SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

The SSF Resilient Energy Certificate Program

Seven courses of about 6 to 8 hours · Seven practitioners · On-demand, at your own pace · Built for working professionals

A practitioner-taught program in the systems that keep energy resilient. For decision-makers and their advisors whose work depends on understanding how these systems operate.

WHY THIS PROGRAM, WHY NOW

The energy landscape is being remade by global events, grid stress, policy shifts, new technology, and security pressures. Public agencies, private companies, tribal governments, and civic institutions all feel it. Few have leaders and advisors who can hold their own in energy conversations. This program gives you the working command to advise, decide, and defend your organization's energy decisions.

The Security and Sustainability Forum (SSF) is not a school. Since 2009, SSF has convened senior practitioners across security, sustainability, and energy in more than 300 expert webinars, building a network of over 1,000 experts serving 27,000 professionals. Seven of those practitioners now teach in this program. Senior policy, industry, and academic program advisors shape the program's direction.

The program is rolling out January through spring 2027. Enroll in one course now, or plan across the release schedule below.

THE PROGRAM

About 6 to 8 hours per course

$495 per course

On-demand, at your own pace

Non-degree, non-credit

Three months to complete each course

THE CREDENTIALS

01 Certificate of Completion
One course · $495

02 Resilient Energy Certificate
Any four courses · $1,980

03 Comprehensive Certificate
All seven courses · $3,465

FACULTY

Seven senior practitioners

Federal government, national labs, international finance, industry

Actively shaping resilient energy work

See the faculty bios online →

THE PRACTITIONER WEBINAR SERIES · INCLUDED

What makes this a program rather than seven separate courses.

Every enrolled student gets standing access to the SSF Practitioner Webinar Series, the live sessions and archive where senior practitioners work through the current questions in the field. Continued access to the practitioners actively shaping resilient energy work is what enrollment delivers beyond the seven courses.

RELEASE SCHEDULE

Matt Haupt's *Understanding Electricity Markets* · **Opens on-demand in January 2027.**

Joseph Fiksel's *Energy Systems and Enterprise Resilience* · **Opens January 29, 2027. Register by January 15 for a live Q&A with Joseph.**

The remaining five courses launch in spring 2027. **Get on the alerts list** to be notified as each opens.

Courses and Instructors

Each course stands on its own. Together, they cover the full working landscape of the U.S. electric sector, taught by senior practitioners in each domain.



Matt Haupt

Former Energy Director, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command

OPENS JANUARY 2027 · ON-DEMAND

Understanding Electricity Markets: Wholesale, Retail, and What Comes Next

Electricity markets are among the most consequential systems in the economy, and among the least understood by the people who depend on them. Every procurement decision, every energy bill, every policy debate runs through machinery most professionals were never taught to understand. Starting at the origins of commercial power, this course builds to a working understanding of how today's competitive wholesale markets function across energy, capacity, and ancillary services, and how forces like data center load growth, electrification, and the integration of variable renewables are now reshaping them.

Matt Haupt spent more than 30 years leading installation energy resilience across the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. As Energy Director at the Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, he shaped energy security policy for the entire Department of the Navy and deployed the Department of Defense's only enterprise-wide Smart Grid system.

AFTER THIS COURSE

You'll understand how wholesale prices are set and where the market is heading, and be able to apply that to buying power, shaping policy, or analyzing the sector.

Recorded from SSF's Fall 2026 live cohort, including participant Q&A. Opens on-demand in January 2027, with three months to complete. Includes Electricity Basics, an optional 30-minute recorded primer for students with limited technical background.

See the full course page →



Scott Sklar

President, The Stella Group · Sustainable Energy Director, GWU EEMI

LAUNCHING SPRING 2027

Distributed Energy and Community Resilience

When the grid fails, who keeps the lights on? Distributed energy (solar and other renewables, storage, microgrids, and efficiency) working together is how communities and facilities secure power that holds when the larger system does not. This course covers the frameworks for assessing which technologies fit which needs, the financing structures that make distributed projects viable, and the policy and regulatory conditions that determine what is possible on the ground, including how global energy security conditions and shifting federal policy are reshaping the investment case for grid-edge systems, grounded in real deployments across governments, infrastructure owners, and commercial clients.

Scott Sklar has spent 25 years guiding governments, infrastructure owners, and commercial clients through the deployment of clean distributed energy. As former policy director of the Solar Energy Industries Association, he helped shape the federal policy framework underpinning today's distributed energy markets. He pioneered the first U.S. course on Renewable Energy and Critical Infrastructure at The George Washington University.

> AFTER THIS COURSE
>
> You'll be able to assess a community or facility's energy vulnerabilities and design a strategy to address them.

See the full course page →



Joseph Fiksel

Author, Resilient by Design · Co-founder, Center for Resilience at The Ohio State University

OPENS JANUARY 29, 2027 · REGISTRATION OPEN

Energy Systems and Enterprise Resilience

Energy systems, the production, transmission, storage, and use of power, are now a critical risk factor for every enterprise. As supply chains, geopolitics, cyber threats, and extreme weather grow more turbulent, the organizations that endure are the ones that build resilience in by design. This course explains the fundamentals of enterprise resilience through case studies of organizations that have learned to balance resilience with shareholder value in two ways: operational resilience, the ability to bounce back from disruptions, and strategic resilience, the ability to anticipate fundamental shifts in the business environment.

Joseph Fiksel is a pragmatic expert who has helped companies translate resilience ideas into business logic, showing that investing in resilience yields real performance gains, not just risk reduction. Former Vice President at Battelle, former Special Assistant to the U.S. EPA. Bachelor of Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Ph.D., Management Science, Stanford University.

> AFTER THIS COURSE
>
> You'll be able to make a credible business case for resilience to senior leadership, in language they understand, and build it into how your organization actually operates.

Includes Electricity Basics, an optional 30-minute recorded primer, available as soon as you register.

See the full course page →



Stratos Tavoulareas

Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University · Former Global Power Lead, IFC (World Bank Group)

LAUNCHING SPRING 2027

Renewable Energy Finance and Grid Integration

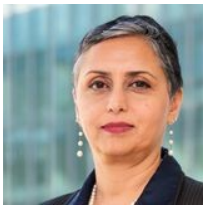
A renewable project succeeds or fails long before it generates a kilowatt, in the financing. The single factor that shapes financing most is the one developers underestimate: the grid. This course covers what it takes to bring a renewable energy project to financial closure, with particular emphasis on the interaction between the grid and the project, because that interaction shapes everything downstream, from connection agreements to revenue risk to a project's viability across a long asset life.

Stratos Tavoulareas brings more than 45 years of experience in the power sector, with deep expertise across technologies, regulations, policies, economics, and financing. For three decades he worked globally through the World Bank Group, leading projects across Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America with a focus on renewables and new technologies. Following retirement, he was retained by the International Monetary Fund as a global energy consultant.

AFTER THIS COURSE

You'll know what lenders and developers look for when grid and market risks are on the table, and how those risks affect whether a renewable project reaches financial close.

See the full course page →



Smita Chandra Thomas

Founder and Principal, Energy Shrink

LAUNCHING SPRING 2027

Buildings, Climate, and the Economics of Decarbonization

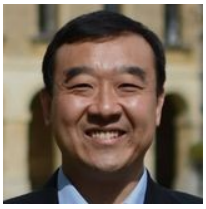
Buildings are where decarbonization gets real, and where good intentions most often collide with hard economics. They account for a large share of global energy use and emissions, yet the gap between a green building plan and a financeable one is where most projects stall. This course teaches how to apply techno-economic analysis to building decarbonization decisions and how to build climate risk assessments that produce actionable guidance, while examining the economics, policies, and market conditions shaping electrification and energy efficiency, so decision-makers can tell which interventions deliver real returns and which only look good on paper.

Smita Chandra Thomas is founder and principal of Energy Shrink, a consulting firm focused on decarbonizing the global built environment. Advisory work spans the Maryland and DC governments, the IFC World Bank EDGE green buildings program, and the U.S. Department of Energy, along with whole-building consulting and energy modeling for passive design and net-zero buildings.

AFTER THIS COURSE

You'll be able to run a techno-economic analysis on a building decarbonization decision and identify which interventions deliver real economic and carbon returns.

See the full course page →



Jimmy Jia

Author, The Corporate Energy Strategist Handbook

LAUNCHING SPRING 2027

Energy as Corporate Strategy

In most organizations, sustainability is a pile of disconnected initiatives that shifts with every change in leadership. The ones that get it right treat energy as strategy, with metrics that outlast the people who set them. This course introduces the Energy-as-Strategy methodology, which uses energy consumption and carbon as governance metrics revealing how effectively an organization is actually run, and it teaches how to build the kind of coherent strategy leadership takes seriously and that survives a change at the top.

Jimmy Jia advises corporations, governments, and nonprofits on the question most of them get wrong: how to ensure sustainability strategies survive a change in leadership. He has spent two decades in the rooms where energy decisions either become real strategy or quietly disappear into the next budget cycle. Bachelor of Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Ph.D., University of Oxford.

AFTER THIS COURSE

You'll be able to turn scattered sustainability efforts into a coherent strategy and use energy and carbon data to identify operational inefficiencies leadership cares about.

See the full course page →



Julian Bentley

Managing Director, Bentley Energy Consulting

LAUNCHING SPRING 2027

The EV Transition: Markets, Technology, and the Grid

Fleet electrification looks simple: swap the vehicles. In practice, plans that pencil out on paper stall against charging infrastructure, utility approvals, and grid capacity nobody accounted for. This course teaches how to structure a fleet electrification decision that accounts for vehicle technology, charging infrastructure, total cost of ownership, policy, and energy security at the same time, with particular attention to how charging choices ripple into grid services, demand management, and utility relationships.

Julian Bentley has spent more than 20 years advising the federal government on energy and environmental management, including Department of Defense fuel management, federal fleet electrification, operational energy strategy, and utility procurement. He knows where electric vehicle and fleet electrification projects stall in real institutions and what it takes to get them built and operating.

AFTER THIS COURSE

You'll be able to design a fleet electrification plan that accounts for grid capacity, utility approvals, and total cost of ownership from the start.

See the full course page →

The Network Behind the Program

The same network and editorial standards behind SSF programming since 2009 now underlie the certificate program's practitioner faculty. What sponsors and partners say about how SSF brings experts to the table and builds meaningful conversations applies directly to the education you'll receive here.

> *"SSF has been our platform for putting energy and decarbonization subjects in front of policy and practitioner audiences since 2014, across roughly 50 webinars. SSF brings a deep network of experts, editorial judgment on how to frame each conversation, and the production quality to deliver programming that actually reaches the audience it's for."*
>
> **Bill Brandt**
> *Director of Strategic Initiatives, ASU Lightworks*

> *"SSF was invaluable in connecting our authors with the policy audience. Across more than fifteen webinars in a decade of partnership, they consistently made significant impact and added to discussions in substantive ways. SSF brings the right people to the table every time."*
>
> **Julie Marshall**
> *Vice President and Director, Marketing and Sales, Island Press*

How to Enroll

Register for Joseph Fiksel's Energy Systems and Enterprise Resilience course by **clicking here**. The course opens January 29, 2027, and everyone who registers by January 15 is invited to a live Q&A with Joseph in February. Matt Haupt's Electricity Markets course opens on-demand in January. Registration for either course includes Electricity Basics, a 30-minute recorded primer you can watch right away.

For the remaining five courses, **get on the course alerts list** to be notified as each opens.

Questions? Contact Edward Saltzberg at esaltzberg@ssfworld.org, (703) 992-3848, or book a meeting. Enrolling a team? Ask about group and corporate rates.

SEE THE PROGRAM ONLINE **REGISTER NOW**