

University of Houston Law Center
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY LAW & POLICY SYLLABUS
- Spring 2017 -

Contact Information

Instructor:	Gina S. Warren
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Class Schedule and Location: Class is scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:30am to 12:00pm in room TBD.

Office Hours: I am available to meet with students regularly and my office hours are Mondays from 10:30am – noon. If these times do not work for your schedule, e-mail me to schedule an appointment. You should feel free to call or e-mail me with any questions, concerns, or comments, or to schedule an appointment.

Required Reading Material: Casebook: Barrera-Hernandez, et al., *Sharing the Costs and Benefits of Energy and Resource Activity: Legal Change and Impact on Communities* (Oxford 2016).

Course Description and Goals: This course provides an introduction to how international law regulates or impacts energy activities. It analyzes the legal framework for trade and investment in the energy sector, as well as rules governing energy development, the climate, and the environment. This course will also provide an overview of corporate responsibility and human rights consequences of energy activities. We will focus on how public and private international law consider the various actors, socio-economic interests, and environmental concerns associated with the exploitation of energy sources and how domestic law can impact those interests and concerns. By the end of the semester, you will be able to critically assess the key legal issues around the exploitation of energy sources from a multidisciplinary and global standpoint.

Course Attendance and Participation: Consistent with university policy, 80 percent attendance in class is required. An attendance list will be circulated at each class session. Those individuals not satisfying the attendance requirement will be reported to UH Law Center administrative officials to be dropped from the course. Students will be expected to have read the assigned readings prior to class and to be prepared to discuss the material in class.

Grades: Your final grade will be based primarily on two components: (1) 20% for class participation, discussion, and preparedness; and (2) 80% a final examination.

Use of Laptops: Laptops are not allowed in this course so as to prevent distraction. The purpose of the course is to engage all students in critical analysis and discussion.

Reading Assignments: What follows is an anticipated reading schedule. As the semester progresses, however, we may fall behind or speed ahead of the schedule requiring that the reading assignments be adjusted. I therefore reserve the right to change and adjust the reading as I deem necessary.

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings	Student Panels & Assignments [depending on the size of the class]
01.17	Chapter 1: Introduction	1-21	
Themes and Legal Frameworks			
01.19	Chapter 2: Community and Sharing	25-40	
01.24	Chapter 3: Regional and Local Energy Communities – A European Union Perspective on Community Benefits	41-57	
01.26	Chapter 4: Shared International Responsibility for Transboundary Harm Arising from Energy Activities	59-73	
01.31	Chapter 5: Indigenous Peoples and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent in Latin America	75-92	
02.02	Chapter 6: Corporate Social Responsibility in Mining Industries of Namibia, South Africa, and Zambia: Choices and Consequences	93-112	
02.07	Chapter 7: Social License to Operate in the Unconventional Oil and Gas Development Sector The Colorado Experience	113-131	

Legal Measures and Mechanisms to Distribute Costs and Benefits			
02.09	Chapter 8: Agreements with Indigenous Communities: The Native Title Act in Australia	135-153	
02.14	Chapter 9: Community Benefit Agreements for Wind Farms Siting in Context	155-171	
02.16	Chapter 10: Opposition to Wind Farms and the Possible Responses of the Legal System	173-191	
02.21	Chapter 11: The Position of Citizens in Energy Production in the Netherlands: Is a New Approach Emerging?	193-205	
02.23	Chapter 12: Liability for Oil Spills from Oil and Gas Operations in Canada's Arctic Waters	207-222	
02.28	Chapter 13: Broadening Community and Regional Benefits from Energy Development through Environmental Restoration Funds	223-239	
03.02	Chapter 14: Social and Environmental Liability of Private Companies in the Energy Sector and the Mexican Energy Reform	241-258	
03.07	Chapter 15: Resource Control and Benefit Sharing in Nigeria	259-277	
03.09	Chapter 16: Oil and Natural	279-294	

	Gas Royalties and Social Development in Brazil		
03.14 – 03.16	No Class – Spring Break		
Participatory Rights and Public Engagement			
03.21	Chapter 17: Community Benefit through Community Ownership of Renewable Generation in Scotland: Power to the People?	297-316	
03.23	Chapter 18: Enabling the Crowdfunding of Energy Projects: The Regulation of Small-scale Community Financing in Europe	317-337	
03.28	Chapter 19: Participatory Rights and Strategic Litigation Benefits: Forcing and Endowment Protection in Canadian Natural Resource Development	339-354	
03.30	Chapter 20: Participation of Territorial Authorities in Mining Activities in Columbia	355-370	
04.04	Chapter 21: Legal Regulation of NIMBY Conflict in China	371-392	
04.06	Chapter 22: Public Participation in Indian Environmental Law	393-409	
04.11	Chapter 23: Small Towns, Big Projects	411-428	
04.13	TBD		

04.18	TBD		
04.20	TBD		
04.25	TBD		
04.27	Review		