Energy, Climate, and Environment

main class instructor: Justin Vandenbroucke

9 credits

MAIN CLASS
Physics 115
Energy

LINKED CLASS
La Follette School of Public Affairs 200
Contemporary Public Policy Issues

LINKED CLASS
Environmental Studies 112
Environmental Studies: The Social Perspective

This FIG will examine issues related to human energy consumption and climate change, with our main seminar focusing on learning and applying the relevant physics concepts. The main seminar, Physics 115: “Energy,” will also provide an opportunity to discuss and synthesize broader interdisciplinary issues addressed in the two linked classes. We will study the physics of energy production and consumption as well as the local and global impacts of energy production and consumption on humans and the environment, including climate change. We will explore current and possible future energy sources used in society, quantitatively evaluating their advantages and disadvantages, and we will consider ways to improve our portfolio of energy sources by weighing various priorities including human and environmental impacts. In the process, we will address issues of interest to students in physics, environmental studies, earth systems, geology, and public policy, among others. Students will practice what they learn through assignments including problem solving (calculations) and writing. Requires the completion of high school algebra and geometry as well as the UW General Education Requirement called Quantitative Reasoning A.

LaFollette School of Public Affairs 200: “Contemporary Public Policy Issues” — The goal of this class is to offer a general primer on large-scale social, economic and other policies directed by federal and state governments, with specific examples in pressing policy areas. The class puts a focus on a set of specific contemporary public policy questions of concern to policymakers and society. Students will gain a broad overall knowledge of how the majority of state and federal funding is spent and the policy outcomes associated with that spending, including its impacts on society.

Environmental Studies 112: “Environmental Studies: The Social Perspective” — This course emphasizes the importance of social factors in the generation and resolution of complex environmental problems with an interdisciplinary perspective. Comparison of specific communities in the more and less developed areas of the world is included.
### Energy, Climate, and Environment

**FIG 15 • Fall 2019**

figs.wisc.edu/2019fall15

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**Main Class**

**Physics 115**

**Energy**

LEC 2: MW 4:00–5:15

- Quantitative Reasoning Part B
- Physical Science
- Elementary

Credits: 3

Class number: **66255**

**Linked Class**

**La Follette School of Public Affairs 200**

**Contemporary Public Policy Issues**

LEC 1: MW 2:30–3:45

- Social Science
- Elementary

Credits: 3

Class number: **65187**

**Linked Class**

**Environmental Studies 112**

**Environmental Studies: The Social Perspective**

LEC 1: MW 11:00–11:50 + DIS 306: T 2:25–3:15

- Social Science
- Elementary

Credits: 3

Class number: **58532**

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**Enrolled in a FIG and you change your mind?**

FIG classes are designed to be taken together. When you enroll in a FIG, you are signed up for these classes as a whole group, not as separate classes.

**Dropping one FIG class means ending your enrollment in all of the classes in the FIG.**

So, here's what you should know if you want to drop the FIG:

- You can drop all the classes on your own at enroll.wisc.edu. Any non-FIG class will not be affected.
- After classes begin, if you need to drop a single class within the FIG, please contact Kari Fernholz (see below) to review your situation. If necessary, she will provide the required authorization to drop the class.
- **Wednesday, September 11, 2019** is the last day to drop a class without it appearing on your college transcript.
- **Friday, September 13, 2019** is the last day to add a class without first getting department permission.