

Rotman

RSM407: Clean Energy

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Rotman School of Management
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Clean Energy: Policy Context and Business Opportunities

Professor and Course Background

- Professor Kenneth Corts
 - PhD, Economics, Princeton University
 - Former faculty, Harvard Business School
 - Rotman faculty since 2003
 - Served as Vice-Dean, Research for 10 years and Interim Dean in 2020-21
 - Currently Academic Director of the Rotman Sustainability Initiative
 - I have taught Microeconomics, Strategy, and Sustainability
 - Check out my other BCOM course RSM 497 Sustainability Strategy
- Clean Energy is new to Rotman Commerce, but I have been teaching it in the MBA program since 2016

Clean Energy: Policy Context and Business Opportunities

Course Overview

- The course is grounded in economic analysis of energy policy, including topics such as:
 - Paris agreement, carbon targets, carbon pricing, carbon markets, tax credits, consumer subsidies, procurement mandates, public research funding, public seed capital, electricity market design and pricing structure, etc
- But quickly pivots to thinking about real companies and guest speakers from industry
- Fundamentally, the question is “how can firms take advantage of the policies and institutions of energy markets to make the business case for a clean energy project, to raise the capital and get it and built”
 - It is not a finance class, though the principles of project finance feature prominently
- In recent years, the course has featured case studies and guest speakers from energy companies working in wind, solar, battery storage, nuclear, hydrogen, and e-fuels, and industrials working to decarbonize in sectors including EVs, shipping, and mining
- Deliverables include two quizzes and a final group project, as well as class participation