September 9

Discuss Reading Assignment #3

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

Week 5 September 16

Guest speaker(s)

Week 6 September 23

Discuss Reading Assignment #4

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

Week 7 September 30

Mid-term presentations and reports

Discuss Reading Assignment #5

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

Week 8 October 7

Discuss Reading Assignment #6

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

Week 9 October 14

Discuss Reading Assignment #7

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

Week 10 October 21

Discuss Reading Assignment #8

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

Week 11 October 28

Discuss Reading Assignment #9

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

Week 12 November 4

Final Presentations

Week 13 November 11

Final Presentations

Week 14 November 18

Hold

Week 15 November 25

Hold

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.