

UC 12014 12F



U N I V E R S I T Y of H O U S T O N

C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE BUSINESS PROGRAMS

APPROVED DEC 05 2012

TO: Jeanette F. Morales, Assistant Director, Office of Academic Program Management

FROM: Frank Kelley, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Business Programs

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DATE: October 11, 2012

RE: Proposal for an Energy and Sustainability Minor and ENRG rubric

The Bauer College of Business proposes to the UH Undergraduate Committee the following Energy and Sustainability Minor, and creation of an ENRG rubric at the college level (College 025).

Catalog language for the minor:

Energy and Sustainability Minor

The Energy and Sustainability minor is designed to provide both business and non-business majors with an interdisciplinary approach to broad issues regarding energy and sustainability, with a common introductory course and capstone course. Topics would include existing, transitional, and alternative energy resources; and energy and sustainability from the perspectives of economics and business, architecture and design, public policy, and education.

Requirements to Declare: A 2.5 cumulative GPA on 15 or more hours at UH and junior standing are the requirements to declare the Energy and Sustainability minor.

GPA Requirements: A 2.0 or higher cumulative GPA in all courses attempted for the minor are required for graduation. All attempted courses from the courses listed below are used toward the calculation.

Minor Course and Residency Requirements: The Energy and Sustainability minor consists of 18 hours, 9 hours of which must be advanced, and 6 of the 9 advanced hours must be in residence. Required courses include INTB 4397 [proposed as a permanent course ENRG 3310] Introduction to Energy and Sustainability and INTB 4397 [proposed as a permanent course ENRG 4320] Case Studies in Energy and Sustainability. The additional 12 hours are selected from the following, with no more than 6 hours from any one area (with no more than 12 hours of ENRG courses total for the minor):

- ARCH 3367 Sustainable Architecture (Prerequisite: junior standing)
- ARCH 3368 Sustainable Development (Prerequisite: junior standing)
- BIOL 3359 Environmental Biology of Texas (Prerequisites: BIOL 1361 and 1362)
- BIOL 4368 Ecology (Prerequisites: BIOL 1361 and 1362)
- ECON 3385 Economics of Energy (Prerequisite: ECON 2304 or 3332 or consent of instructor)
- ENGL 3396 Selected Topics: Writing Eco-City: Focus Houston
- ENRG 4397 Selected Topics in Energy and Sustainability

- ENRG 4398 Independent Study in Energy and Sustainability
- GEOL 3333 Earth Resources
- GEOL 3342 Introduction to Air Pollution
- HIST 3394 Special Topics relating to energy and sustainability such as War, Globalization and Terror; and History of Fossil Fuels in the US
- HIST 4318: Africa and the Oil Industry
- HIST 4322: Environment in U.S. History
- POLS 4349: International Energy Politics
- POLS 4363: Science, Technology, and Public Policy
- TECH 1325 Energy for Society
- TECH 4310 Future of Energy and the Environment
- Non-business courses relating to energy and/or sustainability approved by the program manager.

Justification: The energy industry is a major employer in the Gulf Coast region, along with companies focused on environmental products and services. Sustainability makes good business sense, and safe, renewable, environmentally-friendly sources of energy are also a community concern that includes regulatory policy issues. An interdisciplinary minor in Energy and Sustainability would allow students from all majors to get a broad overview of topics regarding energy and sustainability, such as existing, transitional, and alternative energy resources; economics and business; architecture and design; public policy; and education. It would also stimulate interdisciplinary critical discussion transcending binary ways of thinking, promote interactive learning through group projects, and provide a forum for speakers and guest lecturers from a variety of disciplines so that students have a holistic view of the issues from a range of stakeholders.