

Academic Advising for LL.M in Food and Agriculture Law

Program Planning Guidelines

Curriculum: The LL.M in Food and Agriculture Law is a 30-credit degree program. The following will set forth the degree requirements. All online classes are 3 credit hours. Please refer to the Academic Regulations for official regulations and policies.

Required classes (9 credits)

_____ LLM9606 LL.M Graduate Seminar

_____ ENV5105 Administrative Law

_____ ENV5108 Law and Policy of Agriculture, Food and the Environment

Food and Agriculture Electives (minimum of 6 credits)

(Other residential classes may substitute; see VLS catalog for residential options)

_____ ENV5411 Federal Regulation of Food and Agriculture

_____ ENV5478 Global Food Security and Social Justice

_____ ENV5479 Law and Policy of Local Food Systems

Required Elective (minimum of 3 credits)

(Other residential classes may substitute; see VLS catalog for residential options)

_____ ENV5115 Environmental Law

Experiential/Writing Requirement (Select at least 1 of the following)

_____ LL.M Externship in Food and Agriculture (4-10 credits)

_____ LL.M Research Project on a Food and Agriculture topic (2-6 credits)

_____ LL.M Thesis on a Food and Agriculture topic (6 credits)

_____ WRI 7301 Advanced Writing Seminar

_____ CAFS Research Associate Program*

_____ CLI9428 Food and Agriculture Clinic*

* Offered on campus only

LLM Independent Research Projects (2-6 credits)

An LLM candidate may choose to undertake a research project, either alone or as part of a joint effort with other LLM candidates. An LLM project must be a substantial undertaking, involving significant legal and policy research. A 5 page research project proposal must be approved by the LLM candidate's faculty supervisor and the Director of Environmental Law Center before the project may be commenced. Students engaged in a joint project will be graded on their individual contribution to the project and on their teamwork skills. A student will have 2 terms to complete the research project. Note: 1 credit is equivalent to 10-15 pages of scholarly work.

LLM Thesis (6 credits)

An LLM candidate may choose to write a thesis. The thesis must be a substantial piece of written work of publishable quality. A 10-15 page thesis proposal must be approved by the LLM candidate's faculty supervisor and the Director of the Environmental Law Center before the thesis is begun. A student who writes a thesis must make an oral presentation to the Vermont Law School community of the thesis work and must deposit a copy of the thesis in the Vermont Law School Library. A student will have 3 terms to complete the thesis.

LLM Externship (4-10 credits)

LLM Externships are an option to further develop your skills. They are not required. Students may arrange an externship on their own or select from the many postings at the VLS Career Services Office. Externships may be local or worldwide. Students design their own LLM Externship with the advice and consent of a Faculty Supervisor. Each externship is carefully defined in a contract with the sponsoring organization. Contract Forms are completed by the student in accordance with the LLM guidelines as set forth below.

Note: 1 credit is the equivalent of 45 hours of work <http://www.vermontlaw.edu/academics/clinics-and-externships/masters-externships>

General Electives (Choose remaining course credits from online and/or residential classes)