

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by School of Energy and Environment
with effect from Semester A 2024/25**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Environmental and Energy Policy

Course Code: SEE6201

Course Duration: One semester

Credit Units: 3 credits

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

Theoretical frameworks and empirical studies are introduced to understand policy instruments for environmental protection and energy security. The principles of energy and environmental policies are discussed, drawing on historical developments as well as contemporary cases. Policy instruments including command-and-control, tax, subsidy and emission trading, are evaluated through empirical examination of past experiences in different countries and industrial sectors. Systemic approaches to designing and implementing policies for energy and environmental innovation are explored in the context of the accelerating rate of technological change and globalization of economic activities.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Identify, describe and elaborate the overall structure of issues and problems related to energy and the environment in technological, economic and social contexts	20%	✓	✓	
2.	Apply the concepts, methodologies and practical tools of public policy to various issues and problems of energy and the environment	20%	✓	✓	
3.	Design, construct and critically evaluate policy options and alternatives for tackling energy and environmental issues and problems	20%		✓	✓
4.	Articulate the drivers and challenges that influence the process of policy making, include agenda setting, policy formulation, implementation and feedback	20%		✓	✓
5.	Demonstrate critical reasoning and constructive dialogues in interpersonal communication, oral presentations and short essays	20%	✓	✓	✓
		100%			

A1: *Attitude*

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: *Ability*

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: *Accomplishments*

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

(LTAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.					Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	5	
Interactive	Explaining key concepts,	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2h/week

lectures	methodologies and practical tools of public policy concerning energy and environmental issues						
In-class exercises	Applying and communicating the knowledge to tackle various problems and challenges concerning energy and the environment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1h/week
Assignment	Consolidating the knowledge obtained through the lectures, discussions and learning materials	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Group project	Identifying an issue related to energy and the environment and working to propose policies to address the challenges involved	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.					Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4	5		
Continuous Assessment: 50%							
Class participation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	10%	
Assignment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	20%	
Group project	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	20%	
Examination: 50% (duration: 2 hours, if applicable)						100%	

To pass a course, a student must do ALL of the following:

- 1) should not miss more than 3 lectures;
- 2) obtain at least 30% of the total marks allocated towards coursework (combination of assignments, pop quizzes, term paper, lab reports and/ or quiz, if applicable);
- 3) obtain at least 30% of the total marks allocated towards final examination (if applicable); and
- 4) meet the criteria listed in the section on Assessment Rubrics.

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
Assignment	Ability to understand the concepts, methodologies, and tools of public policy	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
Group project	Ability to identify an issue concerning energy and the environment, analyse the structure of the problem and propose a solution to it	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
Examination	Ability to apply the knowledge obtained through interactive lectures, reading materials and group discussions to energy and environmental issues	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
Assignment	Ability to understand the concepts, methodologies, and tools of public policy	High	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
Group project	Ability to identify an issue concerning energy and the environment, analyse the structure of the problem and propose a solution to it	High	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
Examination	Ability to apply the knowledge obtained through interactive lectures, reading materials and group discussions to energy and environmental issues	High	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

- Rationales for public policy
- Instruments of energy and environmental policy including emission trading and carbon tax
- Processes of policy making
- Policy evaluation and assessment
- Social choice theory and methods
- Case studies of energy and environmental policies
- International climate policies including Kyoto Protocol, Clean Development Mechanism, Paris Convention

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	Robert Falkner, ed., <i>The Handbook of Global Climate and Environmental Policy</i> , Wiley-Blackwell (2016).
2.	Tietenberg T. and Lewis L. : <i>Environmental Economics and Policy</i> , Pearson Education, 6th ed., 2010
3.	Scott J. Callan, Janet M. Thomas. <i>Environmental Economics and Management: Theory, Policy and Applications</i> , South-Western College Pub (2012).

2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	Michael E. Kraft and Scott R. Furlong, <i>Public Policy: Politics, Analytics, and Alternatives, Fifth Edition</i> , Sage (2015).
2.	Perman R., Ma Y. and McGillvray J. : <i>Natural Resources and Environmental Economics</i> , Pearson Education 3rd ed., 2011
3.	Jane Roberts, <i>Environmental Policy, Second Edition</i> , Routledge (2011).
4.	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, <i>Tradeable permits policy evaluation, design and reform</i> (Paris: OECD, 2004).