Clean Energy and Innovation  
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Professor:  
Derek Sylvan (derek.sylvan@nyu.edu)  
Office hours: TBD, Wilf Hall 318

Course Description

In this capstone seminar, students will explore the government’s role in accelerating technology development, assess how various energy technologies could help meet climate and energy goals, and craft recommendations for how federal and state policymakers can help spur the advancement and adoption of promising energy technologies.

Technological advancements in renewable energy and energy storage have the ability to help transform the electric sector and reduce both greenhouse gas emissions and conventional air pollution. Federal and state policies will play a major role in determining the path forward for these technologies. Students will research past government technology policies and programs and assess their relevance to clean energy development. The course will then explore various programs and policy tools that aim to spur energy innovation and help bring promising technologies to market, including the Department of Energy’s ARPA-E program, the national labs, state-level renewable energy policies, patent policies, and various public-private partnerships.

Students will be exposed to a variety of important concepts related to energy technology, public policy, scientific innovation, and economics. They will synthesize these concepts and develop policy recommendations that account for the real-world constraints of federal and state policymaking. As part of this process, students will also hone their skills in policy analysis, writing, and oral presentation.

Required Texts (subject to change)

- Bottled Lightning: Superbatteries, Electric Cars, and the New Lithium Economy by Seth Fletcher

- Other texts will be made available via NYU Classes