

Language: EN/PT?

Energy and Sustainable Communities

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2026

ENGENHARIA DA ENERGIA E AMBIENTE



What are we doing today?

1. Getting to know each other
2. Course objectives & Learning Dynamics
3. Course Work & Evaluation

BREAK (10 min)

4. Fun Interactive exercise

Getting to know each Other

Telma G. Laurentino, PhD
Ce3C, Social-Ecological Transitions (SET) group leader
Evolutionary biologist + Socio-ecologist
RESEARCHER & EDUCATOR

Training in belonging and active & inclusive pedagogy for Higher ed.
(visual disabilities, autism, ADHD)



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What are **desires** & **concerns** you have for our **sustainable energy future**?

Join at **menti.com** 7215 7656

https://www.menti.com/alpa3omh9wqc

Tell us **who you are** and **comment** on the mentimeter *(if you'd like)*

- **Name**
- **Academic specialization**
- **Comment?**



Create energy transition projects that support sustainable futures through knowing diverse stakeholders

Course objectives



Learn the (eco)systemic and socio-technical challenges of the energy transition for global, rural and urban communities



Understand critical challenges related to energy justice and energy democracy



Examine how communities can contribute to innovation and resilience in the energy sector



Train critical capacities for good research question design, project writing and presentation (train for your Thesis)

Co-created learning



Lectures with Telma, Kaya & Invited stakeholders
Class discussions (**Journal clubs**)
In-house project consulting
Other **Interactive activities**

LEARNING



2 classes are journal clubs + 1 final presentations led by you (groups)!
All articles for choice are provided.
Each group will be responsible for synthesising and presenting the preparatory reading to their peers.
Final presentation for feedback before final report.

LEADING



Group leading the discussion must:
Present 10-minute synthesis of the assigned article
Select one or two **relevant quotes** to support the discussion.
Guide the class discussion based on questions designed for each article

DISCUSSING

Your learning space



Radical Responsibility for Wellbeing & the Ethics of your work (AI use, workload distribution, etc.)



Participate, engage with complexity & nurture curiosity



Grow your future work from this space too (ask questions, value relationships)



Respect & Accountability for/from peers

Evaluation

XP points:
+Class attendance > 0.5
+Audience participation > 0.5

YOU WILL HAVE ACCESS TO CRITERIA GRIDS TO GUIDE YOUR WORK!



JC & CLASS DISCUSSION: 20%

[*Synthesis of the paper: 15%*
Class Questions: 5%]



GROUP PROJECT: 80%

[Report: 70%
Presentation: 10%]



INDIVIDUAL: 80%

[Report: 70%
Presentation: 10%]



EXAM (100%) (ONLY FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONTINUOUS EVALUATION PROCESS) – COURSE MATERIALS WILL BE THE BASIS FOR THE EXAM CONTENTS. THE EXAM WILL INCLUDE TEXT EXCERPTS FROM ONE OR MORE OF THE ARTICLES PROVIDED AS CLASS MATERIALS, BASED ON WHICH QUESTIONS WILL BE POSED.

Journal Club leading: 20%

Journal Clubs:

Synthesis and Discussion led by you

- Each group will rotate as a leader and facilitator of the discussion.
- May use flipcharts, post its, slides or other materials (to be provided) to support their facilitation
- Read the assigned article, that is half of the work to ensure success in this course.
- Leader group needs to prepare a 10-minute introduction, with a summary of the article's topic, main arguments, structure & key points.
- Prepare three questions to be posed to the class, to facilitate the discussion, exploring diverse viewpoints.
- Consider how the topic of the article relates to class broader themes, and discuss areas of disagreement and uncertainty & inspiration for projects

Project

GROUP PROJECT: 80%

Write a Research proposal

- **Clear research question**
- **State of the art** (lit. review)
- **Graphical abstract**
- **Objectives & Innovative aspects**
- **Key research methodology**
- Workplan

The project can be **mostly developed *in-house* with feedback** from teachers & invited speakers
You can make it **relevant for your MSc project** & **"real-world-based"!**

Key Themes > Kaya will give you a deeper dive!

- **Critical perspectives on sustainable transitions: From social acceptance to decolonial anti-extracative transitions:**
  - Social acceptance of energetic transitions
  - Socio-ecological impacts of large-scale energy
  - Energy colonialism
  - Green-washing; -extractivisms; -grabbing
  - Sacrifice Zones

- **Sustainability from below:**
  - Energy Sovereignty & Energy Justice
  - Grass-Root Energy Initiatives & Energy Communities
  - Decolonial transitions
  - Criteria and best practices for transparency and community participation
  - Sustainable business plans for community energy and prosumer projects

THEME CHOICE DEADLINE: Class 4 > 19. Oct. 2026
GROUP PRESENTATIONS: Last class > 14. Dec. 2026 (final feedback from peers)

FINAL WRITTEN REPORT DEADLINE: Post-course > ~12. Jan. 2027

You'll get to meet diverse Stakeholders as invited guests!

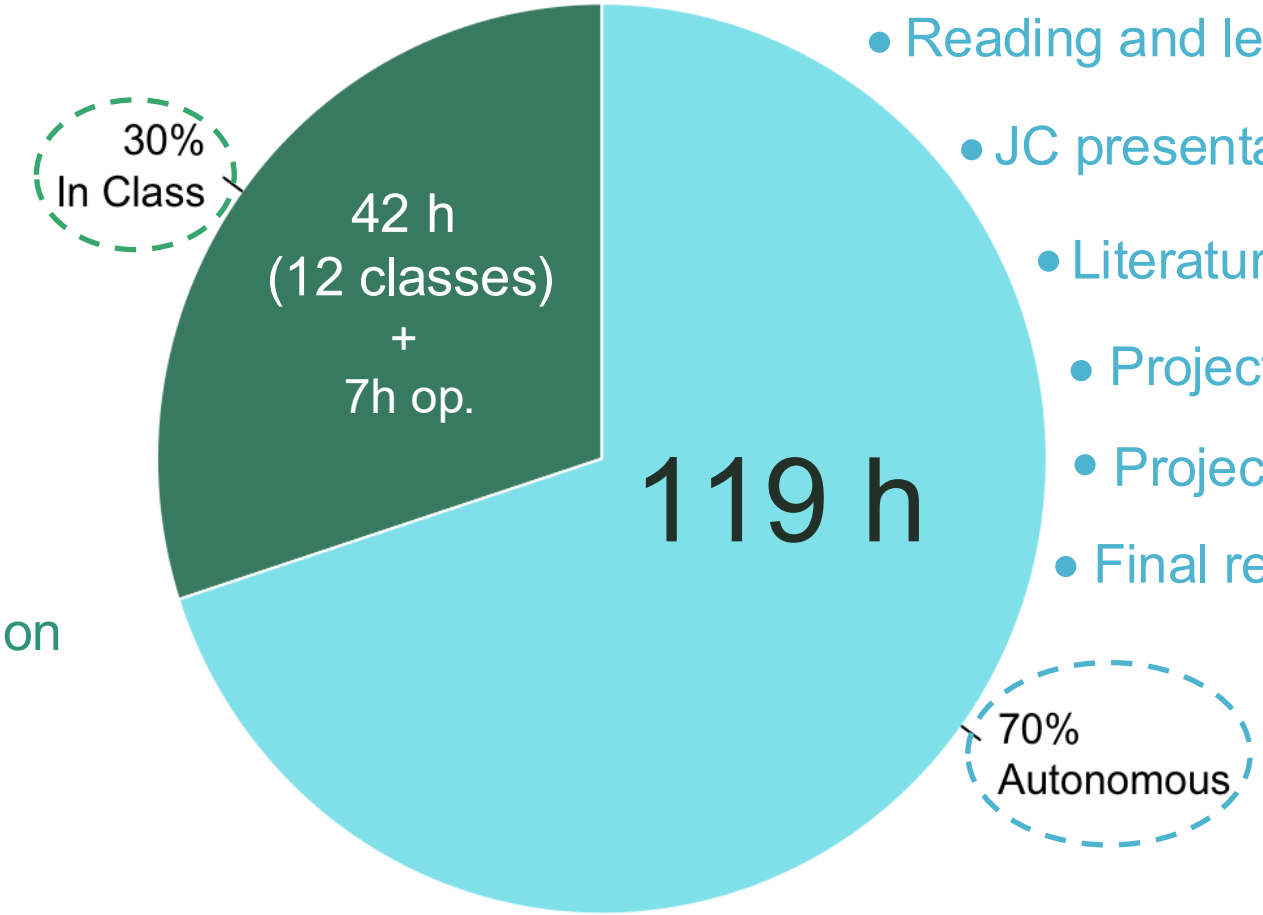
Stakeholder Consulting

Invited guest	Themes
Inês Campos ICS, Researcher	Energy Justice & Social acceptance of renewable energy
Guilherme Luz FCUL, PhD student	Digital Energy Democracy (AI surveillance in efficiency models, data markets, etc…)
Giulia Daniele & **Ruy Blanes** Observatório de Estudos da Palestina (OPal)	Energy-War-Geopolitics Nexus
Diogo Sobral FCSH, Researcher activist	Economy and Society: Covas do Barroso study case
Vera Ferreira Coopérnico, Project manager	CER: small-scale, customer-owned /-managed technologies for energy production/consumption

Managing effort & time

6 ECTs (1 ECTs = 28h of work; 168h total)

- Guest presentations
- Class participation
- Consulting with guests & Telma/Kaya
- JC presentation and Discussion leading
- Final project presentation



- Reading and learning JC papers
- JC presentation/discussion preparation
- Literature revision for Project
- Project presentation prep.
- Project write-up
- Final report delivery

Let’s talk about AI openly
(it makes perfect sense in our class!)

Join at menti.com 7144 9699

https://www.menti.com/alm8zs4drwv2

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(it makes perfect sense in our class!)

Important **modern socio-ecological issue**! Directly **interlaces** issues of:

Learning & integrity cheating, loss of critical thought, cognitive surrender…
Truth & knowledge hallucinations, bias, hegemony…
Justice & Power weaponry, non-democratic control, social regulation, jobs…
Ecology & relationality energy/water, human contact, care, creativity…

Here, we decide **together**, what we should do! Answers will be compiled into an **ethics guide** for next class.

10min BREAK

Next up,
Stakeholder mapping
& fun!

What is a stakeholder?

An individual, group, community, or organization/institution that can:
Affect, be affected by, or perceive themselves to be affected by a decision, activity, or outcome of a project, Institutional decision, or other endeavor.

They have an interest or stake in the outcome: success or failure



Who are the stakeholders of building a house?



The homeowner,
The construction crew,
The architect,
The building inspector,
The neighbors,
The local birds,
The local zoning board …

Not just end-users but each has a **vested interest, provides input**,
or is **impacted by** the project in different ways.

Some will hold more **power and/or interest** than others.

Understanding their needs and perspectives is crucial for a successful outcome.

Who are the stakeholders of the sustainable energy transition?



Individual Stakehodler ID

Post it

Similar stakeholders closer together



10 min. IN GROUP DISCUSSION
+
CLUSTER POSTER

Cluster Table



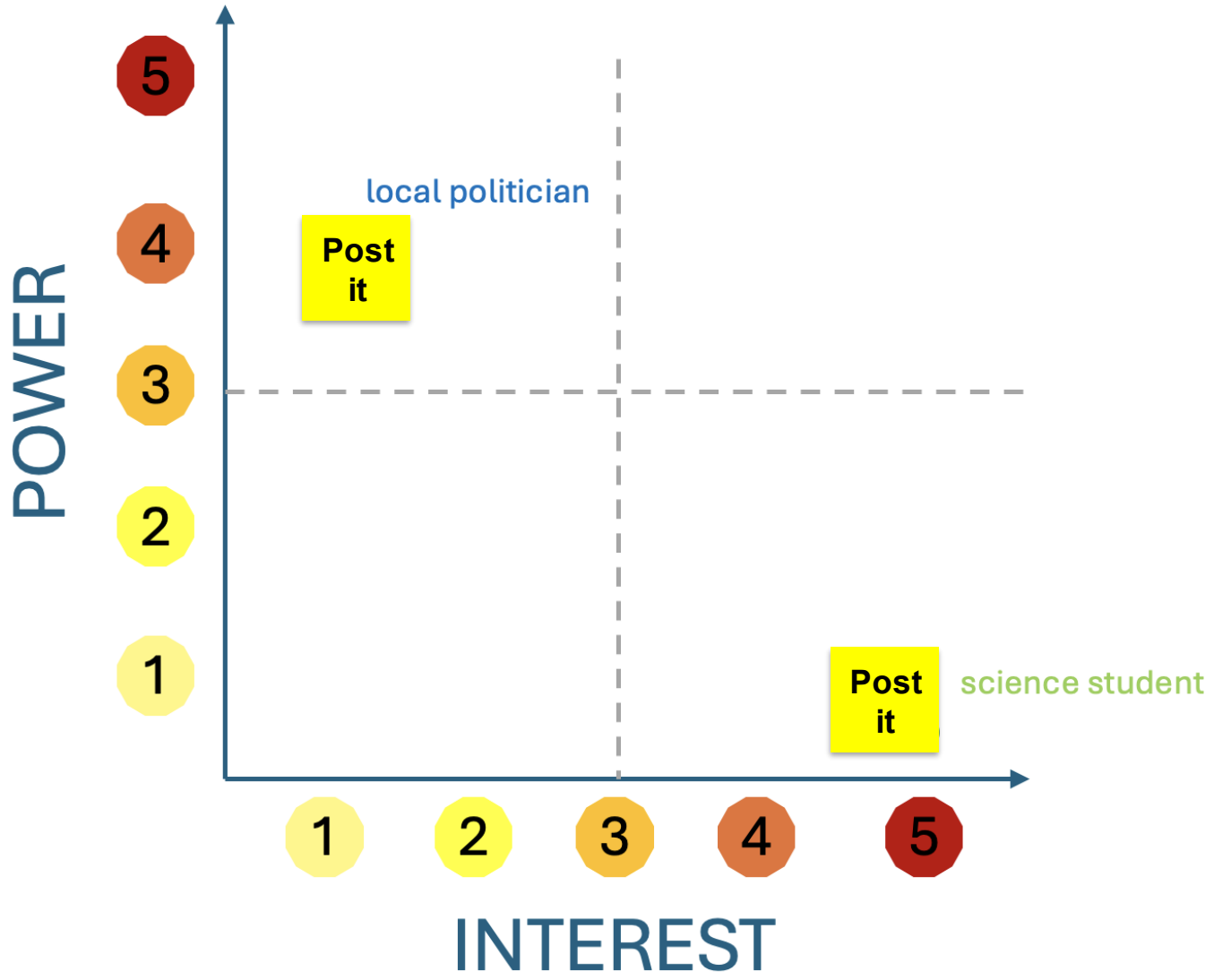
15 min. ALL-CLASS POWER GRID
+
COLLECTIVE REFLECTIONS

(Who have we all seen? Who are we forgetting?

Powr/Inter grid Poster

Stakeholder ID

Stakeholder Power/Interest grid



Upcoming classes

Class	Content
1 > 21. Sep	Telma: Intro to class + stakeholder mapping
2 > 28. Sep	Telma: Energy-War-Economy nexus + Wise future frameworks
3 > 12. Oct	Kaya: Deep intro to ESC Key themes + workgroup organization
4 > 19. Oct	Kaya: 1st Invited guest
…	

Até para a semana! ☺

See you next week! ☺