



GES 141

Introduction to Sustainable Energy Fall 2024

This course combines an overview of energy-related science with the societal, economic, and environmental aspects of energy. The science portion of the course will cover fossil fuels, alternative energy sources, distribution, and storage. The societal context of energy will focus on human behavior and political constraints. The course will also cover the environmental impacts of energy production and use, as well as the economics of energy. The concepts of sustainability will be introduced as a unifying theme for considering our energy future.

Time: MWF 10:00-10:50 AM

Class Format: In-person instruction

Location: 105 Behavioral Sciences

Instructor

Mr. Christopher Lute, Research Associate, CSU Energy Institute

chris.lute@colostate.edu

Office Hours

Tuesday 1-2pm, Thursday 10-11am

328 Powerhouse

In person or virtually

Google Meet:

<https://meet.google.com/mvh-mryo-vxg>

Microsoft Teams:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NzgwMjBjNDgtMTgyNi00ZjRhLWJmYzMtOTRkNzRjOGM1MjNk%40threadd.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22afb58802-ff7a-4bb1-ab21-367ff2ecfc8b%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%224ab04b84-7404-45e1-a7f6-f8e965f9c353%22%7d

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to (a) Understand the science of all major types of energy, (b) Understand the relevance of science to energy-related problems and questions, (c) Understand how to evaluate the sustainability of energy resources, and (d) Evaluate the pros and cons of a current energy issue in the news.

Textbook

Energy for Sustainability (second edition)

By: John Randolph and Gilbert M. Masters (2018)

Selected chapters will be shared electronically. It is not necessary to purchase the entire book. If you choose to do so, it is \$165 new on Amazon, but used copies may be available.

Expectations

You are expected to take an active role in learning by:

- Coming prepared to class sessions
- Attending classes and participating
- Completing all assignments
- Checking graded assignments and exams to learn from any prior mistakes
- Attend office hours to ask questions as needed

The instructor will provide class sessions that facilitate learning the material and will be available during office hours to answer questions. The instructor also expects that in-class discussions will be held in a respectful, thoughtful manner. When one person is speaking, the rest of the class members should listen and not interrupt, and the speaker should make his/her remarks concisely. Responses should be made to the facts or ideas presented; personal attacks will not be tolerated.

Course Grading

Traditional letter grades will be assigned based on the following criteria:

Assignments and quizzes: 50%

Midterm exam: 20%

Final exam: 20%

Class participation: 10%

Students should expect that letter grades will be assigned on a traditional basis (A is >90%, B is 80-89%, C is 70-79%, etc.).

Grading Errors

Students have 10 days to respond to grading discrepancies or challenge potential errors in grading. If you believe that there was an error in grading any of your assignments, please let me know as soon as possible. Grades will not be changed later than 10 days after graded assignments have been returned.

Zero tolerance for academic dishonesty

There is a zero tolerance policy in this class for violations of university academic integrity policies. The course will adhere to the Colorado State University Student Conduct Code (<http://www.conflictresolution.colostate.edu/conduct-code>) and Academic Integrity Policy (<http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/policies/students-responsibilities/>) of the General Catalog. In addition to violations such as plagiarism and classroom cheating, use of unauthorized materials constitutes academic dishonesty. For this course, materials authorized for use on homework assignments and studying for exams are the course textbook, lecture notes, and content available on GES 141 Canvas site. All other materials are unauthorized unless express written permission is granted by the instructor.

Homework policies

There will usually be weekly homework assignments in the form of readings, short quizzes, or online discussions, for example. For individual assignments, you may discuss the questions/tasks with others, but copying is not allowed. Assignments, quizzes, and exams are due at their specified due date and time listed on the GES 141 Canvas site. Late homework will be penalized 10% for each day past the due date.

Animals in the classroom

In accordance with University Policy, the only animals allowed in the classroom are Service Dogs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please note that pets or Emotional Support Animals are expressly forbidden from all non-residential university buildings. If you bring a dog to class and it is not a Service Dog, you will be asked to leave and to not bring the dog to class again.

Electronic Communication

The instructor will use both your CSU email address and the messaging system in Canvas to communicate electronically with everyone in the class. Class files including lectures, homework, and exams will be posted to the class Canvas site (<http://info.canvas.colostate.edu/login.aspx>). Verify that you can access the GES 141 site on Canvas. All course materials will be posted on this site. It is your responsibility to check the site regularly for new material. Announcements regarding assignments, course schedule, guest lectures, and other opportunities will be posted on Canvas. Verify that you have access to your CSU email address or are forwarding email from your CSU email to an email you use.

To forward from your CSU email follow these steps:

1. Go to <http://mail.rams.colostate.edu> and login with your eName and ePassword.
2. Choose 'Settings' and configure forwarding to go to your preferred address.