COURSE DETAIL

ENERGIZING EUROPE: THE EU ENERGY AND CLIMATE CRISES
Country Germany
Host Institution Free University of Berlin
Program(s) European Studies
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Political Science Environmental Studies
UCEAP Course Number 105
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title ENERGIZING EUROPE: THE EU ENERGY AND CLIMATE CRISES
UCEAP Transcript Title ENERGIZING EUROPE
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description

Today, the EU is a world leader in alternative energy efforts, most notably Germany's Energiewende, which aims to replace coal and nuclear with wind and solar electricity. However, the EU is also interconnecting member-state gas, electrical, and transport systems and unifying its energy markets aided by its new European Energy Union (EEU) — whose formation was spurred by the Ukraine crisis and Europe's heavy dependence on Russian gas. This course investigates how these transitions impact EU carbon emissions, resources, economy, society, and geopolitical security. It begins by surveying the EU's energy resources and infrastructure as compared to the USA's. It then studies Europe´s energy transitions from medieval times through its 20th-century energy crises and wars. With this preparation, the course covers Europe's intended 21st-century energy transitions. Topics include: Germany's Energiewende, its technical, economic, and social challenges and its impact on EU neighbors; problems of oil dependence and traffic congestion in the German and EU transport sectors; EU natural gas policy – external issues including dependence on Russia and pipelines through Ukraine, attempts to diversify with Norwegian, North African, and Caspian gas and with US liquefied natural gas (LNG); and internal issues such as market unification, interconnection of pipelines, anti-monopoly efforts, fracking, and competition from cheap carbon-intensive coal; finally, German rejection of nuclear energy is viewed in light of risks and promises of next-generation reactors. Throughout, students follow current German, EU, and related global energy affairs. This course should be of interest to students of both social and natural sciences.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
FU-BEST 30

Host Institution Course Title
ENERGIZING EUROPE: THE EU ENERGY AND CLIMATE CRISES

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus Free Univ. Berlin
Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department FU-BEST
Course Last Reviewed

Print