

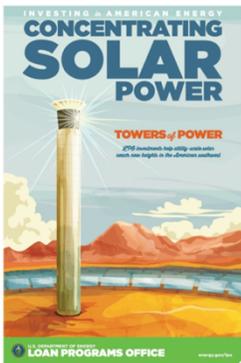
## Energy Justice ENVI/POLI 337

T/R 1:20-2:50 Fall 2021 OLRI 243

Dr. Roopali Phadke. [phadke@macalester.edu](mailto:phadke@macalester.edu)

Political mobilizations around Standing Rock and Line 3 have drawn attention to the politics of energy use and development. “Energy justice” builds on the concepts of environmental and climate justice, with a focus on the visible and invisible energy infrastructures that produce, deliver, maintain and transform our economies and societies. The first part of the course will introduce students to analytical tools for understanding the design and impact of energy systems, with a focus on electricity. We will then move to studying energy justice conceptual frameworks. The third part of the courses focuses in on a set of community research partnerships. We will end with a deep dive into your own research projects, the Green New Deal and the potential for green capitalism to create just energy transitions.

*The last year has taught us that there is no predictability in a global pandemic. The pandemic is still with us so we will need to be flexible with each other and check in often.*



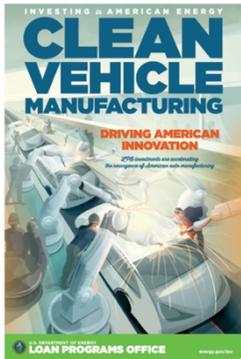
### ***The main learning goals for this course are:***

- Gain interdisciplinary analytical tools for understanding the technical, material and socio-economic components of design of energy infrastructure and policy.
- Gain skills in collaborative research, visual and spatial analysis/representation, and oral presentation

### **Student Evaluation**

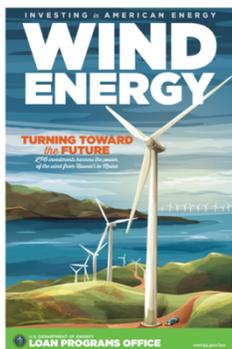
- **Attendance & participation (20%)**

I expect you to attend class and engage in our discussions. If you must be absent due to illness or other extenuating circumstance, contact me as soon as possible. We will create COVID community norms around missed classes.



- **Submission of reading responses or homeworks (20%)**

Your responses should be approximately 300-400 words long (about three paragraphs). They must be submitted on Moodle. Reflections will be graded one a five point scale: **outstanding (A)**, **excellent (A-)**, **good (B+)**, **satisfactory (B)** or **unsatisfactory (C)**. **These are due by 9am the morning of class or when noted on Moodle.** If you need an extra day let me now, but they are most useful for us both if you get it in on time. These are concentrated in Sept-October.



- **Community partner research project (30%)**

We are working with MN-based energy organizations of their energy justice challenges. You will be assigned to a small group to work. This project will occur from mid-Oct through early-November.

- **Energy transitions research paper and Storymap (30%)**

Energy justice is very place-based. I'll ask you to select a place that has/is experiencing a transition you want to document. This could be the focused around siting, project planning, or displacement. You will be asked to write a medium sized paper (~8 pages) and then create a Storymap to share out the highlights. These will be compiled into a class atlas. Details and samples will be on Moodle.

### My Availability

I can usually meet before and after class. If you need more time, please make an appointment [here](#). I do not often answer emails outside of the typical work day (M-F 9-5 pm). It may take me 24 hours to reply depending on my other workload.

### Academic Integrity

It is assumed that all members of the class will act with academic integrity and will not engage in behavior such as plagiarism, academic dishonesty, misrepresentation, or cheating. Please refer to the college's policy on academic honesty. A first offense will cause you to get a failing grade on the assignment, and a second offense means you fail the class. Please speak to me if you are in doubt about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism.

I will assign a **final** term grade by taking the following into account:

90-100% = A 80-89% = B 70-79% = C 60-69% = D

The top 2% of each category will typically receive a "+" (e.g 88-89% will receive a B+), and the lower 3% will receive a "-" (e.g. 92% is an A-).

This is an advanced seminar and I have high expectations of your work in this course. It is important to know up front that I think an A means OUTSTANDING in all ways – in terms of effort, engagement, comprehension, and skills.

### Accommodations

I am committed to providing assistance to help you be successful in this course. Reasonable accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities. Additional information regarding the accommodations process for students with disabilities can be found at:

[www.macalester.edu/studentaffairs/disabilityservices/](http://www.macalester.edu/studentaffairs/disabilityservices/)

### Student Health and Well-being

College life is stressful for most students without it being a pandemic. I know that you do a lot every day in and for our community. It is important to acknowledge any stressors you may be facing, which can be mental, emotional, physical, financial, etc., and how they can have an academic impact. If you are having difficulties maintaining your well-being, please don't hesitate to contact me to find support.

### Readings/Assignments

There is one required book for this class, Shalanda Baker's *Revolutionary Power* (at bookstore and available online)

All else is on Moodle. Check it frequently!