

# VICTOR COURT

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CERES, École Normale Supérieure  
Chair Energy & Prosperity

Fields of interest: **long-run economic growth, comparative development, energy transitions, energy & sustainability.**

## Education

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- **Ph.D. in Economics, Université Paris Nanterre, and IFPEN.** 2013–2016
  - Under the direction of Professor Pierre-André Jouvét (Université Paris Nanterre) and Professor Frédéric Lantz (IFPEN).
  - Dissertation title: “Energy, EROI, and Economic Growth in a Long-Term Perspective”.
- **MSc. in Energy and Environmental Economics, IFP School, INSTN, and AgroParisTech.** 2012–2013
  - Core courses: macroeconomic modeling, energy markets and policies, geopolitics of energy.
- **MEng. in Agronomy & Environmental Sciences, AgroParisTech.** 2011–2013
  - Core courses: molecular and cellular biology, thermodynamics, population ecology.
  - Gap year as an intern for a sustainable consulting firm (Factea Durable, Paris, France) and a research centre of Griffith University (Brisbane, Australia).
- **BSc. in Biology, AgroParisTech.** 2009–2011
  - AgroParisTech (*Paris Institute of Technology for Life, Food and Environmental Sciences*, formerly the *Institut National Agronomique Paris-Grignon*) is the leading French engineering school in agronomy, environment, life sciences and food technology.

## Professional experience

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- **Research fellow, Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU), University of Sussex (Brighton), and Chair Energy & Prosperity.** 2018–
  - Analysis of the impact of information and communication technologies (ICTs) on UK energy demand.
  - Analysis of capital, labour and energy productivity in the long run (1960-2012) for six countries (UK, USA, Austria, Portugal, Mexico, China).
- **Research fellow, CERES, École Normale Supérieure (Paris), and Chair Energy & Prosperity.** 2017–2018 (1 year)
  - Population endogenization in the GEMMES macroeconomic model of AFD.
  - Development of a unified growth model taking into account the role of energy.

- **Postdoctoral researcher & teaching assistant, *EconomiX (UMR 7235), Université Paris Nanterre*** (Nanterre, France), and **visiting researcher, *HEC Montréal*** (Québec, Canada). 2016–2017  
 (1 year)
  - Research: reflections on the relative importance over time of the different deep-rooted and proximate causes of economic growth in the long run. Investigation of the relationship between societal energy control and aggregate technological change in an evolutionary perspective.
  - Teaching: Tutorial classes in economic policy, 2nd year Bachelor. 128 hours, 200 students in eight groups. Tutorial classes in international macroeconomics, 1st year Master. 64 hours, 100 students in four groups.
  
- **Doctoral researcher & teaching assistant, *EconomiX (UMR 7235), Université Paris Nanterre, IFP Energies Nouvelles, and Chaire Economie du Climat.*** 2013–2016  
 (3 years)
  - Research: investigation of the role of energy in the economic growth process with a particular emphasis on the Energy-Return-On-Investment (EROI) concept as a measure of the accessibility of energy.
  - Teaching: tutorial classes in macroeconomics, 1st year Bachelor. 64 hours, 100 students in four groups.
  
- **Analyst (intern), *Concawe, The oil companies' European association for environment, health and safety in refining and distribution*** (Brussels, Belgium). 2013  
 (6 months)
  - Participation in updating the "Well-To-Wheels Analysis of Future Automotive Fuels and Powertrains in the European Context" developed by Concawe, Eucar, and the JRC.
  - Energy, GHG and Cost balance analysis of the "Directive on the Deployment of Alternative Fuels Infrastructure" proposal of the European Commission.
  
- **Research intern, *Atmospheric Environment Research Centre, Griffith University*** (Brisbane, Australia). 2012  
 (6 months)
  - Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) of three waste-to-energy solutions to use the solid olive waste produced by the Australian olive oil industry.
  - Modeling and calculation of environmental impacts made with OpenLCA software.
  
- **Consultant (intern), *Factea Durable*** (Boulogne-Billancourt, France). 2011  
 (6 months)
  - Consulting missions to assist the implementation of sustainable procurement.
  - Drafting of commercial proposals in response to call for tenders.

## Publications

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- Peer-reviewed academic journals:
  - **Court, V., Jouvét, P.-A., & Lantz, F.** Long-term endogenous economic growth and energy transitions. *Energy Journal*, 39(1), 29–57 (ABS: 3, impact factor: 2.43). 2018
  - **Court, V., & Fizaine, F.** Long-term estimates of the energy-return-on-investment (EROI) of coal, oil, and gas global productions. *Ecological Economics*, 138, 145–159 (ABS: 3, impact factor: 2.96). 2017
  - **Fizaine, F., & Court, V.** Energy expenditures, economic growth, and the minimum EROI of society. *Energy Policy*, 95, 172–186 (ABS: 2, impact factor: 4.14). 2016

- Fizaine, F. & **Court, V.** Renewable electricity producing technologies and metal depletion: a sensitivity analysis using the EROI. *Ecological Economics*, 110, 106–118 (ABS: 3, impact factor: 2.96). 2015
- Press (in French):
  - **Court, V.** Le taux de retour énergétique et son rôle dans la transition énergétique. Entrevue pour le *Bulletin Envôile Express*, bimensuel électronique du Conseil Régional de l'Environnement de Montréal (CREMTL). 2017
  - **Court, V.** La dure loi de l'EROI. Tribune pour *Reporterre, le quotidien de l'écologie*.

## Working papers and works in progress

- Working papers:
  - **Court, V.** The occurrence and persistence of the Great Divergence: historians vs. economists' perspectives on growth. *Chair Energy & Prosperity Working Paper*, September 2017.
  - **Court, V.** Energy capture, technological change, and economic growth: an evolutionary perspective. *Chair Energy & Prosperity Working Paper*, October 2017 (accepted for publication at *Biophysical Economics and Resource Quality*).
- Works in progress:
  - **Court, V.** Minimum E(x)ROI required for society: definitions and estimates in relation to en(x)ergy conversion efficiencies (in progress, target journal: *Ecological Economics*, ABS: 3, impact factor : 2.43).
  - **Court, V., & Bovari, E.** Energy, knowledge and demo-economic development in the long run: a unified growth model (in progress, target journal: *Review of Economic Studies*, ABS: 4\*, impact factor: 4.03).
  - Mc Isaac, F., & **Court, V.** A simple phenomenological model of the world demographic dynamics (in progress, target journal: *Demography*, no ABS rank, impact factor: 2.80).
  - **Court, V., & Nguyen-Huu, A.** There is no "Manna from Heaven": long-run TFP disappearance once exergy is taken into account (in progress).

## Academic conferences

- 18<sup>th</sup> World Economic History Congress, July 29–August 3, Boston, USA. 2018
- 6<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Environment and Energy Finance Issues, 24–25 May, Paris, France.
- 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the French Economic Association, 14–16 May, Paris, France.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> International Exergy Economics Workshop, 14–15 May, Lisbon, Portugal.
- 39<sup>th</sup> IAEE International Conference, June 19–22, Bergen, Norway. 2016
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Science for Energy Scenarios, March 6–11, Les Houches, France.
- 5<sup>th</sup> IAFOR Asian Conference on Sustainability, Energy, and the Environment, June 11–14, Kobe, Japan. 2015
- 1<sup>st</sup> FAERE Annual Conference, September 11–12, Montpellier, France. 2014

## Invited talks & research seminars

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- CEE-M (ex LAMETA) Research Seminar, 20 December, Montpellier, France. 2017
- LIED Research Seminar, 19 September, Paris, France.
- Workshop on EROI or the UK Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy, 30 June, London, England.
- HEC Montreal Energy Seminar, February 28, Montreal, Canada.
- Conference of the X-Environment Association, December 12, Paris, France. 2016
- European Nuclear Young Generation Forum, June 24, Paris, France. 2015

## Grants & honors

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- Grant from the French Ministry of National Education, Higher Teaching, and Research. 2013–2016  
Funding for living expenses during three-year Ph.D. program. €80,000.
- Grant from IFP Energies Nouvelles. Funding of material and conference expenses during three-year Ph.D. program. €18,000.
- 7th prize of the *Génération Energies* contest organized by RTE, SIA Partners, and L'Expansion. 2012  
€500.

## References

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| • Pierre-André Jouvét, Ph.D.<br>EconomiX, Université Paris<br>Nanterre.<br>200 av. de la République, 92001<br>Nanterre, France.<br>pajouvét@u-plum.fr<br>+33 6 98 45 62 69.        | • Gaël Giraud, Ph.D.<br>Agence Française de<br>Développement.<br>5, Rue Roland Barthes 75012<br>Paris, France.<br>giraudg@afd.fr<br>+33 1 53 44 37 43.   | • Pierre-Olivier Pineau, Ph.D.<br>HEC Montréal.<br>3000 chemin de la Côte Sainte-<br>Catherine, Montréal H3T 2A7,<br>Canada.<br>pierre-olivier.pineau@hec.ca<br>+1 514 340 6922. |
| • Alain Ayong le Kama, Ph.D.<br>EconomiX, Université Paris<br>Nanterre.<br>200 av. de la République, 92001<br>Nanterre, France.<br>aayonglekama@u-paris10.fr<br>+33 1 40 97 71 24. | • Frédéric Lantz, Ph.D.<br>IFP School, academic supervisor<br>of Master EET-EDDEE.<br>232 av. Napoléon Bonaparte,<br>92852 Rueil-Malmaison, France.<br>frederic.lantz@ifp.fr<br>+33 1 47 52 64 25. | • Roger Fouquet, Ph.D.<br>London School of Economics and<br>Political Science.<br>Houghton Street, London, WC2A<br>2AE, UK<br>r.fouquet@lse.ac.uk<br>+44 (020) 7955 7368.        |

## Skills & interests

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- **Computer skills:** Microsoft Office Suite (*Word, Excel, PowerPoint*), document preparation (*LaTeX, Beamer*), statistical and econometric analysis (*Eviews, R*), numerical simulation (*Vensim, R*), Life Cycle Assessment (*OpenLCA*), vector graphics (*Inkscape*).
- **Languages:** *French:* native. *English:* fluent, (TOEFL score: 105/120). *Spanish:* intermediate level.
- **Travels:** Canada and USA (6 months), Australia (6 months), Belgium (6 months), Thailand (1 month), Laos (1 month), several European countries for a few weeks or days.
- **Sports:** climbing, swimming, running.
- **Charity:** voluntary teaching of French and mathematics to young refugees in Paris.