Law and Sustainability (Graduate Certificate)

Program Description

Degree Awarded: Certificate Law and Sustainability (Certificate)

The law and sustainability graduate certificate within ASU’s Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law is instrumental in propelling ASU Law students into environmental sustainability-related legal careers. Environmental sustainability is a primary emphasis at ASU, and this certificate program leverages that emphasis by recognizing those law students who have successively immersed themselves in the study of sustainability-related law courses during their time at the law school.

At a Glance

- College/School: Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law

Degree Requirements

Required Core (6 credit hours)
- LAW 619 Energy Law and Policy (3)
- LAW 631 Environmental Law (3)
- LAW 639 Natural Resource Law (3)
- LAW 643 Water Law (3)

Electives (9 credit hours)

Culminating Experience
writing requirement and active participation in sustainability law

Additional Curriculum Information
Students must select two of the required core courses from the above list.
Each student must earn a cumulative average grade point average of at least 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") for the courses taken to satisfy the substantive coursework requirement of the law and sustainability certificate program. A student also must earn a minimum grade of "B" for any course taken outside of ASU Law, if permitted.

Each student must participate in at least two different activities from the following list:

- active participation on the board of the law school's Environmental Law Society student chapter
- extramural environmental or sustainability moot court competitions, upon approval from the program director or faculty director
- law and sustainability-based externships, upon approval from the program faculty director or director
- Sustainability Law Research Seminar
- the Mentorship Initiative in Sustainability Law

Each student must write a substantial paper on a topic related to law and sustainability. The paper must be at least 15 pages in length and written under the guidance of a member of the College of Law faculty. A paper written to satisfy the College of Law's graduate writing requirement or flexible writing requirement can fulfill this writing requirement, including a paper written as part of a seminar course included on the list of elective courses.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, in any field, from a regionally accredited institution. Applicants must be existing JD or LLM students who are currently enrolled in coursework and in good academic standing with the ASU College of Law.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. admission application for the certificate program through Law Interactive. Students should refer to the College of Law website.
2. proof of English proficiency
Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

Further specific requirements for admission to the certificate program can be found on the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law website.

Contact Information
College of Law Dean's Office | BCLS 478
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