Meeting time and place:

Room 205, 4:10-6PM Tuesdays

Contact information:
Professor Hickey
Email: lawjeh@hofstra.edu
Phone: 516 463 5891
Office: Room 104 in the library
Secretary: Fran Avnet, 516 463 5877, email-- Frances.Avnet@hofstra.edu

Office hours:

There are no set office hours. I will meet with you at your convenience. You can make an appointment by email, phone, or in person by seeing me before or after class. I ask that in making an appointment you have some idea how much time we will need for the meeting and some idea of the content of the meeting.

Course Description:

This is an interdisciplinary, two credit, course that explores the fundamental legal interrelationships of law, politics, economics and ethics in a real world energy context. The class will be conducted using both lectures and class participation in case studies. The first third of the class will use lectures and discussion to establish an analytical model to use in examining the various domestic and international legal rights and interests in the case studies. For those of you who have taken the Energy Law course this will be familiar. The case studies are: 1. The 1987 Exxon Valdez oil spill in Prince William Sound Alaska together with the 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon spill in the Gulf of Mexico. The Second case Study involves proposed sales of hydroelectricity from Quebec to the State of New York in the 1980's occasioned, in part, by the cancellation of the Shoreham nuclear power plant on Long Island. The third case study, time permitting, will focus on the future of nuclear energy as an energy resource in Japan after the 2011 Fukushima nuclear plant failures as a result of the unprecedented simultaneous event of a tsunami and a magnitude 9.0 earthquake. For each case study, students will “sign up” for roles to play representing the various interests affected.

Materials:

The class will use materials prepared especially for the course by the Professor. Volume One which will be used for the first third of the course will be available in time for assignments for the first day of class on August 26th. The other volumes will comprise materials for each case study. These are in the process of being updated and will be sent for binding and copying quite soon. Throughout the course there will be handouts as appropriate.
Attendance:

Regular attendance is required. A roll will be distributed at the beginning of each hour of class to be signed by the attending students. This roll will be the definitive evidence of your regular attendance. After 4 class hours of unexcused non-attendance, a student’s name will be forwarded to the Dean of Students to deal with. At that point this becomes a matter between the administration and the student and not the professor. If a makeup class is needed because regular class was cancelled (bad weather etc.) no attendance will be taken in the makeup classes.

Computers:

Computer use in class is allowed. Computer use during class for any non-class related purposes – emails, facebook, twitter, games, surfing etc. – is not permitted.

Examination:

There will an open book examination in this course of between 2 and 2 ½ hours. An old exam will be distributed later in the semester which will faithfully follow the format of your examination this semester.

Grades:

Your grade will be determined primarily by the examination. Because a substantial portion of the course depends on group analysis and discussion of the case studies, your attendance and participation will also be taken into account in determining your final grade.

Assignments:

Reading Assignments will be made week by week depending on our progress through the material. In this sort of course, it does not serve us well and is not very helpful to have assignments plotted out now for the full 14 weeks. Assignments will be made with ample lead time so that you can be confidant you are up to date.

As soon as Volume One of the materials is ready to pick up from the photocopy room in the basement, you will also have your first assignment in hand.