



GCU/SOS 171 – The Thread of Energy

General Studies – SB (social and behavioral)

CLAS – SS (science and society)

GCU/SOS 171 – THE THREAD OF ENERGY

Instructor: Martin J. Pasqualetti

*Professor, School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning
Senior Sustainability Scientist, Global Institute of Sustainability*

This course follows the thread of energy through every aspect of our lives. It discusses the social, legal, technical, and policy contexts of all energy resources, including present and unconventional fossil fuels, nuclear power, and renewable resources.

It addresses energy use throughout history, the influence of energy on quality of life, the role it plays in political strategies and environmental quality, how it shapes our neighborhoods and cities, its contribution to our personal comfort and national security, and how its importance is reflected in the worlds of business and the humanities.

The course emphasizes energy as a global concern throughout all topics. The course is designed to have a dual role both as a stand-alone introduction, and as a first step to more advanced studies in the natural, technical, and social sciences.

Students in the School of Sustainability B.S. degree program can use this course as a challenge area/track elective for the Sustainable Energy, Materials, and Technology track.

✓ **Time: T Th, 12 – 1:15**

✓ **Tempe - TMPCT158**