



New Course Offering: 2nd Sem AY 2015-2016

ECONOMICS 198 (Special Topics): ENERGY ECONOMICS AND POLICY

Course Background

Energy is a crucial element of economic growth and development and a key input to economic production. However energy supply interruptions, climate change impacts, and price shocks agitate the economy. Due to perceived future energy scarcity and its impact on the country's economic growth, public policy on energy is of utmost importance.

Course Description

This course provides an overview of the economic, technological, and political factors that shape the energy industry, the business models that emerge, and the policies governments use to regulate the industry; all with particular application to the Philippines. The strategy is to introduce some simple economic concepts and use this as framework to explore the role of technology and innovation, global markets and geopolitics, and the regulation of externalities including climate change. The course will use specific examples regarding power generation, transmission and distribution in the Philippines and elsewhere with regard to cost, reliability, and environmental effects.

Paper

Students present their analysis of a local or global policy question in class and present their final paper at a class conference.

Number of Units: Three (3) units

Prerequisites: Econ 101, 102/COI

INSTRUCTOR:



Dr. Majah-Leah Ravago

is Assistant Professor at the University of the Philippines School of Economics. She is also the Program Director of the USAID grant – Energy Policy and Development Program (EPDP) at the UPecon Foundation. She is Secretary and Member of the Board of the Philippine Economic Society (PES). Her research interests include environmental and resource economics, development economics, energy economics and economics of natural disaster. She has published papers on resource management and sustainability, climate change, agriculture, and experimental games. She obtained her BS Business Economics and MA Economics from the University of the Philippines and received her PhD in Economics from the University of Hawaii.