

University of Georgia
INTL 8278

Energy Statecraft

Time: Thursday, 11:35 – 2:35
Place: Candler Hall 214

Dr. David K. Gattie
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Benson-Bertsch Center
110 E. Clayton, 6th Floor, Rm 623
Office Hours: Thursday 2:35-3:35

Dr. Joshua N. K. Massey
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Course Summary

This graduate seminar examines the role of energy in international politics with an emphasis on the many ways in which nations employ energy resources and technology to achieve geopolitical objectives and pursue national interests. The seminar will explore how the demand for energy and the resulting competition for energy resources and technology influence relations among states and shape economic, climate, and national security outcomes. Students will hone their ability to identify and analyze the exercise of energy statecraft and articulate their insights to inform industry and government officials at the local, regional, state, national, and international level. To that end, course assignments emphasize policy writing, presentation skills, open-source collection techniques, and professional correspondence to hone each student's ability to craft compelling memos and reports and deliver effective briefings. Course readings, discussions, and assignments are designed to assist students with better understanding the organization and function of the U.S. national security enterprise. When able, this syllabus will be complemented by a variety of external speakers with energy policy experience to offer both policy perspectives and career advice.

Subscriptions

Foreign Policy, <https://foreignpolicy.com> (student subscription offer)

Articles and Books

Required readings for the seminar are either accessible through the University of Georgia library system or will be provided by the instructor.

Grading

Course Requirements and Grading Components

Professionalism	20%	Daily
Regional Energy Presentation	20%	February 12 th
Energy Significant Activity Reports & Presentation	30%	Bi-weekly
Country Net Assessment	30%	April 16 th

Grading Scale

94.00 to 100.00	=A	74.00 to 77.99	=C
90.00 to 93.99	=A-	70.00 to 73.99	=C-
87.00 to 89.99	=B+	67.00 to 69.99	=D+
84.00 to 87.99	=B	64.00 to 67.99	=D
80.00 to 83.99	=B-	60.00 to 63.99	=D-
77.00 to 79.99	=C+	Below 60.00	=F

Professionalism (20%)

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, interaction with peers and guest speakers, engagement in group activities, personal conduct and correspondence with instructors and all class members. We expect you to be collegial and respectful during all seminar discussions and group activities. Finally, attendance and punctuality are the hallmarks of professionalism. **Absences impact your final grade.**

Regional Energy Presentation (20%)

Each student will be assigned to one of six regional combatant command staffs: Indo-Pacific, European, Northern, Southern, Africa, and Central Command. The regional energy presentation is designed to establish a baseline of knowledge for class discussions and other course assignments. This staff project is intended to provide the class with an orientation to each region and should include the following elements: 1) an overview of the region with an emphasis on geographic features, infrastructure, population centers, and energy resources, 2) major actors in the region including states, non-state actors, and intergovernmental organizations, and 3) a timeline of significant energy-related activity. The regional energy presentation is due **Thursday, February 12th**. Staffs must email both instructors their regional energy presentation no later than **12:00pm (local) on Thursday, Feb 12th** and bring two stapled hard copies of the presentation to class. Each staff will be allotted 30 minutes for their presentation.

Energy Significant Activity Reports and Presentations (30%)

Each staff will be responsible for submitting a bi-weekly Energy SigAct Report and Presentation. The SigAct Reports and Presentations serve as means for updating contemporary energy events in each region. The SigAct Reports must conform to the MIP Policy Memo Format (attached to this syllabus and posted on eLC.) The report should identify and discuss 2-4 regional energy related events that occurred during the reporting period (previous two weeks) and discuss the energy, economic, climate, and/or national security impacts of those events. The Energy SigAct Reports should be between 500 – 700 words (no more than a single page, front and back, single spaced). Each staff will be allotted 15 minutes for their presentation.

Each staff member will participate in the production of each report; however, one staff member will be responsible for compiling and presenting each memo. The first Energy SigAct Report for Staff 1 & 2 is due **March 5th**. The first Energy SigAct Report for Staff 2 & 3 is due **February 27th**. **The responsible staff member must sign and email the Energy SigAct Report to both**

instructors by 12:00pm (local) on the Thursday reports are due and bring two hard copies to class.

Country Energy Net Assessment (30%)

Each staff member will select a country from their region and conduct an energy analysis and net assessment. The net assessment project is designed to build on the knowledge gained throughout the course and identify energy asymmetries, opportunities, and vulnerabilities vis-à-vis other nation-states and non-state actors. Details for the net assessment project will be discussed further in class.

Administrative Issues

The course schedule is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructors may be necessary.

Academic Honesty: 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.

Special Accommodations: 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.

Prohibition on Recording Lectures: In the absence of written authorization from the UGA Disability Resource Center, students may not make a visual or audio recording of any aspect of this course.

Expectations for Use of Artificial Intelligence: Use of Generative AI (GAI) tools should be limited to providing support as you develop your thinking and knowledge base for an assignment. If you are uncertain about using a particular tool to support your work, please consult with me before using it.

Please note that you may not represent output generated by a GAI tool as your own work. Any such use of GAI output must be appropriately cited or disclosed, including quotation marks and in-line citations for direct quotes. Including anything you did not write in your assignment without proper citation will be treated as an academic misconduct case. Suspected unauthorized assistance, plagiarism, or other violations of UGAs A Culture of Honesty, will be reported to the Office of Academic Honesty. For full details on how to properly cite AI-generated work, please

see the APA Style article, How to Cite ChatGPT (<https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>).

If you are unsure where the line is between collaborating with GAI and copying from GAI, I recommend that you do not have your assignment and the GAI tool open on your device at the same time. Instead, take notes in your own words while you interact with the GAI tool, then use your notes to remind you of what you've learned and to inform your work. Never copy output from GAI tools into your assignment. Instead, use your interaction with the tool as a learning experience, then close the interaction down, open your assignment, and let your assignment reflect your improved understanding. (Sidenote: This advice extends to AI assistants that are directly integrated into a composition environment or grammar modulation tool.)

Important Dates

January 12 th -16 th :	Drop Add
March 2 nd :	Midterm
March 9 th -13 th :	Spring Break
April 9 th :	Withdrawal Deadline
April 28 th :	Reading Day

Course Schedule: The syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructors may be necessary.

Week 1, January 15th

Course Introduction and Overview

Week 2, January 22nd

Readings:

Tainter, Joseph A. 1995. "Sustainability of Complex Societies," *Futures*, Vol 27. 397-407.

Hamilton, Alexander. December 5, 1791. "Report on the Subject of Manufacture."

Bonvillian, William B. October 2021. "Emerging Industrial Policy Approaches in the United States," *Information Technology & Innovation Foundation*.

Week 3, January 29th

Readings:

Ding, Jeffrey. August 19, 2024. "The Innovation Fallacy," *Foreign Policy*.

Lu, Christina. August 19, 2024. "AI Enters the Critical Mineral Race," *Foreign Policy*.

Crownhart, Casey. September 26, 2024. "Why Microsoft Made a Deal to Help Restart Three Mile Island," *MIT Technology Review*.

NESCOE. June 25, 2024. "Data Centers and the Power System: A Primer." New England States Committee on Electricity.

Week 4, February 5th

Readings:

- Dahl, Erik J. Winter 2000 – 01. "From Coal to Oil," *Joint Forces Quarterly*, pp. 50-56.
- Yergin, Daniel. October 16, 2023. "1973 Oil Crisis: Three Crises in One – and the Lessons for Today," Key Note Address, Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia.
- Public Law 95-620. November 9 1978. "Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978."
- Brown, Phillip. October 17, 2019. "The Strategic Petroleum Reserve." TE10040; *Congressional Research Service*.

Watch:

"Why Did the Japanese Attack Pearl Harbor? <https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/why-did-japan-attack-pearl-harbor>.

Week 5, February 12th

*Regional Energy Presentations

Week 6, February 19th

Readings:

Angevine, Robert G. & Jeffrey S. McKittrick. December 20, 2021. "Andrew Marshall and Net Assessment," *Journal of Strategic Studies*.

Week 7, February 26th

Readings:

- "Country Analysis Brief: World Oil Transit Chokepoints." June 25, 2024. *U.S. Energy Information Administration*.
- Chausovsky, Eugene. July 31, 2023. "Energy is Taiwan's Achilles' Heel," *Foreign Policy*.
- Chausovsky, Eugene. March 22, 2024. "Shifting Conflicts Hit Key Energy Routes," *Foreign Policy*.
- Braw, Elisabeth. January 3, 2025. "Russia's Cable-Cutting Could Threaten Europe's Whole Energy Supply," *Foreign Policy*.
- Saha, Sagatom & Alex Stapleton. January 16, 2023. "Congress Must Create a Strategic Power Equipment Reserve," *Foreign Policy*.

*Staff 1 & 2: SigAct Report and Presentation

Week 8, March 5th

Readings:

Bordoff, Jason & Meghan L. O’Sullivan. May/June 2023. “The Age of Energy Insecurity: How the Fight for Resources is Upending Geopolitics,” *Foreign Affairs*.

Hockenos, Paul. January 3, 2025. “Europe Somehow Still Depends on Russia’s Energy,” *Foreign Policy*.

Davidson, Michael. November 2, 2023. “Why China Can’t Break it’s Coal Addiction,” *Foreign Affairs*.

*Staff 3 & 4: SigAct Report and Presentation

March 9th – 13th: UGA SPRING BREAK

Week 9, March 19th

Readings:

Lu, Christina. August 23, 2024. “China Tightens Its Grip on Yet another Critical Mineral,” *Foreign Policy*.

Goldman, Jonas, Noah J. Gordon, Bentley Allan, and Daniel Baer. “How America Can Win the Coming Battery War,” *Foreign Affairs*.

Listen:

Chakrabarti, Meghna. March 7, 2024. “Elements of Energy: Mining for a Green Future,” *WBUR, On Point*:

*Staff 1 & 2: SigAct Report and Presentation

Week 10, March 26th

Readings:

Asghedom, Asmeret D. August 2023. Examining The Energy Transition Through the Lens of Great Power Competition. Livermore Papers on Global Security, pp. 1-120.

Bordoff, Jason and Meghan L. O’Sullivan. January 18, 2024. “Geopolitics-Not Just Summits-Will Shape the Transition to Clean Energy,” *Foreign Affairs*.

*Staff 3 & 4: SigAct Report and Presentation

Week 11, April 2nd

Readings:

Asghedom, Asmeret D. August 2023. Examining The Energy Transition Through The Lens of Great Power Competition. Livermore Papers on Global Security, pp. 121-171.

Sanderson, Henry. January 2, 2024. “The Problem with De-Risking: Transitioning to Clean Energy Requires Trade with China,” *Foreign Affairs*.

*Staff 1 & 2: SigAct Report and Presentation

Week 12, April 9th

Readings:

Barnard, Chester I., J. R. Oppenheimer, Charles A. Thomas, Harry A. Winne, and David E. Lilienthal (Chairman). "A Report on the International Control of Atomic Energy (The Acheson-Lilienthal Report)."

Gattie, David K. and Joshua N. K. Massey. 2020. "21st Century U.S. Nuclear Power: A National Security Imperative." *Strategic Studies Quarterly*.

Doggett, Lloyd. April 9, 2024. "Russia's Rosatom Fuels Putin's War Machine," *Foreign Policy*.

Johnson, Keith and Amy Mackinnon. April 4, 2024. "U.S. Reactors Still Run on Russian Uranium," *Foreign Policy*.

*Staff 3 & 4: SigAct Report and Presentation

Week 13, April 16th

Net Assessment Presentations

Week 14, April 23rd

Course Wrap-up

Staff Assignments

Staff #1

Staff #2

Staff #3

Staff #4