



LAW

WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

“Before these priceless bits of Americana (such as a valley, an alpine meadow, a river, or a lake) are forever lost or are so transformed as to be reduced to the eventual rubble of our urban environment, the voice of the existing beneficiaries of these environmental wonders should be heard.”

~ Justice William O. Douglas

Table of Contents

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN	I
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AT WCL	2
CURRICULUM	2
SPECIALIZED DEGREES	3
SUMMER SESSIONS	4
EXTERNSHIPS, INTERNSHIPS, AND CLINICS	5
PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES	6
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS	8
FACULTY	8
LIVING AND STUDYING IN WASHINGTON, D.C.	9





Message from the Dean

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES—WHETHER PREVENTING GLOBAL WARMING OR LOCAL AIR POLLUTION, protecting the Brazilian Amazon or the Chesapeake Bay, managing toxic exports to South Africa or landfill sitings in Ohio—will remain among the most important and complex law and policy challenges in this century. At American University Washington College of Law (WCL) we offer a dynamic and rich curriculum in environmental law to prepare the creative and skilled attorneys needed to meet these environmental challenges.

Our goal is to produce lawyers able to lead the world in finding effective solutions that balance the protection of the global environment with the needs for achieving and sustaining a high quality of life for all people. WCL's location in Washington, D.C. is the premier place to study environmental law because of the extraordinary opportunities for our students to sharpen their practical legal skills through unparalleled access to leading domestic and international environmental institutions.

Our curriculum is diverse and comprehensive, offering students a wide range of U.S., international, and comparative environmental law courses. With more courses in international and comparative environmental law than any other law school in the country, WCL has been at the vanguard of training environmental lawyers in the context of economic and political globalization. WCL is proud to host the Program on International and Comparative Environmental Law (PICEL), which introduces our law students to the practice of environmental law through client-based research projects, symposia, and conferences. WCL students also benefit from our unique and long-running Joint Research Program with the independent Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL), which allows students to work closely with CIEL attorneys on a variety of projects.

WCL has fostered an active community in which faculty, students, and alumni, work together to prepare the next generation of lawyers to meet this century's most pressing environmental law challenges. This community extends beyond graduation as many alumni contribute to the law school by assisting with externship placements and career opportunities and by serving as adjunct professors. WCL alumni are active around the world, whether enforcing the Clean Water Act in the United States, establishing the first public interest environmental law organizations in Mexico and Ecuador, serving as Portugal's lead negotiator in climate negotiations, or bringing the first joint human rights and environmental cases in Argentina. Our alumni are not only advancing environmental law throughout the world but are also enriching the experience of all who join the WCL community.

CLAUDIO GROSSMAN, DEAN

Environmental Law at WCL Offers Students:

- A diverse range of environmental courses that emphasize environmental lawmaking in the federal government and in the international arena;
- A highly networked faculty, with close ties to environmental practitioners and institutions in Washington, D.C. and around the world;
- A Washington, D.C. location affording students unparalleled internship and externship positions;
- Opportunities to meet and network with the leading environmental policymakers in the nation's capital;
- Creative and dynamic positions at the student-run *Sustainable Development Law and Policy* journal;
- Unique relationships with the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL), the Center for Biological Diversity, Greenpeace, and other organizations that provide internship and research opportunities;
- An alumni network promoting environmental protection around the globe; and,
- Opportunities to study environmental law in the summers in Washington, D.C., Paris, and Geneva.

Environmental Law Curriculum

The Washington College of Law offers a comprehensive and diverse set of environmental law courses. Taking advantage of our location in the nation's capital, WCL emphasizes a practical and contemporary approach to federal environmental law. WCL also presents environmental issues in the global context, offering more courses in comparative and international environmental law than any other school in the country. WCL students are thus able to master the full breadth of environmental law as it is practiced now and in the future, here and abroad.

A short list of WCL's environmental law classes include:

US Environmental Law (3)	Environmental Externship Seminar
Advanced Environmental Law: Liability and Torts (3)	European Union Environmental Law (1 or 2)
Advanced Environmental Law: Water Law (2)	Federal Public Lands Law (2)
Biotechnology and the Law (3)	Human Rights and Environment (1 or 2)
Climate Change and the Law (3)	International Environmental Law (3)
Coastal and Marine Resources (2)	International Institutions and Environmental Protection (3)
Comparative Environmental Law (3)	International Wildlife Law and Biodiversity (3)
Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (1 or 2)	Land Use Regulation (2)
Energy Regulation (2)	Law of the Sea (2)
Environmental Impact Assessment and Decision-making (3)	Natural Resources Law: Minerals (2)
Environmental Issues in Business Transactions (2)	Oil and Gas Law (2)
Environmental Litigation	Research Seminar on Advanced International Environmental Law (2)
	Trade and the Environment (3)
	Water Law (2)

For more detailed course information, please visit:
www.wcl.american.edu/environment



Specialized Degrees in Environmental Law

LLM IN INTERNATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEMS: CERTIFICATION IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The International Legal Studies Program (ILSP) was established in 1980 in response to a growing demand for lawyers trained in international law. The program incorporates a rich array of international law courses and seminars, experiential learning, and special events that offer valuable opportunities to interact with international attorneys, diplomats, business leaders, and policy makers. In addition, students benefit from WCL's strong alliances with various international, governmental, and non-governmental organizations in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and abroad.

LLM IN LAW AND GOVERNMENT: CONCENTRATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY

Students in the Law and Government Program have the option to concentrate in one of several areas of international law, including environmental law. Addressing legal aspects of global environmental protection and sustainable development, the curriculum includes courses on a variety of international, comparative, and U.S. environmental issues such as inter-national trade, biodiversity and wildlife conservation, and natural resource use. The flexibility of the program permits students to concentrate on a specific area of environmental law or to gain a broader perspective by incorporating related subjects into their program of study.

“WCL introduced me to international environmental law and inspired me to pursue environmental justice.” — Marcos A. Orellana, LLM 1998, Senior Attorney, CIEL





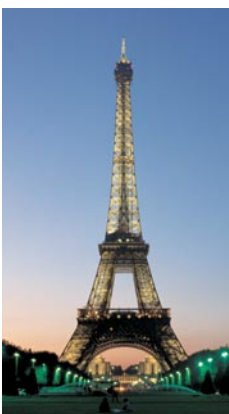
Environmental Law Summer Session Washington, D.C.

In 2005, WCL launched the Summer Session on Environmental Law, which provides students and practitioners an opportunity for intensive environmental law training over a three-week period at the beginning of the summer. Taking advantage of our Washington, D.C. location, the Summer Session offers a broad range of courses taught by leading practitioners from government, business, and non-governmental organizations.

The Session also includes site visits to leading environmental institutions such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Interior, the World Bank, the Organization of American States, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Resources Institute, Earth Rights International, and the International Network on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement. The Summer Session is the perfect way to complement a summer internship in Washington, D.C., with both day and night courses offered. Non-WCL students and practitioners are also invited to attend. For more information, please visit: www.wcl.american.edu/environment/summer.

SUMMER SESSION FACULTY:

Gustavo Alanis Ortega, President and Founder, Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental; **Laurel Angell**, Policy Advisor, U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Natural Resources; **Kyle Danish**, Member, Van Ness Feldman; **David R. Downes**, Senior Trade Advisor, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior; **Paul Hagen**, Principal, Beveridge & Diamond; **Nuno Lacasta**, Coordinator, Portuguese Climate Fund; **Kenneth Markowitz**, Senior Counsel, Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld; **Durwood Zaelke**, Director of the Secretariat for the International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, President, Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development.



Comparative Summer Law Program in Europe

WCL offers students an opportunity to study environmental law in Paris and Geneva, as part of WCL's Comparative European Law Program. Students enrolled in the Program are offered International Economic Law, International Human Rights Law, and International Institutions and Sustainable Development. The latter course focuses on the international institutions responsible for promoting environmental law and sustainable development, including the OECD, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Trade Organization, and various inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations like WWF International, Green Cross, and the World Conservation Union.

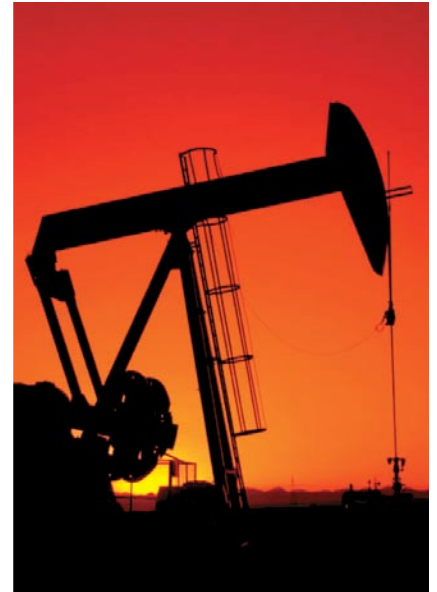
For more information, please visit: www.wcl.american.edu/parisgeneva

Externships, Internships, and Clinics: Practical Experience in the Field

Given its close ties with many federal agencies, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations, WCL offers excellent opportunities for students to participate in externships during the semester for academic credit and internships for gaining experience. Beyond providing practical, hands-on experience in the environmental field, externships and internships help in establishing contacts and gaining useful advice for future career opportunities.

In recent years, WCL students have had environmental externships with many federal and international institutions such as:

- Center for International Environmental Law
- Earthjustice
- Earthrights International
- Environmental Law Institute
- Inter-American Development Bank
- National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration
- Natural Resources Defense Council
- Organization of American States
- U.S. Department of Interior
- U.S. Department of Justice
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Greenpeace
- World Bank



EXTERNSHIP/INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

WCL's Supervised Environmental Externship Program allows students to learn about the legal profession through environmental law-related fieldwork and, at the same time, to develop their reflective learning skills under close faculty supervision. Students are placed in government agencies and nonprofit organizations, where they work under the supervision of practicing attorneys. In tandem with the field placement, students meet weekly in a seminar led by Professor Bill Snape to assist students in reflecting on the work of the lawyer and on their own professional goals. On behalf of their client organizations, students work on a specific environmental policy or legal product.

Internships are less formal alternatives to externships wherein students can gain valuable practical and networking experience from working as an intern in one or more of the many environment law and policy organizations in Washington, D.C. Many WCL faculty and staff have relationships with environmental practitioners that can facilitate a successful and dynamic internship.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS

WCL has one of the finest clinical programs in the country—consistently ranked among the top in the nation. The eight law clinics at WCL give student attorneys the opportunity to represent real clients with real legal problems, to handle litigation from beginning to end, to carry out transactional work for client groups, to take full responsibility for clients' cases, and to learn lawyering skills at both a practical and theoretical level. WCL does not have a clinic specifically limited to environmental issues, but both the International Human Rights and Intellectual Property Clinics regularly have cases relating to environmental law; all of the clinics expose students to the skills and challenges that will make them successful lawyers.

Programs, Events, and Activities

Every year, WCL complements the students' formal curriculum with unparalleled symposia, conferences, and speakers that cover a complete range of legal issues. Our location in Washington, D.C. helps WCL attract leading policy-makers for exciting and informative events that enliven the intellectual and social life of the school.

PROGRAM ON INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The Program promotes international and comparative environmental law as a response to the substantial and serious threats currently facing the global environment. The Program integrates WCL students with lawyers and practitioners in the field and provides exciting new learning opportunities for WCL students through client-based research projects, expanded support for student research projects, and a series of events at the law school.

Climate Law Project – The Climate Law Project is meant to develop and promote innovative legal approaches to climate change, including approaches to carbon emissions trading, technology transfers, liability for climate change, and carbon financing. This project enables faculty-guided students to provide timely and practical research for organizations active in responding to climate change. Recent examples include a survey of state and local climate initiatives for the Oregon Environmental Council and an assessment of international law relating to climate impacts in the Arctic for Greenpeace.

Project on Global Environmental Standards – This project promotes faculty and student research on issues related to the search for commonly accepted environmental and social standards to govern major investments in developing countries. The project provides students an opportunity to work closely with faculty members and practitioners in strengthening the standards of international financial institutions.

JOINT RESEARCH PROJECT WITH THE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (CIEL)

In response to the legal challenges posed by the planet's ecological limitations, CIEL and WCL established a joint research program in international environmental law in 1990. The joint program conducts environmental workshops and symposia, sponsors research on various environmental issues, and assists WCL in developing the international environmental law





curriculum. The result is a cooperative effort that provides students with a dynamic learning environment, scholars with a stimulating atmosphere for conducting practical research, and young lawyers with exciting opportunities for beginning their environmental law careers.

ENVIRONMENTAL SPEAKERS SERIES

The Environmental Law Society hosts an annual Environmental Speakers Series, which brings government officials, private practitioners, and non-governmental advocates to the WCL campus. These programs allow students an opportunity to hear diverse, cutting-edge analyses of current environmental issues. In recent years, for example, the Environmental Speakers Series has featured participants from the Natural Resources Defense Council, the World Bank, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Center for Biological Diversity, and the International Network on Environmental Compliance.

Recent Conferences and Speakers

CLIMATE CHANGE AND CLAIMING THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

Sponsored by the *Sustainable Development Law and Policy* journal, this program explored the international legal aspects of the melting Arctic including: oil and gas rights; endangered species protection (including listing of polar bears); land claims; and The Law of the Sea Convention.

THE FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS REGULATION

Featuring two panels, this event discussed the current status of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and developments in international chemicals management that have, or may, fundamentally change the way chemicals are regulated and managed internationally.

The WCL Summer Session on Environmental Law Opening Address, “International Lending in an Age of Global Warming, Security Concerns, and Nagging Inequities,” was provided by Charles DiLeva, chief counsel of environmental and international law for The World Bank.

Student Organizations

Extracurricular groups at WCL provide a wide range of activities and interests that strengthen both the personal and professional development of students outside the classroom.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY

ELS is a student group that increases the WCL community's awareness of environmental issues and explores career opportunities in the field of environmental law. In recent years, ELS has organized a variety of exciting events, including a roundtable discussion on trade and the environment, an annual alumni reception in honor of local environmental practitioners, an annual environmental law speaker series, and an environmental law career forum. The group also organizes participation in community service activities in the D.C. area, such as wildlife refuge clean-ups and recycling programs.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT LAW AND POLICY

SDLP is a student-run journal at WCL that focuses on reconciling the tension between environmental sustainability, economic development, and human welfare. SDLP embraces an interdisciplinary focus to provide a full view of current legal, political, and social developments. By providing the SDLP journal, online resources, and conferences in the D.C. area, SDLP hopes to serve as a valuable resource for practitioners, policymakers, and concerned citizens who promote sustainable development throughout the world.

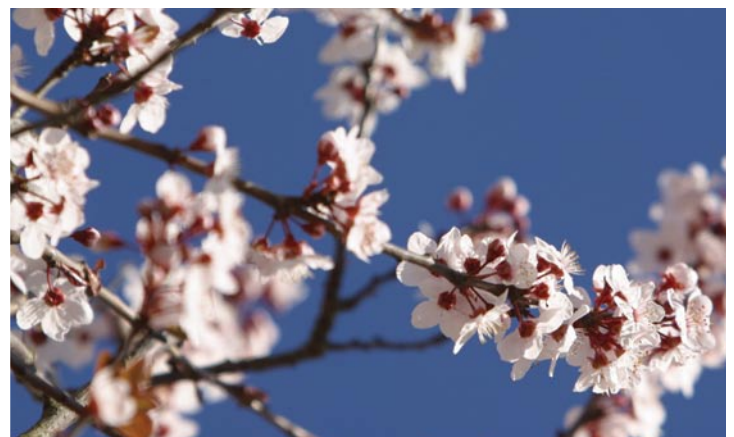
ENVIRONMENTAL MOOT COURT COMPETITIONS

Every year WCL supports student teams in the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition sponsored by Pace University Law School and the International Environmental Moot Court Competition sponsored by Stetson University College of Law. Mentored by WCL faculty, students in these moot court competitions gain valuable experience in analyzing and presenting complex environmental cases before real judges and practitioners.

Environmental Law Faculty

Innovative, accessible, and nationally and internationally recognized, WCL professors enrich classroom discussions with their real life, global experiences. For more information on WCL's Environmental Law Faculty, please visit our Web site: www.wcl.american.edu/environment.

For more information, please contact:
David Hunter, Program Director
Environmental Law Program
American University Washington College of Law
4801 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 346
Washington, DC 20016-8189
Phone: 202.274.4155
E-mail: environmentallaw@wcl.american.edu



Living and Studying in Washington, D.C.: A Capital Location

“Location, location, location” is not only important for real estate, but also for a great law school experience. At the seat of the federal government, Washington, D.C. is one of the leading world centers for the creation of environmental law and policy. It is also home to some of the world’s most important domestic and international environmental policy-making organizations—the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Interior, the World Bank, and the Green Group (comprised of 20 leading national environmental organizations), as well as the most important environmental law firms. These organizations offer our students extraordinary opportunities for exploring the practice of environmental law.

Less well known is Washington, D.C.’s proximity to a remarkable collection of natural and outdoor activities. The Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River are spectacular venues for fishing, crabbing, and sailing. Great Falls on the Potomac River is an awesome, year-round display of nature. Rock Creek Park is one of the nation’s premier city parks and boasts miles of hiking and biking trails. First-class rock climbing, hiking, kayaking, and bird watching are all within an hour’s drive of the law school. The Shenandoah Mountains, the Appalachian Trail, and the Dolly Sods Wilderness area are only a few hours to the west, while the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic coastal beaches are only a few hours to the east.



George and Martha Wilson: The Recovery of America’s Symbol and the Hope for International Sustainability

Over the past several years, Washingtonians have been mesmerized by the lives of George and Martha. No, not the first U.S. President and his wife, but a pair of breeding bald eagles—formerly threatened with extinction—who nested and raised fledglings near the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. George and Martha not only constitute a success story under domestic environmental law, but also represent a broader message of human ingenuity in the face of serious environmental problems including global warming. At WCL, we teach students the mechanics of the law as well as the ability to think outside the box—making important links among statutes, enforcement, and international agreements. We believe that our aspiring students must be tomorrow’s engineers of today’s most pressing environmental problems.



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

WASHINGTON COLLEGE of LAW

David Hunter, Program Director
Environmental Law Program
4801 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 346
Washington, D.C. 20016-8189

www.wcl.american.edu/environment

Telephone: 202-274-4155

EO/AA University and Employer

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AMERICAN UNIV.
MAILED FROM
ZIP CODE 30144