Economics 329 (L01) Electricity Markets

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Lecture Location: HNSC 122
Lecture Days/Time: TR 17:00-18:15

Office: Zoom meeting
Office Hours: by appointment

Fall 2022

Course Description:
Economic analysis of the deregulated electric power industry including the pricing of power, energy and capacity, power supply and demand, market structure, market architecture, and the design and testing of market rules.

Course Learning Outcomes:
Students will learn why electricity markets pose interesting economic problems, the solutions proposed and how basic economic theory can shed light on real world problems

Course Outline:
Electricity has some unique characteristics that pose unique economic problems. Some jurisdictions have sought to use markets (deregulation) to tackle these problems rather than central planning (regulation), other jurisdictions have not. Even within market-based systems there are important differences in structure and market rules. Not all the drivers are economic, some are technical, some historical, and some political. The interplay between all these factors can be complex, controversial, and are often poorly understood. Alberta will be used as a case study for all of these topics.

Topics covered in the course will include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022-09-06</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Intro to Electricity Markets</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022-09-13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Supply</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022-09-20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cost and value</td>
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<td>2022-09-27</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Demand</td>
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<td>2022-10-04</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Efficiency and Reliability</td>
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<td>2022-10-11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Alberta's Power Pool/Single Clearing Price</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022-10-18</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Regulation in Alberta: Transmission, Generation, and Distribution</td>
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<td>2022-10-25</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Midterm &amp; Deregulation in Alberta: Generation, Retail</td>
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<td>2022-11-01</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Alberta Policy Challenges (PPAs, RRO, PBR, Transmission)</td>
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<td>2022-11-08</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Reading Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022-11-15</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Climate Policy</td>
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There is no required textbook for this course. Government and industry publications will be used as appropriate; these will be identified in class. Interested students are welcome to consult with the instructor for additional suggested readings.

**Prerequisites/corequisites:**
Econ 201 and 203

**Required Textbook(s):**
None

**Recommended Textbook(s):**
Stoft, Steven (2002), Power system economics. (Available electronically via library.ucalgary.ca)

**Books on Reserve:**
The list of reserve titles, if any, is posted at the course D2L site.

**Desire2Learn:**
This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at [http://d2l.ucalgary.ca](http://d2l.ucalgary.ca) through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

**Grade Determination:**

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<th>Component</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Briefing Note</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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100%

**Examination Details:**
Tests and exams WILL NOT involve multiple choice questions.

Programmable calculators, cellphones, textbooks, course notes, and other electronic devices will not be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations. Students are reminded that simply being able to access their cellphone during an exam is academic misconduct.

The midterm is planned for late October. The exact date will be announced at least one week in advance.
**Term Work:**
The exact date for the assignment and the Policy Briefing Note will be announced at least one week in advance. The approximate due date for the assignment is late-October, with the Policy Briefing Note due approximately mid-November.

**Grading Policies:**
The official grading system will be used. See [http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html).

Students must receive a passing grade on the final exam to pass the course. Students committing academic misconduct during the final exam will not receive a passing grade for the course.

If a student’s letter grade on the final exam exceeds their midterm(s) letter grade, the weight of the midterm(s) is (are) transferred to the final exam. The student must have written the midterm(s) or provided supporting documentation for the absence(s).

As per the Writing Across the Curriculum Statement in the Calendar, writing and grading thereof will be a factor in the evaluation of student work. See [https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html](https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html).

Any student work which remains undistributed after the last day of classes will be available to students through the instructor’s office during the instructor’s office hours.

The final examination will be comprehensive, scheduled by the Registrar, held in a classroom, and last 2 hours. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar’s Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam [https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html](https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html). Under no circumstance will this be accommodated by the Department.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED QUIZZES/TESTS/EXAMS under any circumstances, nor may the quizzes/tests/exams be written early. Students unable to write the quizzes/tests/exams because of documented illness, family emergency, religious observance, or university-sanctioned event will have the weight shifted to the final examination; otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned.

**Reappraisal of Grades:**
*For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2*
[http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html)

*For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3*

**Academic Misconduct and Intellectual Honesty:**
Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students’ academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.
Statement of Intellectual Honesty, see Calendar K.4
https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct
https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity

Academic Accommodations:
Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policies on Student Accommodations are available at https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf and https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:
Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/faq-privacy-faculty-members.pdf and https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/faq-privacy-students.pdf.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device information:
The use of cell phones for any purpose in class is prohibited. Computers and tablets may be used for note taking only unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Copyright Legislation:
See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf. Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Recording of Lectures:
Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html.

Instructor Intellectual Property:
Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed, or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.
Important Dates:
Please check: http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html.

Student Organizations:
Faculty of Arts Students’ Association (F.A.S.A.):
   Economics Department Representative
   Office: SS 803, E-mail: econrep@fasaucalgary.ca and Web: www.fasaucalgary.ca.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics:
   https://www.ucalgarysue.com/.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students to succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career events such as Industry Night and information sessions, mentorship programs, and social events for members. They invite you to join by contacting SUE at sue@ucalgarysue.com.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:
   • Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students’ Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
   • For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Student Support and Resources:
   • See https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines for information on campus mental health resources, the Student Ombuds’ Office, Student Success Centre, Safewalk, and Emergency Evacuation and Assembly.
   • Online writing resources are available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support.

Notes:
1. Students are responsible for all assigned material, e.g., supplementary material posted on D2L, regardless of whether or not the material was covered in class.

2. Course material dealing with a particular assignment will typically be covered in class at least 7 days before the assignment is due; thus, assignments can be completed at any time up to and including the due date. Given these factors, only situations where someone can document illness or domestic affliction for an extended period (i.e., the entire 7 days prior to the due date) would possibly warrant shifting the assignment weight to the final exam. Furthermore, technical problems can be expected to occur with computer systems (and internet availability) so it may be a good idea to not wait until the last minute to submit your assignment.

GKF & NJ
2022-08-20