

# PA 567: Energy Resources Policy & Administration

(Also known as “Northwest Energy Policy & the Columbia River”)

## Course Description

This course explores the history, politics, and institutions related to current energy policy and administration, with particular attention to the distinctive nature of energy policy issues in the Pacific Northwest and the Columbia River Basin. It provides social science theories and analytical tools to help graduate students and energy professionals navigate the complexities of the energy sector.

This course was created in 1984 at the request of the Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and has been offered annually ever since. For many years, BPA, Northwest utilities, the Energy Trust of Oregon, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, state energy agencies and public utility commissions, law firms with a significant presence in the energy sector, energy consulting companies, advocacy organizations and coalitions, and other energy companies and agencies have encouraged and supported employees that these organizations have identified as future leaders to participate in this course. This participant mix leads to lively and informative class discussions.

The course includes networking and learning opportunities from guest speakers active in these areas.

Please contact us about *Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits*

## Why Take this Course?

The electricity sector is undergoing especially turbulent times as traditional business models are being altered due to renewable energy targets, climate change legislation, and energy efficiency and distributed generation requirements. Utilities are being required to deliver renewable electricity to their customers, but the challenge of transporting the renewable electricity from rural to urban areas is increasingly difficult due to citizen and environmental opposition to new power lines.

This course gives students and professionals knowledge, ideas, and tools to understand, analyze, and advocate for equity and empowerment of affected stakeholders.

## Who Should Register?

This course serves three key audiences:

- **Graduate students** from PSU and elsewhere interested in the history and current state of the critical energy policy issues facing the Pacific Northwest and nation.
- **Mid-career professionals** interested in career advancement or exploring a career transition.
- Students pursuing PSU's [Graduate Certificate in Energy Policy and Management](#), for which this is a core course.

## Semester: Fall 2023

### Days and Times

- Tuesdays
- 6:40-9:20 PM
- September 26 – December 5

### Location:

- PSU Urban Center Building (URBN) Room, 303
- Offered in-person & Zoom

### Cost & Registration Options:

- Graduate Credit (CRN: 12528): \$1,389 plus university fees
- Professional Development (Non-Credit): \$1,389 and no university fees

### Course Website:

<https://www.pdx.edu/center-for-public-service/northwest-energy-policy>

### Instructor

**Hal T. Nelson, PhD**  
Associate Professor, PSU &  
Director, Graduate Certificate in Energy  
Policy and Management, PSU

### Contact Information

Hal Nelson,  
Office: 670-C  
URBN Building  
Email: [hnelson@pdx.edu](mailto:hnelson@pdx.edu)

For non-credit registration questions please contact at: [cps\\_energy@pdx.edu](mailto:cps_energy@pdx.edu)

# Announcing the Return of a Popular Professional Development Opportunity: **Northwest Energy Policy and the Columbia River**

Available for Graduate Credit or Professional Development Certificate of Completion.

Attend through Zoom or in person, and stream recordings of any missed session.

## Course Description

This course explores the history, politics, and institutions related to current energy policy and administration, with particular attention to the distinctive nature of energy policy issues in the Pacific Northwest and the Columbia River Basin. It provides social science theories and analytical tools to help graduate students and energy professionals navigate the complexities of the energy sector.

This course was created in 1984 at the request of the Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and has been offered annually ever since. For many years, BPA, Northwest utilities, the Energy Trust of Oregon, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, state energy agencies and public utility commissions, law firms with a significant presence in the energy sector, energy consulting companies, advocacy organizations and coalitions, and other energy companies and agencies have encouraged and supported employees that these organizations have identified as future leaders to participate in this course. This participant mix leads to lively and informative class discussions.

The course includes networking and learning opportunities from guest speakers active in these areas.

If you are an attorney, feel free to contact us about how this course can qualify for *Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit*.

## Why Take this Course?

The electricity sector is undergoing especially turbulent times as traditional business models are being altered due to renewable energy targets, climate change legislation, and energy efficiency and distributed generation requirements. This course will explore some of the most important policy challenges the Pacific Northwest energy community is currently attempting to address. We will do so with the help of some of the region's most prominent and knowledgeable energy experts who will join us as guest speakers. Student suggestions will help guide this year's course policy topics.

This course gives students and professionals knowledge, ideas, and tools to understand, analyze, and advocate for equity and empowerment of affected stakeholders.

## Who Should Register?

- **Graduate students** from PSU and elsewhere interested in the history and current state of the critical energy policy issues facing the Pacific Northwest and nation.
- **Mid-career professionals** interested in career advancement or exploring a career transition.
- Students pursuing PSU's [Graduate Certificate in Energy Policy and Management](#), for which this is a core course.

## Semester: Fall 2023

## Days and Times

- Tuesdays
- 6:40-9:20 PM
- September 26 – December 5

## Location & Format:

- PSU Urban Center Building (URBN) 303
- Offered in-person & Zoom

## Registration Options:

- Graduate Credit (3 Credits)
- Professional Development (Non-Credit)

## Course Website:

<https://www.pdx.edu/center-for-public-service/northwest-energy-policy>

## Admin Contact Information:

### For Graduate Credit:

Public Administration Department  
[publicad@pdx.edu](mailto:publicad@pdx.edu)

### For Professional Development (non-credit):

[cps\\_energy@pdx.edu](mailto:cps_energy@pdx.edu)



PSU Public Administration Department | [Publicad@pdx.edu](mailto:Publicad@pdx.edu) | <https://www.pdx.edu/public-administration/>