

This is an intensive short course that meets on a special schedule before regular classes begin.

ENERGY POLICY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Course Number: 24 LITG 876 001

Call Number: 000067

Semester: Spring 2011; **Professor:** Tomain; **Credits:** 2 Classroom

Primary Basis for the Grade: Tentatively Paper or Project; Letter Grade; **Prerequisites:** None

Enrollment: Limited to 30; Please complete a Limited Enrollment Lottery Form.

Meets Seminar Requirement? No

Meets Writing Requirement? No

Meets Client Counseling Requirement? No

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Climate change is clearly an environmental problem and environmental law and lawyers are front and center in addressing this matter. This course, though, comes at climate change from a different angle – the relationship between energy law & policy and climate change. Before we can fully understand any climate change proposal we must understand the traditional assumptions underlying energy policy and then understand that that policy must be replaced with a new set of assumptions. We must also understand the policy making process in order to assess the likelihood of any climate change proposal being adopted.

This class will introduce you to the regulatory process and the model of government regulation, and introduce you to the assumptions which have led to an energy policy which is over a century old and to the need for adopting a new set of assumptions which are more responsive to the energy and environmental needs of the 21st century. We will also explore the relationship between government and markets. Whether you practice corporate law, environmental law, labor & employment law, or even something as local as zoning and planning law, you will confront government regulation in your law practices. The take away value of the course, then, is to understand the relationship between government and markets because these two spheres of daily life are inextricably intertwined and they are unavoidable in the practice of law (or business or politics for that matter.)

Any response to climate change must address energy policy past, present, and future. This class will examine the development of traditional US energy policy, criticize the assumptions on which it is based, and will offer alternative assumptions upon which an environmentally sensitive future energy policy can be developed. Additionally, the course will explore energy technology innovations and innovation policy.

Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday, 1-11-2011 through Saturday, 1-15-2011 9:00 – noon in room 302

After the semester starts, Professor Tomain will schedule additional sessions of at least 8.5 hours. These sessions may take place at various times which might include lunch periods, weekends, and evenings.

Last updated: 11-11-10 no