

CENTER FOR ENERGY EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP

THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

DIRECTOR

Donald Ostdiek

DEGREE OFFERED: BA

The energy policy studies major offers a challenging, innovative, timely degree program that introduces students to the critical issues facing the production, economics, and politics of energy.

Students may take energy policy studies *only as a second major*. This is an interdisciplinary major coordinated through the Policy Studies Program that complements majors in any university department. For instance, engineering or science majors who are contemplating careers in business or government can investigate how technical innovations or regulations are adopted and implemented as matters of public policy. Humanities majors can explore career options where language skills are particularly valuable.

Energy policy studies involves core courses in policy studies, civil and environmental engineering, earth science, economics, and political science. The capstone requirement also features the possibility of an internship through the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy or the Social Science undergraduate Research Enterprise or a team project. Students are encouraged to investigate research opportunities with Rice faculty.

See also the Policy Studies Program or the Policy Studies website (www.ruf.rice.edu/~polstud/) for more information.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA IN POLICY STUDIES

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (Undergraduate Students section, pages 2–5).

The Energy Policy Studies curriculum consists of 11 courses totaling 33 credit hours, as distributed below. In consultation with the Policy Studies director, each student also must complete an approved capstone requirement.

Core Policy Studies Requirements (Four courses, 12 credit hours)

POST 300 *Public Policy Management and Advocacy* (3)

POST 301 *Policy Analysis* (3)

ECON 211 *Principles of Economics I* (3)

One advanced analysis or methods course that provides students more depth in discipline-specific approaches. Such a course should focus on the craft or nature of inquiry within a discipline, advanced statistical or other data techniques, or an advanced language (if appropriate). Most likely, students will choose such a course in their other major. Courses generally include ECON 370, POLI 395, SOCI 290, STAT 280, and others approved by the Policy Studies director.

Energy Courses (Four to six courses, 12–18 credit hours)

Students must take ECON 437 *Energy Economics*, POST 401 *Energy Policy*, and at least two other courses from the following list:

CEVE 307 *Energy and the Environment* (3)

ECON 437 *Energy Economics* (3)

ESCI 107 *Oceans and Global Change* (3)

ESCI 415 *Economic Geology—Petroleum* (3)

POST 410 *Middle East Politics and Energy* (3)

Elective Courses (Up to two courses, 0–6 credit hours)

Students must take up to two additional courses from the following or an alternative approved by the Policy Studies Program director:

BIOE/CEVE 409 *Sustainable Development*

CEVE 306 *Global Environmental Law and Sustainable Development*

CEVE 406 *Introduction to Environmental Law*

CHBE 281 *Engineering Sustainable Communities*

ECON 348/POLI 348 *Organizational Design*

ECON 447 *Advanced Topics in Energy Economics*

ECON 448 *Corporate Finance*

ECON 451 *Political Economy of Latin America*

ECON 480 *Environmental Economics*

ENST 331/POLI 331 *Environmental Politics and Policy*

ESCI 416 *Economic Geology—Mineral Deposits*

ESCI 417 *Petroleum Industry Economics and Management*

HIST 367 *America and the Middle East*

HIST 378 *The Arab World in the 20th Century, 1918–Present*

POLI 211 *Introduction to International Relations*

POLI 336 *Politics of Regulation*

POLI 355 *Government and Politics of the Middle East*

POLI 373 *International Conflict*

POLI 441 *Common Property Resources*

RELI 356 *Major Issues in Contemporary Islam*

Capstone Course (One course, 3 credit hours)

Students must take POST 499 *Energy Internship* (3) or an alternative approved by the Policy Studies Program director. This capstone experience for the Policy Studies Program, run through the Social Sciences Gateway Program or the Baker Institute Energy Forum, involves students taking a summer or a semester-long internship at an energy company, government agency, nongovernment organization, nonprofit, or the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. The internships may be either in the United States or abroad.