

SOS/GCU 171: The Thread of Energy

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisite: Credit is allowed for only GCU or SOS 171

Instructor Information

Name: Jaleila (Jill) Brumand

Office: Online via Zoom

Office Hours: Friday, 3:30 to 4:30 pm (arranged via email by appointment or reach out to schedule a time convenient for your schedule)

Course Communication Policy

Canvas Inbox

All student/instructor communication will be directed through the Canvas Inbox. This ensures the security, privacy, and record of the communication. Note: You must have your primary Canvas email address set as your `asurite@asu.edu`, not `firstname.lastname@asu.edu` or a personal email account.

Course Communication Policy: Three Before Me

This course uses a "three-before-me" policy regarding student/instructor communications. When course-related questions arise, please check these three sources for an answer before emailing the instructor with your question:

1. Course Syllabus
 2. Canvas Announcements
 3. Community Forum: This is a discussion forum in Canvas used for general questions about the course. You are encouraged to respond to your classmates' questions and comments.
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Course Textbook and Materials

Required Textbook(s)

All materials will be provided to you within the modules. There is no course textbook.

Additional Course Technology

- Yellowdig – This course uses Yellowdig as our discussion platform

Computer Requirements

A smartphone, iPad, Chromebook, etc. will not be sufficient for completing your work in online courses. While you will be able to access course content with mobile devices, you must use a computer for some assessments.

This course requires a computer with Internet access and the following:

- Web browsers ([ChromeLinks to an external site.](#), [Microsoft EdgeLinks to an external site.](#), [Mozilla FirefoxLinks to an external site.](#), or [SafariLinks to an external site.](#))
- [Adobe Acrobat ReaderLinks to an external site.](#)(free)
- A webcam, microphone, headset/earbuds, and speaker
- Microsoft Office ([Microsoft 365Links to an external site.](#) is free for all currently-enrolled ASU students)
- Reliable broadband internet connection (DSL or cable) to stream video

Technical Support

Technology Support is available to all students enrolled at Arizona State University. All students can contact the University Technology Help Desk by any of the following methods:

- Login to MyASU and click on “Help”
 - Call 1-855-ASU-5080 (1-855-278-5080)
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Course Information

Catalog Description

Follows the thread of energy through every aspect of our lives. Discusses the technical, social, legal, and policy contexts of all energy resources, including present and unconventional fossil fuels, nuclear power, and renewable resources. Addresses energy use throughout history, the influence of energy on quality of life, the role it plays in political strategies and environmental quality, how it shapes our neighborhoods and cities, its contribution to our personal comfort and national security, and how its importance is reflected in the worlds of business and the humanities. Its dual role is as a stand-alone introduction to energy, and as a first step to more advanced studies of energy in the natural, technical, and social sciences.

Course Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to...

- CO 1: Discuss the general history of energy, fossil fuels, and renewable energy.
- CO 2: Identify areas suffering with energy poverty.
- CO 3: Create a vision for a sustainable energy future.
- CO 4: Calculate your own energy footprint.
- CO 5: Familiarize with and evaluate the credibility of diverse sources related to sustainability issues.
- CO 6: Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication (written and oral) and presentation skills.

Course Workload Expectations

This online class is 135 credit hours over 7.5 weeks. You should plan to spend approximately 18 hours per week on reviewing class materials and completing activities and assessments.

Student Success

- Attend class regularly
- Communicate with instructors, TAs, and peers often
- Read course announcements and engage in discussion

Inclusion Statement

Arizona State University is deeply committed to positioning itself as one of the great new universities by seeking to build excellence, enhance access and have an impact on our community, state, nation, and the world. To do that requires our faculty and staff to reflect the intellectual, ethnic, and cultural diversity of our nation and world so that our students learn from the broadest perspectives, and we engage in the advancement of knowledge with the most inclusive understanding possible of the issues we are addressing through our scholarly activities. We recognize that race and gender historically have been markers of diversity in institutions of higher education. However, at ASU, we believe that diversity includes additional categories such as socioeconomic background, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, veteran status, nationality, and intellectual perspective.

We welcome and respect individuals with all kinds of visible and nonvisible differences. We highly value the strengths and benefits of the diversity that students bring with them.

The topics that we're covering in this class are sometimes socially challenging or politically charged. I challenge you to base the discussions on the disciplinary content in the course instead of your personal political/religious/spiritual beliefs, to ensure the

conversations are useful to the instructional goals. I ask that you engage in discussion with respect, care, and empathy for the other members in the classroom.

Assignment Information and Policies

Assessment Weights

Assessment Weighting	
Assessment	% of Grade
Quizzes	24%
Yellowdig Discussions	28%
Major Assignments	48%
Extra Credit <i>*Optional</i>	5%
Total	105%

Assessment Descriptions

Quizzes: (24%)

Every module contains a five-question quiz to ensure that you read, reviewed, and watched the module's material. The quizzes will only include multiple choice and true/false questions. These quizzes are not meant to be challenging or trick you; they are simply a way to ensure that you reviewed the module's material.

Yellowdig Discussion: (28%)

Every module, you will participate in a discussion using Yellowdig. The prompts or questions will reflect the module's material and require you to directly apply what you have learned.

Major Assignments: (48%)

Every module, you will have to complete a Major Assignment. The Major Assignments ask you to apply the module's knowledge, or even perhaps review one additional piece of material, to deepen your understanding of the content. Each one will be a unique assignment.

Extra Credit (5%)

This course uses "Assignment Weights" to calculate your final grade. The table above displays what % each assignment type is worth. Note that the Extra Credit is worth 5%, for a course total of 105%. If you do everything perfectly in the course *except for the extra credit*, your highest possible score is 100%.

Please Note: If you choose not to do the extra credit, your instructor will enter a grade of 0. At the time that the extra credit is offered, the course is not yet complete - so you

have not had the opportunity to earn the total 105%. Your final score, at that moment, may appear to drop. Once the course is complete and all grades are entered out of the possible 105%, your grade will be accurately calculated.

Submitting Assignments

All assignments, *unless otherwise announced*, MUST be submitted to the designated area of Canvas. Do not submit an assignment via email (unless asked to do so).

Submit the assignment in the requested format per the assignment directions.

Late or Missed Assignments Policy

Notify the instructor **BEFORE** an assignment is due if an urgent situation arises and the assignment will not be submitted on time. **Late assignments will not be accepted without prior approval or documentation.** Published assignment due dates (Arizona Mountain Standard time) are firm.

Please follow the appropriate University policies to request an [accommodation for religious practices](#) or to accommodate a missed assignment [due to University-sanctioned activities](#).

IMPORTANT NOTE: Arizona **does not** observe Daylight Savings Time. Please utilize a relevant resource to check on local times such as the [Time Zone ConverterLinks to an external site.](#), the National Institute of Standards and Technology [Official US TimeLinks to an external site.](#), or [Time and DateLinks to an external site.](#).

Grading Scale

This course will be graded on an A-E plus/minus scale.

Grading Scale	
%	Grade
97 to 100%	A+
93 to < 97%	A
90 to < 93%	A-
87 to < 90%	B+
83 to < 87%	B
80 to < 83%	B-
77 to < 80%	C+
70 to < 77%	C
60 to < 70%	D
Below 60%	• E = Failing, participated in class • EN = Failing, never participated • EU = Failing, insufficient participation in class and did not complete

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• XE - Academic dishonesty |
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Arizona State University Policies, Standards, and Expectations

ASU Online Course Policies

Consult [ASU Online Course Policies](#) for information on the following items:

- Course Time Commitment
- Drop and Add Dates/Withdrawals
- Photo ID Requirement
- Grade Appeal Process
- Netiquette Expectations
- Prohibition of Harassment
- Student Conduct and Academic Integrity
- Title IX
- SAILS – Disability Accommodations
- Statement on Inclusion
- Mental Health Support Services
- Course Evaluations
- Trigger warnings
- Academic Affairs Manual
- Copyright Information
- Student Privacy - FERPA

Accessibility

All students should have equal technology opportunities in the classroom. For information about the resources offered by ASU and the technologies commonly used in ASU Online courses, consult the [ASU Online Student Accessibility](#) webpage.

Additional Information and Resources

- [Dean of Students](#) – aka Educational Outreach and Student Services; provides opportunities for student advocacy, rights and responsibilities, and other support
- [College of Global Futures](#)– this course is offered through the College of Global Futures at Arizona State University. Questions about the course should first be

addressed with the instructor. If necessary, you may contact the Student Services Center by calling 480-727-6963 or emailing CGF@asu.edu.

- [Career Services](#)– offers assistance to students in choosing their major, setting career goals, interviewing, and job-hunting strategies.
- [Counseling Services](#)– professional counseling and crisis services for students experiencing emotional concerns, problems in adjusting, and other factors that affect their ability to achieve their academic and personal goals. Support is available 24/7 between campus locations and EMPACT's 24-hour ASU-dedicated crisis hotline.
- [Financial Aid and Scholarship Services](#)– offers information and applications for student funding such as grants, loans, scholarships, and student employment.
- [GPA Calculator](#)– students can use this calculator to project their GPA.
- [Libraries](#)- offers 24/7 access to librarians through "Ask a Librarian" online chat and help by librarians in person at the Reference Desk during most hours the libraries are open.
- [Tutoring and Writing Centers](#)– provides students with academic support services such as tutoring, peer advising, computer assisted instruction, writing support, and supplemental instruction
- [Contact Arizona State University](#)– provides frequently asked question resources and contact information for new questions.

***Syllabus Disclaimer:** All syllabi are subject to minor changes to meet the needs of the instructor, school, or class. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule, but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as deemed necessary. Students will be notified in a timely manner of any syllabus changes. Please check your ASU email and the Announcements on the course site often.*
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