



Course Code MBA-777	Course Title Energy and Geopolitics	ECTS Credits 7.5
Department School of Business	Semester Fall, Spring, Summer	Prerequisites None
Type of Course Elective	Field Energy Management	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 2 nd Cycle	Year of Study 2 nd	Lecturer(s) Dr James Leigh
Mode of Delivery face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

- To enable future and practicing managers to have a critical understanding of the rapidly changing global energy scene, with the dominant player of fossil fuels and the geostrategic positioning of these fuels.
- To appreciate the world's diminishing sources of energy are potentially and dramatically changing the world balance of power.
- To interpret this unfolding scene into a geopolitical framework, within a potentially post-global world of continental sized (multinational) superpowers in conflict, as may be expressed with their projection of influence (and power) over trade routes and maritime chokepoints, which are vital arteries for the worldwide trade in fossil fuels.

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

1. Assess the likelihood and factually interpret the economic, political and societal impact of “Peak Oil” and “The Olduvai Theory”
2. Explain the geopolitical implications of a shrinking world, with looming superpowers’ expansion in an era of declining fossil fuels.
3. Appraise the geopolitical implications of post-fossil fuels and post-globalization as it leads inter-civilizational confrontation
4. Analyze world affairs, particularly as they relate to energy, through a geopolitical framework of new balances of power as expressed in emerging civilizational blocs of nations.
5. Explain the geopolitical importance of the location of civilizational blocs of countries, the location of fossil fuels, and trades routes (their maritime lanes and chokepoints).
6. Discuss these factors above and their challenges in the new world order for policy and decision making at the national and international level.

Course Content:

Declining conventional energy supplies and fossil fuels (“Peak Oil”) in a shrinking world, Oil as an energy progenitor, quintessential electricity for hi-tech society, potential expansion of newly emerging civilization based political blocs and their threatening projection of power in a post-global world, the catastrophic “The Olduvai Theory”, energy-based geopolitics, “World Island” geopolitics (Heartland, Rimland and surrounding maritime areas, chokepoints and trade routes) relevance for the contemporary world, the geostrategic location oil infrastructures, geostrategic importance of the Middle East and Persian Gulf.

Teaching Methods:

The module is delivered in taught mode by a selection from lectures, essay/report assignments, student presentations, interactive group work, case study tutorials and directed self study.

The module is delivered in distance learning mode by self directed learning from web-based learning and teaching materials, supported by a selection from recorded audio/visual lectures, readings, videos, discussion, assignments, seminars and/or online support.

Assessment Methods:

Attendance and Participation, Weekly exercises, Final Exam, Project

Required Textbooks:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Klare, M	Rising Powers, Shrinking Planet: The New Geopolitics of Energy	New York, Henry Holt	2009	
Leigh, J and Vukovic, P	Beyond Oil Bust, Investigating Oil Economics, Society and Geopolitics	New Delhi, Atlantic	2011	

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Journals: Energy Bulletin (Post Carbon Institute), Energy Policy (Elsevier), Geopolitics (Taylor and Francis), Journal of Energy Security (Institute for the Analysis of Global Security), Political Geography (Elsevier)

Reports: BP (British Petroleum, Statistical Review of World Energy (annual in June)

IEA (International Energy Agency) World Energy Outlook (annual in November)