

Sample Syllabus 3-Credit Renewable Energy Law Skills Course

RENEWABLE ENERGY LAW—FALL 2011 COURSE SYLLABUS & POLICIES

Professor K.K. DuVivier

Email: kkdvvivier@law.du.edu

Office Hours: 4:00 to 5:00 P.M. on Thursdays or by appointment

Office Room 455D

Phone : 303-871-6281

Class meets T & TH from 2:45-4:00 P.M.

Classroom 259

Course TWEN page: www.lawschool.westlaw.com

About the course:

This course has several objectives. It is (1) a survey course addressing the substance of Renewable Energy Law; (2) a writing course meeting the Upper-Level Writing requirement; and (3) a practice-oriented-learning course using simulations to give you experience with several key lawyering skills. The course is intended to be learner-friendly and interactive, but it also will be rigorous. ***Do not take it unless you are committed (1) to regular advance class preparation and participation and (2) to working on improving your research, writing, and practice skills.***

Course Grade:

The course grade will have three components:

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| 1) General class participation all semester and specific performance on each of the class exercises | 30% |
| 2) Report on Renewable Energy Law & Policy Conference session | 10% |
| 3) Version # 1 and Final Version of Seminar Paper | 60% |

Note about Class Participation:

This course is a cooperative, discussion-oriented venture that will not work unless I can count on regular attendance and participation. You are expected to be prepared when called upon and to voluntarily make *quality* contributions to classroom discussion.

The syllabus on the course TWEN page will set out assigned readings for each class session, including materials linked to internet sites. You will be responsible for the assigned readings unless I have specifically announced otherwise both in class and on the course web page. We may have guest speakers throughout the semester, and your class participation grade also will depend upon your reading and engaging fully with the materials and discussion presented by these guests.

Because learning to articulate thoughts orally is an important skill for every lawyer, I will call upon each of you sometime during the semester to help you develop that skill. Although I will call on everyone, students who are interested in earning full classroom participation credit ultimately have the responsibility for volunteering in class. Furthermore, speaking frequently does not necessarily guarantee that you will receive full credit for class participation. In order to

receive credit, students must make thoughtful and relevant classroom contributions to the issue under discussion.

Out of respect for your fellow students, please turn off your cell phones, pagers, text messagers, Blackberries, smart phones, and other devices while in class. Also, it is disruptive to check e-mail or surf the Internet, *so during class, laptops are prohibited except for class-related purposes.*

Students who fail to follow these guidelines or who are unprepared, late, absent, or disruptive may be asked to leave the class or lose whatever classroom credit they might have earned during the semester. I also expect professional behavior in this class, which includes an *email prior to class* letting me know if you will not be able to attend. Also, under ABA standards, you may fail the course if you miss more than twenty percent of the class sessions.

Reading Assignments:

The following is a guide for the topics we will cover throughout the semester. Adjustments may be made to accommodate guest speakers and other topics of special interest to the class. Unless otherwise noted, all of the page references are to the class text, The Renewable Energy Reader (RER).

Aug. 16 Read:	Class 1: Introduction RER Chap. 1	pp. 1-15
Aug. 18 Read:	Class 2: Solar RER Chap. 2	pp. 1-29
Aug. 23 Read:	Class 3: Solar RER Chap. 2	pp. 29-53
Aug. 25 Read:	Class 4: Solar RER Chap. 2	pp. 54-66
Aug. 30	Class 5: Solar Exercise Skills objective: Legislative drafting	
Sept. 1 Read:	Class 6: Wind RER Chap. 3	pp. 1-32
Sept. 6 Read:	Class 7: Wind RER Chap. 3	pp. 32-62
Sept. 8	Class 8: Wind Exercise Skills objective: Ethical negotiation	
Sept. 13 Read:	Class 9: Hydropower RER Chap. 4	pp. 125-40

Sept. 15 Read:	Class 10: Hydropower RER Chap. 4	pp. 140-53
Sept. 20 Read:	Class 11: Hydropower RER Chap. 4	pp. 153-69
Sept. 22 Read:	Class 12: Biomass RER Chap. 5	pp. 171-200
Sept. 27 Read:	Class 13: Biomass RER Chap. 5	pp. 200-18
Sept. 29	Class 14: Biomass Exercise Skills objective: Persuasive oral argument	
Oct. 4 Read:	Class 15: Geothermal RER Chap. 6	pp. 219-57
Oct. 6 Read:	Class 16: Geothermal RER Chap. 6	pp. 257-70
Oct. 11	Class 17: Geothermal Exercise Skills objective: State Statutory Research & Wikis	
Oct. 13 Read:	Class 18: Energy Efficiency RER Chap. 7 Discussion of Final Seminar Paper	pp. 271-99
Oct. 18 Read:	Class 19: Energy Efficiency RER Chap. 7	pp. 299-324
Oct. 20	Class 20: Energy Efficiency Exercise Skills objective: Community deliberation	
Oct. 25 Read:	Class 21: Federal Lands RER Chap. 8	pp. 325-53
Oct. 27 Read:	Class 22: Federal Lands RER Chap. 8	pp. 354-70
Nov. 1	DUE version # 1 of Seminar Paper submitted anonymously in course Drop Box on TWEN Class 23: Federal Lands	
Read:	RER Chap. 8	pp. 370-85
Nov. 3	Class 24: Federal Lands Exercise	
Nov. 7	Class 25: Renewable Energy Law and Policy Conference	

Nov. 8 Class 26: Conference Debriefing & Reports Workshop

Nov. 10 Class 27: Role of Native Nations in Renewable Development
Read: RER Chap. 9 pp. 387-410

Nov. 15 Renewable Energy Law & Policy Conference Reports on TWEN
NREL Field Trip 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Nov. 17: Class 28: Energy Justice
Read: RER Chap. 9 pp. 411-17

December 15 by 4:00 P.M.: Deadline for FINAL SEMINAR PAPERS submitted anonymously in course Drop Box on TWEN

Optional Recommendations for Additional Reading:

Fred Bosselman, Joel B. Eisen, Jim Rossi, David B. Spence, & Jacqueline Weaver
Energy, Economics and the Environment (Thomson West 3rd ed. 2010)

John C. Dernbach (ed.), Agenda for a Sustainable America (ELI 2009)

Elizabeth Fajans & Mary R. Falk, Scholarly Writing for Law Students (Thomson West 4th ed. 2011)(It is also OK to use the 3rd ed. 2005)

Roger W. Findley & Daniel A. Farber, Environmental Law (West Nutshell)

Michael B. Gerrard, Editor, The Law of Clean Energy: Efficiency and Renewables (ABA 2011)

Al Gore, Our Choice (Rodale & Melcher Media 2009)

L.D. Danny Harvey, Energy and the New Reality 1 (Energy Efficiency and the Demand for Energy Services) & 2(Caron-Free Energy Supply) (Earthscan 2010)

National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, National Research Council, America's Energy Future (National Academies Press 2009)

National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, National Research Council, Electricity from Renewable Resources (National Academies Press 2010)

John Randolph & Gilbert M. Masters, Energy for Sustainability (Island Press 2008)

Joseph P. Tomain & Richard D. Cudahy, Energy Law (West Nutshell 2011?)

Carol Sue Tombari, Power of the People (Fulcrum Publishing 2008)

Eugene Volokh, Academic Legal Writing (Foundation Press 3rd ed. 2007)

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Donald N. Zillman, Catherine Redgwell, Yinka O. Omorogbe, Lila K. Barrera Hernández, Editors, Beyond the Carbon Economy: Energy Law in Transition (Oxford University Press 2008)