

Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number/Section ENGY/FIN 4313
Course Title Energy Finance

Term Spring 2018
Days & Times Tues. 7-9:45

Professor Contact Information

Professor Dr. Stephen Molina, JD

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Office Location SM14.329

Office Hours Wed. 3-4; all other days by appointment

Other Information If my cell number above rolls to voicemail try sending
a text or an email

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

FIN 3320

Course Description

This course deals with borrowing and lending money in energy related projects, such as oil and gas (upstream, midstream and downstream), coal, solar, wind, and other so-called renewables. It approaches lending from the lenders and borrowers side, including joint interest projects. You will begin with the basics of secured transactions, move on to the various ways the energy industry raises capital, review funding project operations, and deal with default.

During the course the class will deal with actual lending documents, and review the anatomy of a financing. A student taking this class will learn to address and analyze the ins and outs of borrowing money in the various energy-related businesses. And the student will have a thorough appreciation for entering into a secured transaction (dealing with collateral, guarantees, and forfeiture). Blue sky law requirements for promoting energy deals will also be covered.

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 former Senior Advisor to the Bilateral US Arab Chamber of Commerce in Houston, and a former board member and senior advisor to the US Mexico Chamber of Commerce in Washington D.C.

He is the UTD Director of Energy Management Programs.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

A student taking this course will come away with an understanding of project financing energy-related transactions. The student will appreciate the ins and outs of borrowing capital and the lending side of the transaction. Bringing on investors will also be covered. Students will also learn to deal with a secured transaction and forfeitures. The class will approach the lending transaction from start (locating lenders/investors) to Closing the loan, and then deal with calling on and spending the loan proceeds. Dealing with complex loan documents will be taught throughout the semester. THIS COURSE WILL COVER U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL ENERGY FINANCING.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Required Texts

None . Actual loan documents will be distributed and used throughout the semester.

Required Materials

None

Suggested Course Materials

Suggested Readings/Texts

Documents made available by Dr. Molina will be helpful to you and reflect on your class participation grade.

Suggested Material

To be assigned.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates

Jan. 9 The basics of Secured Transactions

Jan. 16 Default/Asset forfeiture

Jan. 23 Money Lenders

Jan. 30 Money “Finders”

Feb. 6 Credit facilities; Islamic financing

Feb. 13 Structuring a project Financing Plan

Feb. 20 Mid-term exam

Feb. 27	Discounted cash flow analysis; Financing conventional and renewable energy projects
March 6	Corruption and political risk; financial risk management for energy projects
March 20	Managing various risks and financial covenants through the borrowing and Operations phases
March 27	Papers due
April 3	Document reviews
April 10	Student pitches
April 17	Student Pitches
April 24	Student pitches

Grading Policy

Class attendance, participation in discussions and some research of energy lending topics will make up 65% of the course grade. A mid-term test will count for 10% of the final grade. A three (3) page paper on an assigned energy legal or contract lending topic, presented to the class, will count for the remaining 25%.

Course Policies

Make-up exams

Make-up exams will be allowed with an excused absence, for good cause.

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 energy legal or contract lending 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.