



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2018

7,386: Energy Governance and Management

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (60%)

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (10%)

Decentral - Active participation (15%)

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (15%)

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[7.386.1.00 Energy Governance and Management](#) -- Englisch -- [Thaler Philipp](#) , [Wüstenhagen Rolf](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

Open to all students with an interest in international dimensions of energy. Prior attendance of classes taught by any of the two lecturers (or similar classes at other universities) is welcome.

Course content

Energy has risen to the top of policy agendas around the world. There is now widespread recognition that energy policy has become key to international security, economic development, and environmental sustainability of modern civilization. At the same time, the energy sector is going through a phase of transition with rapid technological change, new actors and - more generally - a new way how we 'think energy'. Steering societies and economies through the energy transition is anything but simple. To meet challenges and seize opportunities, sound governance and management of energy is paramount - and maybe more important than ever before.

In times when fossil fuels are gradually replaced by energy from renewable sources, governing and managing energy involves public and private actors at local, regional, national and international levels. Some countries have decided to embark on an ambitious new energy policy, phasing out nuclear energy and substantially increasing both energy efficiency and the contribution of renewable energies. Others show little sign of moving away from conventional fuels. And some administrations have reversed progressive energy and climate policies.

Is the energy transition a choice or destiny? Will renewables become the new norm? What properties will define the international political economy (IPE) of energy in a post-carbon world? How do companies deal with the opportunities and challenges of the global energy transition, and what determines whether they will be successful? Are Western style democracies prepared to bring about the massive societal, behavioral and economic changes required to make the energy transition a success?

These are some of the questions that will be addressed in this seminar, co-taught by an interdisciplinary team: Dr. Philipp Thaler is PostDoc for Energy Governance at the Institute for Political Science at the University of St. Gallen. Besides his research in academia, he has worked on issues of energy governance and market regulation at energy and climate think tank E3G, the European Commission and as a consultant in the private sector. Prof. Rolf Wüstenhagen holds the Good Energies Chair for Management of Renewable Energies at the University of St. Gallen, has been a lead author on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report on renewable energy sources and climate change mitigation and is a member of the advisory board of the Swiss government's energy strategy 2050. Before embarking on an academic career, he worked in the venture capital industry, financing energy technology firms.



Course structure

In the first session, lecturers will introduce their respective perspectives on energy governance and management. In the second session, this will be followed by the assignment of seminar topics to approximately eight student teams. These topics match the questions that will be addressed in the seminar's subsequent sessions. The last part of the second session will be devoted to brainstorming, during which students will present and get feedback on a **preliminary analysis** (i.e., not based on research) of the question they have been assigned.

In the following weeks, students will work in teams to draft a 30 minutes presentation based on original research. Each presentation will address one of the seminar questions by using the required readings as well as a minimum of 10 additional references. Teams are encouraged to include a comparative or an international dimension as well as empirical data in their presentation. Other criteria for grading include originality, coherence of the argument, analytical precision, and presentation quality. Files are due three days prior to their presentation in class and must be shared with other participants by uploading electronic versions on the course's online discussion forum (folder 'stud. Presentations').

Each topic will be **presented** during a two-hour session between the third and the eleventh class of the semester. In each session, the student team will present the findings of their research in 30 minutes, followed by a brief (5 min.) **comment** by another student team. A general **discussion** led by the presenting team will follow. Each student is expected to have done the required readings in order to contribute actively to the discussion.

On Friday November 23, 2018 (12-18 h), we will make an excursion to a Windpark in the Swiss-German border area (near Schaffhausen). This replaces one of the regular classes.

At the end of the seminar, each student is required to write a short (2-4 pages) **reflection paper**, which is to be submitted at the end of the last week of classes. This reflection paper will address how the research experience and seminar discussions altered the student's preliminary analysis.

In the final class, the lecturers will facilitate a debriefing session on lessons learned.

The presentation represents 60 % of the grade, and each team member will receive the same grade. The comment following another group's presentation represents another 10 % of the grade and is also a team grade. Active classroom participation (15%) and the reflection paper (15%) are the remaining grading components, and both are based on individual performance.

Course literature

- [IEA World Energy Outlook Special Report 2017 Executive Summary. Paris: IEA.](#) (access to the pdf via the HSG network or VPN)
- [REN21: Renewables Global Status Report 2018, Key Findings. Paris: REN21/UNEP.](#)

Additional course information

For any questions, please contact the course's teaching assistant, Jana Plananska <jana.plananska@unisg.ch>

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/4)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (60%)

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Practical examination

No examination-aid rule is necessary for such examination types. The rules and regulations of the University of St. Gallen apply



in a subsidiary fashion.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

2. Examination sub part (2/4)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (10%)

Remark

Comment on another group's presentation.

Examination-aid rule

Practical examination

No examination-aid rule is necessary for such examination types. The rules and regulations of the University of St. Gallen apply in a subsidiary fashion.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

3. Examination sub part (3/4)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Active participation (15%)

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Practical examination

No examination-aid rule is necessary for such examination types. The rules and regulations of the University of St. Gallen apply in a subsidiary fashion.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

4. Examination sub part (4/4)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (15%)

Remark

Learning Reflection Paper

Examination-aid rule

Term papers



- Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship.
- The documentation of sources (quotations, bibliography) has to be done throughout and consistently in accordance with the APA or MLA standards. The indications of the sources of information taken over verbatim or in paraphrase (quotations) must be integrated into the text in accordance with the precepts of the applicable quotation standard, while informative and bibliographical notes must be added as footnotes (recommendations and standards can be found, for example, in METZGER, C. (2017), *Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien* (12th ed., Cornelsen Schweiz).
- For any work written at the HSG, the indication of the page numbers both according to the MLA and the APA standard is never optional.
- Where there are no page numbers in sources, precise references must be provided in a different way: titles of chapters or sections, section numbers, acts, scenes, verses, etc.
- For papers in law, the legal standard is recommended (by way of example, cf. FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R. et SCHINDLER B. (2018), *Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende* (6. Auflage), Zürich: Schulthess, or the recommendations of the Law School).

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content

Content of faculty and student presentations; practitioner debate; climate change; sustainable development; international and national energy policy; global energy governance; implications for policymakers and for businesses.

Examination relevant literature

- [IEA World Energy Outlook Special Report 2017 Executive Summary](#). Paris: IEA. (access to the pdf via the HSG network or VPN)
- [REN21: Renewables Global Status Report 2018, Key Findings](#). Paris: REN21/UNEP.

Please note

We would like to point out to you that this fact sheet has absolute priority over other information such as StudyNet, faculty members' personal databases, information provided in lectures, etc. When will the fact sheets become binding?

- Information about courses and examination time (central/decentral and grading form): from the start of the bidding process on 23 August 2018
- Information about decentral examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): after the 4th semester week on 15 October 2018
- Information about central examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): from the start of the enrolment period for the examinations on 05 November 2018

Please look at the fact sheet once more after these deadlines have expired.