

Who Should Take Environmental Courses at Stanford Law School?

Courses in the Environmental and Natural Resources Law & Policy Program (ENRLP) are designed both for students planning to practice environmental law and for students interested in learning how to address public policy issues generally. The courses examine issues of broad relevance to public law, including the administrative process, statutory interpretation, alternative approaches to regulating economic activities, multi-party negotiation, and legal ethics. Anyone interested in engaging in administrative or public policy work will find the courses valuable. The Law School is on the University's quarter schedule to facilitate interdisciplinary enrollment, and thus, we encourage students from related disciplines to enroll. The Law School offers several exciting joint graduate programs in connection with E-IPER, Public Policy, International Relations, and the Business School.

Designing a Curriculum to Fit Your Interests and Professional Goals

This year, Stanford Law School offers an array of core, advanced, clinical, and enrichment courses in the environmental area. The following provides a brief summary of the offerings. For more guidance on these and other courses in the environmental field, feel free to contact **Meg Caldwell**, Director (650/723-4057 or megc@stanford.edu).

Core Courses provide a fundamental, yet thorough review of key topics and methods of environmental regulation. Students need no special background to enroll in any of the core courses. This year, these core courses will be offered:

Administrative Law (winter and spring): This course examines the legal and practical foundations of the modern administrative state. Topics include rationales for delegation to administrative agencies; the legal framework (both constitutional and statutory) that governs agency decision-making; the proper role of agencies in interpreting statutory and regulatory law; and judicial review of agency action.

Energy Law (winter): This course examines the electricity supply system, rate based regulation of electric utilities, and deregulated wholesale electricity markets; the role of siting and cost recovery in development of a workable transmission grid; reforms of both rate-regulated and wholesale market-based structures; and approaches to subsidization of renewable energy.

Environmental Law Clinic (basic, full-time autumn and winter; advanced, part-time any quarter): The Clinic trains students to be effective public interest lawyers, while simultaneously providing legal and technical services to communities and non-profit organizations on environmental problems. The clinic offers valuable training not only for environmental students, but for all students interested in obtaining hands-on exposure to litigation and administrative agency practice in an area of law involving complex statutory and regulatory regimes and evolving science and policy issues. The skills acquired through the clinical experience, including strategic planning with clients, mediation and negotiation, written advocacy before courts and agencies, and oral argument, are readily transferable to many other substantive areas of modern practice in public interest organizations, government agencies and private law firms. Students who have already successfully completed the basic Environmental Law Clinic for one quarter may continue to work with the clinic in the advanced section, participating in a more intensive and senior capacity on clinic matters.

Environmental Law and Policy (spring): This introductory course focuses on the key federal environmental laws, regulation, and policy in the United States. The course begins with a discussion of the property law roots of environmental law and the risk assessments and regulatory frameworks essential to understanding the current U.S. approach to environmental problems. The course focuses on federal statutes including the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act. The course concludes with a discussion of current EPA efforts to address emissions of greenhouse gases.

Land Use (spring): This course focuses on the pragmatic (rather than theoretical) aspects of contemporary land use law and policy, including: nuisance as a land use tool and foundation for modern land use law; use and abuse of the "police power" (the legal basis for land use control); zoning flexibility; vested property rights, development agreements, and takings; redevelopment; growth control; and direct democracy. We explore how land use decisions affect environmental quality and how land use decision-making addresses environmental impacts.

Water Law & Policy (autumn): This course will study how society allocates and protects its most crucial natural resource – water. The emphasis will be on current legal and policy debates, although we will also examine the history of water development and politics in the United States. We will consider: alternative means of responding to the growing worldwide demand for water; the appropriate role for the market and private companies in meeting society's water needs; protection of threatened groundwater resources; environmental limits on water development (including the Endangered Species Act and the “public trust” doctrine); watershed protection and restoration; Indian water rights; interstate and international disputes over water.

Advanced Seminars and Specialized Courses provide an in-depth examination of environmental issues. Students generally get more out of the advanced seminars if they already have taken one or more core courses or have some experience in the field, but none require prerequisites. This year, advanced seminars and specialized courses include:

Animal Law (spring): This course presents a survey of the historical and current status of this rapidly developing specialty. In brief, animal law encompasses all areas of the law in which the nature – legal, social or biological – of nonhuman animals is an important factor. It is an objective and logical specialization of a challenging area – one with a growing number of cases and laws, increasing public and practical interest, and significantly different historical, legal and philosophical foundations than most other courses.

Clean Tech: Business Fundamentals and Public Policy (autumn): This course examines developments in the cleantech sector related to energy and carbon emissions; provides a framework for comparing the cost competitiveness of alternative energy solutions; examines current trends in public policy and regulatory initiatives related to carbon emissions and clean energy standards; analyzes challenges for the commercialization of new energy technologies; examines strategies for avoiding the “valley of death.” This course is cross listed with the business school.

Climate & Energy Seminar (spring): This course examines the links between climate change policy and other regulation of the energy sector in the U.S. context; the impacts of energy, air pollution, and water pollution regulations on US greenhouse gas emissions from the energy sector; and how state regulatory activities aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the electricity sector are likely to have co-benefits for air and water pollution.

Natural Resources Law & Policy Workshop (autumn): Offered yearly, this interactive seminar examines and critiques cutting-edge research and work in the field of natural resources law and policy. Although it is open to all second and third year law students and graduate students in other disciplines, the seminar is designed especially for those with an interest in the field who wish to stay abreast of current issues, work, and ideas. In each class, an academic expert, policy maker, or practitioner presents their current research or work and engage in a robust discussion.

2012-2013 Academic Year: Administrative Law; California Coast: Science, Policy and Law; Energy Law; Environmental Law Clinic; Environmental Law and Policy; International Environmental Law; and Water Law or Natural Resources Law; Environment & Energy Law Workshop.

Enrichment Courses. Additional law courses of particular relevance to environmental students include:

Adv Legal Research (spring)	Law and Economics Seminar I (autumn)
Adv Legal Writing (autumn, winter, spring)	Law and Economics Seminar II (winter)
Alternative Dispute Resolution (autumn, spring)	Law and Public Policy (winter)
Bayesian Statistics (spring)	Legal Ethics (winter)
Economic Analysis of Law (winter)	Legislative Simulation (autumn)
European Union Law (winter)	Local Government Law (spring)
Federal Courts (autumn,)	Mediation (spring)
Federal Indian Law (spring)	Negotiation (autumn, winter, spring)
International Conflict Resolution (winter)	Professional Responsibility (spring)
International Deal Making (autumn)	Intro Public Interest Law (winter)
International Human Rights (winter)	QM: Finance (winter)
International Law (spring)	Statutory Interpretation (autumn)
International Trade Regulation (winter)	