

AECN 399: Energy Law

Instructor: Professor Aiken. *Office:* 103D Filley Hall. *Office hours:* by appointment. *Phone:* 472-1848 (can leave message 24 hours/day). *Email:* daiken@unl.edu *Secretary:* Mrs. Pam Holmes 472-1913, 207 Filley Hall. If you need to take a makeup exam, you will take it from Mrs. Holmes in 207 Filley.

Text: Friedman, **Hot, Flat & Crowded** and Tomain, **Energy Law**. Additional materials will be posted on Blackboard throughout the semester.

Course coverage: to acquaint students with the fundamentals of state and federal energy law, particularly as they regard to global warming. Major topics include: energy sectors, historical development of US energy policy, public utility regulation, oil, natural gas, coal, nuclear energy, transportation, energy conservation, renewable energy, global warming, California energy policy, and biofuels. Nebraska energy topics will include how carbon markets are likely to affect Nebraska agriculture, wind leasing, community-based energy development and regulatory changes needed to accommodate anticipated federal climate legislation.

Blackboard. Course materials are on blackboard at my.unl.edu Under *course documents* you will find the detailed assignments, review questions, and lecture overheads. I recommend that you print out the overhead handouts and bring them to class.

Exams. Three hour exams will be given during the semester. The hour exams are traditional closed-book exams which include fill in the blank, short answer, multiple-choice, and true-false questions. The exams will cover the lectures and assigned reading material as indicated on the course syllabus. The exam questions are taken from your topic review questions. Exams count 100% of your final grade. No exam grades are dropped.

Final exam. Exam 4 is an optional final exam, and all questions come from exams 1-3 Your exam 4 score will not replace the lowest of your exams 1-3 but will simply be treated as a fourth hour exam if that would improve your grade (i.e. your exam 4 score is higher than your average going into exam 4). You may sign up for exam 4 by sending me an email. Taking exam 4 cannot harm your semester grade.

Honors credit. Students wishing to take the course for honors credit must prepare a 20+ page (double spaced) research paper on a topic proposed by the student and approved by the professor. You must submit the paper topic by the date of exam 1, a detailed paper outline by the date of exam 2 and a complete finished draft of the honors paper on the date of exam 3. A tentative grade will be assigned to the draft paper as well as suggestions for revisions if the student would like to improve the grade. The revised paper must be submitted no later than the date of exam 4. The paper will be graded and will be figured into your course grade as another hour exam. Each day you are late for any of the deadlines (topic, outline, paper, and revisions if any) will cost you one percentage point from your honors paper final grade.

Grading policy. Semester grades are determined as follows:

A+	96.00-100	B+	86.00-88.99	C+	74.00-78.99	D	59.00-63.99	P/F grading	
A	92.00-95.99	B	82.00-85.99	C	69-73.99	F	0-58.99	P	69.00-100
A-	89.00-91.99	B-	79.00-81.99	D+	64.00-68.99			F	0-68.99

Course Outline & Reading Assignments

Assignments are to Friedman, *Hot, Flat & Crowded* (**HFC**), Tomain, *Energy Law* (**EL**), & Blackboard (**Bb**).

Jan 13: course introduction
Jan 15: global warming: Bb
Jan 20: no class: M. L. King Day
Jan 22: future energy systems: HFC 217-40
Jan 27: energy sectors & overview: EL 37-48
Jan 20: energy policy history to 1973: EL 48-64
Feb 03: energy policy 1973-2009: EL 64-74; HFC 13-25
Feb 05: administrative law: EL 75-114
Feb 10: public utility regulation: EL 115-52

Feb 12: exam 1

Feb 17: domestic oil: EL 153-88
Feb 19: foreign oil: HFC 77-110
Feb 24: natural gas: EL 189-222
Feb 26: coal: EL 223-255
Mar 03: electricity: wholesale: EL 256-85
Mar 05: electricity: retail; Enron EL 285-297
Mar 10: nuclear EL 298-331
Mar 12: transportation Bb
Mar 17: spring break—no class
Mar 19: spring break—no class

Mar 24 exam 2

Mar 26: conservation & renewable: HFC 170-199; EL 332-84
Mar 31 Kyoto treaty & implementation: Bb
Apr 02: California model I: Bb
Apr 07: California model II: Bb
Apr 09: federal proposals: Bb
Apr 14: biofuels policy: Bb
Apr 16: energy & Nebraska agriculture: Bb
Apr 21: energy & Nebraska communities: Bb

Apr 23: exam 3

Apr 28: no class
Apr 30: exam 3 returned

May 08: exam 4 (optional) 10:00-12:00
