

Las Positas College  
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**Course Outline for EVST 5**  
**ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY**  
**Effective: Fall 2019**

**I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

EVST 5 — ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY — 3.00 units

Introduction and exploration of Energy production, utilization, management, and the effects on society and the environment. This course will also compare and contrast current and future renewable and non renewable methods of energy generation, auditing, and conservation.

3.00 Units Lecture

**Strongly Recommended**

- Eligibility for ENG 1A -

**Grading Methods:**

Letter or P/NP

**Discipline:**

- Chemistry or
- Physics/Astronomy

	<u>MIN</u>
<b>Lecture Hours:</b>	54.00
<b>Total Hours:</b>	54.00

**II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1**

**III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:**

**Before entering this course, it is strongly recommended that the student should be able to:**

- A. -Eligibility for ENG 1A
1. Use strategies to assess a text's difficulty, purpose, and main idea prior to the act of reading
  2. Annotate a text during the act of reading
  3. Employ strategies that enable a critical evaluation of a text
  4. Respond critically to a text through class discussions and writing
  5. Use concepts of paragraph and essay structure and development to analyze his/her own and others' essays
  6. Write effective summaries of texts that avoid wording and sentence structure of the original
  7. Organize coherent essays around a central idea or a position
  8. Apply structural elements in writing that are appropriate to the audience and purpose
  9. Provide appropriate and accurate evidence to support positions and conclusions
  10. Produce written work that reflects academic integrity and responsibility, particularly when integrating the exact language and ideas of an outside text into one's own writing
  11. Utilize effective grammar recall to check sentences for correct grammar and mechanics
  12. Proofread his/her own and others' prose

**IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:**

**Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

- A. Describe the scientific principles underlying various forms of energy including the interaction of the Earth and Sun
- B. Use the scientific terminology for energy and associated units
- C. Describe and discuss historical and technological changes in the production and use of Energy
- D. Describe and discuss current primary methods of energy production locally, and globally
- E. Discuss the physical, political, and economic factors in energy production
- F. Describe and discuss the role of energy in key sectors of the economy, including transportation, manufacturing, agriculture, electricity, water, and heating
- G. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of various forms of energy use and production, including the social, economic and the environmental effects of each method
- H. Discuss current and proposed methods of energy conservation, including Auditing, recycling, and reducing waste energy
- I. Describe and discuss emerging renewable energy technologies
- J. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages, and appropriate use of renewable energy technologies

**V. CONTENT:**

- A. The Science of Energy.

1. Relationship to mass, motion, Force, and Work
2. Energy Units
3. Kinetic and Potential Energy
4. Energy Conservation
5. Thermal Energy
6. Heat Engines and Entropy
7. Radiation
8. Geologic Energy Sources
9. Mass and Energy
10. Energy from the Sun
- B. Interaction of Earth and Sun
  1. Atmosphere of Earth
  2. Absorption, scattering, and transparency of atmosphere
  3. Formation of Life
  4. Photosynthetic processes
  5. Biological Energy Storage and Transport
  6. Creation of fossil Fuels
  7. Greenhouse effect and Climate Change
- C. History of Energy Technology
  1. Preindustrial Technology
  2. Early water and wind technology
  3. Heat engines and industrial revolution
  4. transportation systems
  5. development and use of current fuels and energy productions systems
- D. Contemporary Energy Technologies overview
  1. Renewable vs. Non-Renewable
  2. National Electrical Grid
  3. Use of Coal, fossil Fuels, natural Gas
  4. Nuclear Power
  5. Total energy Budget
    - a. National
    - b. Global
    - c. Projections
- E. Renewable Technologies
  1. Bioenergy
  2. Solar thermal energy
  3. Photovoltaic Power
  4. Hydropower
  5. Tidal Energy
  6. Wave Energy
  7. Wind Power
  8. Geothermal Power
  9. Alternative Transportation Systems
- F. Energy Conservation
  1. Energy Auditing
  2. Insulation and Waste Energy
  3. Fuel Economy and Electric Vehicles
  4. Sustainable Building practices
- G. Energy and Future
  1. Population growth and Energy Use
  2. Reducing Greenhouse Gasses
  3. Public and Alternative Transportation
  4. Sustainable Development

#### VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** - (may include demonstrations, video, and computer-based simulations)
- B. **Discussion** - Group discussion of Assigned reading and Contemporary Topics
- C. Individual and group skill building activities
- D. **Field Trips** - Field trips (may include scheduled field trips to off-campus locations in the Greater Bay Area)
- E. Oral presentations
- F. Directed Internet based Research
- G. Journal article review or research
- H. **Written exercises and case studies** - Written assignments
- I. Reading from Textbook and Current periodicals

#### VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Complete weekly readings
- B. Research paper on relevant and current issues of energy and sustainability.
- C. Prepare one or more oral presentations to be done individually or as a group.
- D. Complete a home energy Audit and Summarize the results.

#### VIII. EVALUATION:

##### Methods/Frequency

- A. Exams/Tests
  - 1-3 midterms and a final exam
- B. Quizzes
  - 4 – 8
- C. Research Projects
  - 1-3
- D. Oral Presentation
  - 1-10
- E. Class Participation
  - daily

#### IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Dunlap, Richard. *Sustainable Energy*. 1st ed., Cengage Learning, 2015.
2. Moaveni, Saeed. *Energy, Environment and Sustainability*. 1st ed., Cengage Learning, 2018.
3. Hinrichs, Roger, and Merlin Kleinbach. *Energy and Its Use in the Environment*. 5th ed., Cengage Learning, 2013.

4. Ristinen, Robert, Jack Kraushaar, and Jeffrey Brack. *Energy and the Environment*. 3rd ed., Wiley, 2016.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

A. Access to the Internet and computers, through the LPC Computer Center, or access to a personal computer at home with an Internet connection