COURSE DETAIL

GERMAN ENERGY POLICY AND (GEO)POLITICS
Country Germany
Host Institution Free University of Berlin
Program(s) Free University Berlin
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Political Science Environmental Studies
UCEAP Course Number 118
UCEAP Course Suffix H
UCEAP Official Title GERMAN ENERGY POLICY AND (GEO)POLITICS
UCEAP Transcript Title GERMN ENERGY POLICY
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This course uses the March 2023 Berlin climate referendum as a starting point for an analysis of German energy policy and (geo)politics. It assesses the influence of (geo)political, technological, environmental and other social factors on the development of the German energy mix since the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951. The class traces the rise and fall of nuclear power before and after German reunification; the consequences of the oil shock and the persistence of oil despite the emergence of biofuels; the construction of natural gas pipelines, including Nord Stream; and the marked divergence of solar and wind capacity in the north and south of the country. Questions include: Should the German federal government have responded to widespread anti-nuclear sentiment by phasing out nuclear power ahead of coal? Are biofuels a sustainable substitute for oil? And is the shift to renewable energy in Berlin constrained by the technology or, as supporters of the climate referendum claimed, by a lack of political will?

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
16920

Host Institution Course Title
GERMAN ENERGY POLICY AND (GEO) POLITICS

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.fu-berlin.de/vv/en/lv/900459?query=German+Energy+Policy+and+%2528Ge...

Host Institution Campus
Free University of Berlin

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Deutsche Philologie
Course Last Reviewed 2024-2025

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