

University of Houston Law Center
RENEWABLE ENERGY LAW
- Fall 2021 -

Professor Contact Information

Instructor: Gina S. Warren
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Class Schedule and Location: Class is scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 2:30pm CST in a classroom TBA. Classes will be **held in person** in an assigned room on campus.

Office Hours: I am available to meet with students regularly and my office hours are Tuesdays from noon-1:00pm via Microsoft Teams or in my office, or as requested by 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: TROY A. RULE, RENEWABLE ENERGY: LAW, POLICY AND PRACTICE (WEST ACADEMIC) (1ST ED. 2018).

Course Material and Microsoft TEAMS: I will post course material and communicate with students regularly on Microsoft TEAMS. Please make sure to check the website frequently.

Learning Outcomes: This writing seminar will provide a broad overview of U.S. renewable energy law and policy. It reviews existing renewable energy technologies and resources, discusses the practical limitations involved in their development, siting, and integration into the U.S. electricity grid, and analyzes the legal and regulatory framework for renewable energy development, the climate, and the environment. By the end of the course, I expect you will have a good understanding of how each type of energy source is regulated in the United States, including what governmental entities are in charge of the regulation and the applicable statutes. I also expect you will walk away with a general understanding of the future of energy law, policy, and regulation with an eye toward minimizing the effects of energy development on climate and the environment.

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. During class, students will be called on at random (Socratic method) to answer questions about the reading. Students will be expected to have read the assigned readings prior to class and to be prepared to discuss the material in class.

Grade and Assessment Methods: This is a writing course. After a few weeks of class, you will be asked to identify a renewable energy-related topic that you would be interested in researching more in depth. Your final grade will be based primarily on two components: (1) an oral presentation of your chosen (with approval) topic, which will count for 20% of your overall course

grade; and (2) a 35-page seminar paper, which will count for 80% of your overall course grade. [Additional details for both components will be provided during the semester]. Class preparation and participation are also required.

Counseling and psychological services: Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to the demands of a professional program, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (www.uh.edu/caps) by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. No appointment is necessary for the “Let’s Talk” program, a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus. http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html.

Sexual Misconduct and Antidiscrimination Policies: The University is committed to maintaining and strengthening an educational, working and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from discrimination and sexual misconduct. If you have experienced an incident of discrimination or sexual misconduct, there is a confidential reporting process available to you. For more information, please refer to the University system’s Anti-Discrimination Policy SAM 01.D.07 and Sexual Misconduct Policy SAM 01.D.08, available here: <http://www.uhsystem.edu/compliance-ethics/uhs-policies/sams/01-general-information/index.php>; <http://www.uhsystem.edu/compliance-ethics/docs/sam/01/1d7.pdf> (antidiscrimination); <http://www.uhsystem.edu/compliance-ethics/docs/sam/01/1d8.pdf> (sexual misconduct). Please be aware that under the sexual misconduct policy, SAM 01.D.08, faculty are required to report to the University any information received regarding sexual misconduct as defined in the policy. Please note that the reporting obligations under the sexual misconduct policy reach to employees and students. Also, as a required reporting party, Law Center employees and faculty members are not a confidential resource.

Reading Assignments: What follows is the first two weeks of anticipated reading. The full reading schedule will be available the first day of classes.

Two Week Tentative Reading Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings
08.24.21	Chapter 1 – Introduction and Background	Text, 1-34
08.26.21	Chapter 1 – Introduction and Background	Text, 34-69
08.31.21	Chapter 2 – Wind Energy Policy	Text, 71-114
09.02.21	Chapter 2 – Wind Energy Policy	Text, 114-156