ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND POLICY (ENMG)

ENMG 503 Topics in Energy Policy
This seminar will explore a collection of ideas influencing energy policy development in the U.S. and around the world. Our platform for this exploration will be seven recent books to be discussed during the semester. These books each contribute important insights to seven ideas that influence energy policy: Narrative, Transition, Measurement, Systems, Subsidiarity, Disruption, Attachment. Books for 2018 will be chosen over the summer; the 2017 books are listed here as examples: Policy Paradox (2011) by Stone, Climate Shock (2015) by Wagner and Weitzman, Power Density (2015) by Smil, Connectography (2016) by Khanna, Climate of Hope (2017) by Bloomberg and Pope, Utility of the Future (2016) by MIT Energy Initiative, Retreat from a Rising Sea (2016) by Pilkey, Pilkey-Jarvis, Pilkey.
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

ENMG 505 Chokepoints and the Global Energy Systems
This research seminar will explore the movement of energy resources around the world, the physical and economic impact of that flow on these cities and regions, and the opportunities and challenges of these flows in the complex and uncertain energy transition currently underway. The discovery and invention of more concentrated forms of energy during the modern era has generated infrastructures for transporting fuels and transmitting electricity over increasingly large distances. These infrastructures have created landscapes characterized by land use patterns and inter-industry configurations that are massive, expensive, durable and highly specific. They continue to generate great wealth and wages, while also generating externalized climate, environmental, and health costs that are better regulated in some places than in others. All of these conditions yield policy and design challenges for cities and nations, especially as the world slowly but steadily builds a policy regime for mitigating climate change. The global energy system is a key source of the greenhouse. Emissions driving climate change. As policies are developed and enforce to reduce and eliminate those emissions, these landscapes will change dramatically over the long transition of the next 50 years. How can cities and nations guide that transition with policy and design choices? How can nations use port cities and other elements of the energy landscape to meet their global climate commitments? The seminar will discuss weekly assigned readings and students can expect to read approximately a book a week throughout the semester. Students will write three 1-page papers on weekly readings and lead part of the seminar discussion on those readings. They will submit a 10-page final project in the form of a research agenda that identifies a set of important questions that could help guide policy and design choices facing energy flows and the industries and nations that influence them.
Taught by: Nick Pevzner, Mark Alan Hughes, Cornelia Colijn
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit