WOH3404: Global History of Energy
Professor Sean Adams
MWF 4 (MWF 10:40-11:30)
Keene-Flint Hall 105

Course Introduction and Objectives
This course will address several questions involving the relationship of energy to human society. It is global in size and scope, meaning that we will cover a large swath of human history on several continents. Such an ambitious size means that the course lectures and readings will be wide ranging and not attempt to provide a comprehensive account of the production and consumption of energy. Instead, we will move around the globe in order to engage themes such as energy transitions, the impact of energy on political and social structures, and the ways in which energy needs drive historical change.

After completing this course, students will have a greater appreciation of the historical development of energy from a global perspective. We will discuss these issues in class, providing you the opportunity to work through some of these very complex concepts. Over the course of the semester, students will also have the opportunity to hone verbal and written arguments that use both primary and secondary sources in order to address complex historical questions.

Required Readings
There are six (6) required texts available for purchase at the UF Bookstore. If you choose to purchase these books online, please make sure that you leave enough time for shipping. A tardy delivery will not be an acceptable excuse for not having the reading materials. In addition to these books, there will be various readings, images, and other sources available online via the course e-learning site at https://elearning.ufl.edu. These are required readings and will form the basis of many assignments. Whether you print them out as hard copy or not is up to you, but please be sure that you can access them in time for class.


**Grading Policy**

Your grade in this class will be determined largely by your performance on a variety of brief written assignments, as well as longer papers. These exercises will allow you to hone your skills in critical thinking and writing in addition to providing thoughtful commentary on the global history of energy; this work is essential for success in both academic and professional settings. Improvement over the course of the semester is not only encouraged, but rewarded. My hope is that the work you do in this class will pay dividends—the market reference is quite intentional here—for years after you leave UF and Gainesville.

There will be six (6) brief essay assignments of roughly 500-750 words (2-3 pp.) each, with the option of dropping the two (2) lowest grades. Yes, that means that you may write only four of the six brief assignments if you wish to do so. There will also be three (3) longer, mandatory essays of 1,250-1,750 words (5-7 pp.) due at the end of each major unit. All written work in this class will be evaluated with three major assessment tools in mind. First, the clarity and coherence of an argument made in the essay, with the clear use of supporting evidence will be required of all successful papers. Second, a logical and clear organization, in which the case study materials are marshaled in support of the essay’s argument, is a necessary component of a successful paper. Finally, proper grammar, punctuation, citation methods, and other elements of clear writing are an important part of this evaluation. All evaluated materials will be returned with qualitative feedback from the instructor, as well as a quantitative grade, within two (2) weeks of being handed in for evaluation. Please contact the instructor to receive your final essay following the conclusion of the semester.

Regular attendance in this course is not optional, but mandatory. Any more than three (3) unexcused absences will result in a reduction of the participation grade by a full letter. More than six (6) absences will result in a failing grade for the course. Please be respectful to your fellow students by turning off all cell phones and tablets, arriving on time, and please avoid making excessive noise. You may use a computer to take notes, but any distracting web surfing, game playing, texting or other behavior will not be tolerated. Students who do not abide by these simple rules of courtesy will be asked to leave.
Your final grade will be calculated on the following basis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Calculation</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Grade Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Essay Exam: 15%</td>
<td>100-93=A</td>
<td>A=4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brief Assignments: 30%</td>
<td>89-87=B+</td>
<td>B+=3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation/Attendance 10%</td>
<td>86-82=B</td>
<td>B=3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Essay Exam 25%</td>
<td>82-80=B-</td>
<td>B-=2.67</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>79-76=C+</td>
<td>C+=2.33</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75-72=C</td>
<td>C=2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>71-69=C-</td>
<td>C-=1.67</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>68-66=D+</td>
<td>D+=1.33</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>65-62=D</td>
<td>D=1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>61-60=D-</td>
<td>D-=0.67</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>59-0=E</td>
<td>E=0.00</td>
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Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor during the semester if you have any individual concerns or issues that need to be discussed. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Disability Resource Center (https://disability.ufl.edu/). The DSO will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor and Student Conduct Code (https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class, as it constitutes intellectual theft and academic dishonesty. If you turn in the work of others and try to pass it off as your own, you will fail that assignment and risk expulsion from the University of Florida. I will give you the guidelines, expectations, and other information regarding the written work in this course, so you really have no reason to cheat. I take these matters very seriously and will prosecute vigorously if
provoked. Any possible rewards derived from plagiarism simply don’t justify the risk! All students must conform to UF’s honesty policy regarding cheating, plagiarism, and the use of copyrighted materials. Your major assignments will be monitored with the Turnitin Anti-Plagiarism Service, so please keep in mind that cheating on the assignments in this course will be much more difficult than actually doing the work.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx.

Lecture and Readings Schedule (Subject to Change)

Week One: Course Introduction

January 6     Course Introduction

January 8     Why a Global History of Energy?

January 10    Measuring and Defining Energy

Reading Schedule:

Shulman, Coal & Empire, pp. 1-13.

Wrigley, Energy and the English Industrial Revolution, pp. 1-52

Section 1: Organic to Mineral Energy

Week Two: Origins

January 13    Energy in Ancient Agriculture

January 15    Organic Energy Regimes

Wrigley, pp. 55-90

January 17    Why England?

First Brief Response Due

Week Three: Muscles and Calories

January 20    Martin Luther King Day—No Class Session

January 22    The Domestication of Animals

January 24    The Human Body as Energy
Week Four: Organic Regimes in Crisis

January 27  The First Energy Crisis in Western Europe  
Readings: Wrigley, pp. 91-139

January 29  The Rise of Steam

January 31  Organic vs. Fossil Fuels  
**Extra Credit Opportunity**

Week Five: Energy Transitions I: Wood to Coal

February 3  Coal and the Industrial Revolution  
Readings: Wrigley, pp. 140-210

February 5  Home Heating and Energy  

February 7  A Revolution in Fuels  
**Second Brief Assignment Due**

Week Six: The Hazards of the 19th Century Energy Economy

February 10  The Deepest, Darkest Abode of Men

February 12  Coal’s Empire  
Readings: Shulman, pp. 14-91

February 14  Leviathan: The Whale and Energy  
Readings: Philbrick, “Knockdown” and “First Blood,” *In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex*, pp. 28-61 (e-learning)

Week Seven: King Coal

February 17  Power in the Coalfields

February 19  The Coaling Station  
Readings: Shulman, pp. 92-228.

February 21  **First Major Essay**
Section 2: The Rise of Oil

Week Eight: Why Petroleum?

February 24  Petropolis: The Early Boom Towns

February 26  Oil and Electricity Remake the City
Readings: Huber, pp. 27-59

February 28  Standard Oil and the Monopoly Problem

29 February - 7 March—Spring Break—Have a Good and Safe Holiday

Week Nine: Petro-Transformation?

March 9  Automobiles and the Demand for Petroleum

March 11  Better Living Through Petroleum
Readings: Huber, pp. 61-95

March 13  Liquid Gold? The Oil Regime in a Global Context
Third Brief Assignment Due

Week Ten: Oil Reshapes the Globe

March 16  Oil and War

March 18  Ethnic Identity in the Petroleum Age
Readings: Bet-Shlimon, pp. 19-77; Salas, pp. 15-37

March 20  Global Patterns in Oil Markets

Week Eleven: National Identity in the Petroleum Age

March 23  Venezuela
Readings: Salas, pp. 40-106

March 25  Iran
March 27  Iraq
Readings: Bet-Shlimon, pp. 79-164
Fourth Brief Assignment Due

**Week Twelve: Fueling Civil Wars**

March 30  Mexico
Readings: Salas, pp. 106-203

April 1  Nigeria

April 3  **Second Major Essay**

**Section 3: Problems of Scarcity and Abundance**

**Week Thirteen: Banking on Scarcity**

April 6  OPEC and the Cartelization of Oil

April 8  The Energy Crisis of the 1970s
Readings: Huber, pp. 96-169

April 10  Peak Oil and the Dutch Disease

**Week Fourteen: Unhealthy Alternatives?**

April 13  The Making of a Failed State
Readings: Salas, pp. 205-250

April 15  Atoms for Peace

April 17  The Rise (and Fall) of Nuclear Energy
**Fifth Brief Assignment Due**

**Week Fifteen: Energy’s Legacy So Far**

April 20  Energy and the Gulf War(s)
Readings: Bet-Shlimon, pp. 165-198

April 22  The Future?
**Sixth Brief Assignment Due**
**Final Exam Period:**  Wednesday, 29 April 2019, 3 pm-5 pm

**Contact Information**
Office:  227 Keene-Flint  
Tel: (352) 273-3354  
E-mail: spadams@ufl.edu  
Website: http://people.clas.ufl.edu/spadams/

Office Hours:  Mondays 2-3 pm; Wednesdays, 9 am-10 am; & by appointment.

**Course Evaluation**
Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.