

## *Course Syllabus*

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### **Course Information**

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	ENGY 6v99
<i>Course Title</i>	Energy and Sustainability (special topics in energy mgt.)
<i>Term</i>	Fall 2017
<i>Days &amp; Times</i>	Fri. 1 – 3:45

### **Professor Contact Information**

<i>Professor</i>	Dr. Stephen Molina, JD
<i>Phone</i>	214-629-2223
<i>Email Address</i>	<a href="mailto:Stephen.molina@utdallas.com">Stephen.molina@utdallas.com</a> or stevemolina8@gmail.com
<i>Office Location</i>	SM14.329
<i>Office Hours</i>	Mon., Wed. and Fri. in the morning
<i>Other Information</i>	If my cell number above rolls to voicemail try sending a text or an email. Please make an appointment, when possible.

### **Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

None

### **Course Description**

The energy industry and energy consumers are undergoing a transition with more consumers and businesses seeking ways to reduce their carbon foot print and establish a “green” brand. In other words, they are seeking more sustainable ways of meeting their energy needs. The course discusses major shifts going on in the global energy industry and the impact shifts in public perception are having on foreign and domestic energy policies, the environment, and corporate and government sustainability initiatives. Students will be asked to evaluate existing challenges to increased sustainability initiatives worldwide and to identify opportunities for increased sustainability in relation to economic growth. In short, the course addresses so-called sustained development. That is, development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

About the instructor--- Dr. Molina is a 1970 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in economics; and, a 1974 graduate of the SMU School of Law, with a Juris Doctor degree. He has served as the Vice President/General Counsel at four large oil and gas companies---ARCO Oil and Gas Company; Vastar Resources, Inc.; Benton Oil and Gas Company; and, the Oman Oil Company, the national oil company of the Sultanate of Oman, located in Muscat, Oman. During his time at ARCO he was also the Chief Counsel for ARCO Latin America, residing in Caracas, Venezuela. His oil and gas legal practice has taken him all over the world. He has spent the past ten years as a senior oil and gas lawyer with two prominent law firms--- Patton Boggs, the largest lobbying firm in the US, and Dentons, which is the largest law firm in the world. Texas Governor Perry appointed him a Texas Member of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, where he served as Chair of the International Affiliate Committee until the end of his term limit. Molina continues with the IOGCC, and serves

on the Legal and Regulatory Affairs Committee. He is also a Senior Advisor to the Bilateral US Arab Chamber of Commerce in Houston, and a board member of the US Mexico Chamber of Commerce in Washington D.C. He came to UTD in the spring semester of 2016.

There will also be various experts and industry leaders giving guest lectures throughout the course.

### **Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

A student taking this course will come away with a basic understanding of “sustainability” principles and practices, global warming theories, all types of renewable energy endeavors and their business consequences; as well as historical and current views of the political, practical, environmental, and economic consequences nations face concerning energy resources, energy requirements, and power needs.

### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

#### *Required Texts*

*Sustainability Principles and Practice*, by Margaret Robertson, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, pub. by Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group, 2017; *An Inconvenient Truth*, by Al Gore, pub. by Rodale, 2006; Also, papers and articles will be distributed, in advance, for each class.

#### *Required Materials*

None

### **Suggested Course Materials**

#### *Suggested Readings/Texts*

Current events and how they impact the energy industry and environment will be the topic of many class discussions.

#### *Suggested Material*

#### *Field trips*

Saturday field trips to operating locations (for example, wind or solar farms, nuclear facilities, water treatment plants, clean coal power facilities, and the like) may be arranged and substituted for certain of the classes set out below.

### **Assignments & Academic Calendar**

#### *Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates*

- Aug. 25 Sustainability
- Sept. 1 Climate change/global warming
- Sept. 8 The need for power
- Sept. 15 Wind energy
- Sept. 22 Water, taxes and government subsidies

- Sept. 29 Solar energy
- Oct. 6 Environmental geology
- Oct. 13 Clean coal
- Oct. 20 Corporate responsibility (Toyota – not yet confirmed)
- Oct. 27 Papers due; waste disposal
- Nov. 3 Nuclear
- Nov. 10 Papers discussion
- Nov. 17 Papers Discussion
- Dec. 1 Paper discussion

### **Grading Policy**

This is a graduate level course. Class attendance, participation in discussions and some research of sustainability issues and renewable energy topics will make up 75% of the course grade. A three (3) page paper on an assigned sustainability or renewable energy legal or contract topic, will count for the remaining 25%.

### **Course Policies**

#### *Make-up exams*

There are no exams, but a paper will be required.

#### *Extra Credit*

Extra credit, up to an additional 10% of a student's grade, is encouraged. The extra credit will be earned in the form of short research projects.

#### *Late Work*

n/a

#### *Special Assignments*

A three page paper will be required, which will deal with renewable energy legal or contract issues or sustainability issues.

#### *Class Attendance*

Absences, with a valid excuse and advance notification to the instructor will be excused. However, due to the nature of the class and its emphasis on attendance and discussions too many absences will negatively impact a course grade.

#### *Classroom Citizenship*

### **Comet Creed**

*This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:*

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

## **UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures**

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

*The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*