GW Law offers students a legal education premised on "law in action" in Washington, D.C., the center of the most dynamic legal and policy activity in the United States.

The law school is housed just four blocks from the White House, across the street from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, and close to major international organizations, nonprofits, courts, and federal government agencies. This proximity allows our students to easily gain practical experience in externships at these nearby institutions. In addition, our students find a world-renowned faculty, a broad curriculum featuring more than 275 elective courses, strong academic and personal support, and a wide variety of expert lecturers and visitors.

The GW Law experience is dynamic, rigorous, and practical. Simply put, there is no better place than GW Law to study and participate in the engaging life of the law.
Environmental and Energy Law at GW

GW Law’s Environmental and Energy Law Program remains at the forefront of legal discourse and scholarship on the environment, energy, and the world’s natural resources since its inception more than 40 years ago, at the beginning of the modern environmental era.

While at GW Law, students have singular opportunities to both learn and influence environmental and energy law. Through externships, practicum placements, research opportunities, summer and academic year clerkships, conferences, and interaction with visiting professionals, students actively participate in the development and implementation of environmental and energy legislation.

The law school’s location in the heart of Washington, D.C., and its field placement and practicum programs give students access to the agencies and organizations that influence environmental and energy policy, including the Environmental Protection Agency; Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Departments of Energy, the Interior, Agriculture, Transportation, and Justice; Environmental Law Institute; Center for International Environmental Law; National Wildlife Federation; National Resources Defense Council; and American Council on Renewable Energy. During their placements or course work, students are exposed to complex domestic and international environmental and energy issues. Many students also study or engage in research on interdisciplinary issues such as the relationship between human rights and environmental justice or the influence of globalization on environmental policy. Students also can explore emerging areas, such as the role of energy in national security, government energy procurement policy, and financing of energy infrastructure, by drawing on the strength of GW Law’s national security, government contracts, and economics and finance programs.

“GW Law helped me to build my professional network. For instance, I appreciated having access to on-campus conferences such as the Law of Demand Response Conference. At breaks and over lunch, I had great conversations with practitioners, many of whom later gave me ideas and advice on research projects and papers. That kind of focused networking was invaluable in shaping my career.” —Loni Silva, JD ’12
The Sustainable Energy Future Initiative is a funded research program that is based in the law school. The initiative seeks to build a non-partisan knowledge base and foster thought leadership on energy law and policy for the United States and the world. Student participation in the initiative is strongly encouraged and can take a number of forms. Through GW’s Environment and Energy Policy Practicum or through one of our energy law courses for academic credit, students may undertake projects that further the initiative’s research agenda. They may participate as paid research assistants in project work and in events sponsored by the initiative. Such participation allows students to interact with professionals from government, industry, private practice, and academia via conferences, seminars, and networking events.
Curriculum

**JD Programs**

**Environmental Law**
GW Law offers one of the largest and most comprehensive environmental law curricula in the country. With more than 20 courses, students can choose from a broad range of topics, including the various ways the Environmental Protection Agency regulates toxic chemicals, air and water pollution, and hazardous wastes; how federal agencies manage federal public lands to secure wildlife preservation, recreation, and wilderness; international environmental law; and the interaction between environmental and human rights law.

**Energy Law**
In addition, GW Law has offered an energy law curriculum for more than 30 years, with increasing emphasis in recent years on the critical intersection of energy and environmental law and policy. The energy curriculum includes an energy law survey course, as well as more advanced and specialized courses such as oil and gas law, renewable energy law, atomic energy law, international project finance, and energy commodities trading.

**LLM Programs**

The Master of Laws (LLM) Program offers advanced study to outstanding graduates of U.S. and non-U.S. law schools. Twenty-four credit hours are required for the degree, including four credit hours of writing. Students may choose a full- or part-time program. LLM students may choose from four specializations:

- Environmental Law
- Energy and Environmental Law
- Government Procurement and Environmental Law
- International Environmental Law

LLM students also may individualize their degree programs by arranging externships or practicum projects with government agencies or nonprofit organizations.

**Joint Degree Programs**

GW offers joint degree programs for both JD and LLM students. JD candidates may pursue a joint degree with the School of Business, the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, the Elliott School of International Affairs, or the School of Public Health and Health Services. LLM candidates may pursue a joint degree with the School of Public Health and Health Services.

For course descriptions and a full listing of the law school curriculum, including courses related to this field, please visit the law school Bulletin on our website at www.law.gwu.edu/gwl/publications.
Faculty

The Environmental and Energy Law Program is led by some of the most prominent scholars in the field. Professor Robert Glicksman is co-author of leading law textbooks in both environmental law and natural resources and is one of the most prolific environmental law scholars in the country. His current work focuses on climate change, environmental enforcement, federal land management, and federalism issues. Professor Emily Hammond, who will join the faculty in summer 2014, is a prominent young scholar whose writing focuses on risk regulation and administrative decision making, particularly in the context of scientific uncertainty. She is also co-author of the leading energy law textbook. Professor Hammond holds a degree in civil engineering, allowing her to bring a scientific perspective to her writing and teaching. The faculty also includes world-renowned human rights expert Professor Dinah Shelton, who teaches Human Rights and Environmental Protection, and Professor Steve Charnovitz, who is widely known for his expertise on trade and environment issues.

The program has one of the top adjunct faculties in the country, drawing from the wealth of talent in Washington, D.C. Our adjunct faculty includes high-level government personnel, senior staffers from nongovernmental organizations, and top environmental and energy experts from the private sector. The combination of highly regarded scholars on the full-time faculty and a distinguished adjunct faculty ensures that students gain both the analytical skills and the exposure to real-world issues needed to be a successful environmental or energy attorney.

Senior Staff

Associate Dean LeRoy C. (Lee) Paddock draws on more than two decades of environmental law practice experience to lead the Environmental and Energy Law Program. Dean Paddock served for 20 years in the Minnesota Attorney General’s Office and has been a Visiting Scholar for the Environmental Law Institute. His research focuses on environmental governance, public participation, environmental justice, and both public and private environmental regulation and enforcement. He teaches both an environmental lawyering course and the environment and energy policy practicums.

Donna Attanasio joined GW Law as Senior Advisor for Energy Law Programs in July 2013. She has practiced in the area of energy markets and regulation for more than 20 years, with a particular emphasis on energy transactions, and has served as President of the Energy Bar Association. Ms. Attanasio leads GW Law’s Sustainable Energy Initiative, which is conducting in-depth research designed to identify ways that the country can transition to a more sustainable energy economy, with an initial focus on the impact of distribution energy generation on the nation’s electricity grid. The initiative engages students in its work in a variety of ways, including as research assistants and through research papers written as part of GW’s energy law courses.
Jacob Burns Library: Environmental and Energy Law Collection

The Jacob Burns Law Library maintains a comprehensive environmental and energy law collection in support of the scholarship and practice of the next generation of lawyers. Reflecting a highly regulated area of law, the collection comprises works on domestic and international environmental law. Major topics in the field, such as air, water, solid, and hazardous waste law are represented, as well as specialized areas such as endangered species, land use and natural resources, environmental justice and human rights, coastal zone management and protection, the law of wetlands and oceans, and compliance and enforcement.

The energy law collection includes works on domestic and international legal and policy issues relating to sustainable development, climate change, oil and gas consumption, energy efficiency, renewable energy, nuclear energy, facility siting, project finance, and energy incentives and tax policy. A research librarian provides specialized support to the program.

“GW Law offers an excellent environmental program, and much of my success in the past year can be attributed to the high-quality courses and professional opportunities made available by the experienced faculty and the [D.C.] location.” —Whitney G. Stohr, LLM ’12
Other Resources

Public Interest Subsidies
Each year, the law school awards subsidies to students who choose to perform full-time public interest legal work during the summer. Recent recipients worked at organizations and government agencies including Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility; Center for International Environmental Law; Center for Biological Diversity; Environmental Protection Agency; and U.S. Departments of Energy, Justice, and the Interior.

Environmental and Energy Policy Practicum
The practicum allows students to gain practical experience, under faculty supervision, by undertaking a semester-long project with government agencies or public interest organizations. Students have undertaken a broad range of projects with entities such as the United Nations Institute on Training and Research, U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation, World Resources Institute, World Wildlife Fund, Solar Electric Industries Association, and American Council on Renewable Energy.

The Journal of Energy and Environmental Law
The *Journal of Energy and Environmental Law* (JEEL) is one of the few student-managed law journals in the country focusing on the intersections between energy law and environmental law. The journal is produced in collaboration with the Environmental Law Institute and distributed to all subscribers of *Environmental Law Reporter News & Analysis*, allowing JEEL to reach a much larger audience than typical law journals.

Environmental Law Association
The student-run Environmental Law Association (ELA), which focuses on both traditional environmental law issues and energy law, enriches the academic program by organizing a variety of activities, including high-profile environmental and energy law panels, a committee that focuses on sustainability issues at the university, an annual environment and energy awareness week, periodic outings to explore the natural resources in the Washington, D.C., area, career panels, and Meet the Professors Night. The association is one way that first-year students can become quickly involved in environmental and energy issues.

Study Abroad
Through a partnership with the University of Groningen, the Netherlands, GW Law students may study at Groningen, taking courses in International Environmental Law, European Union Environmental Law, and Energy Law. In addition, GW has worked with the University of Groningen to organize a weeklong energy research program that has been held in Groningen, Rio de Janeiro, and Washington, D.C. The weeklong programs have involved classes, field trips, and an opportunity for students to work in teams on their research projects. GW Law students earn three Independent Legal Writing credits through the program.
“I felt that I would greatly benefit from GW Law’s unique environmental LLM program, which features excellent environmental courses along with practicum opportunities to do environmental legal research for various institutions.”
—Mariana Devercelli, LLM ’13
Field Placement

Through the law school’s Field Placement Program, students receive course credit, supervision by leading legal practitioners, and practical experience that helps jump-start their careers. Through the program, more than 600 students each year receive academic credit for dynamic, hands-on externships at organizations such as the Environmental Defense Fund, Environmental Integrity Project, Environment and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, Wilderness Society, American Wind Energy Association, EarthRights International, Center for International Environmental Law, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Council on Environmental Quality, U.S. Department of the Interior, World Wildlife Fund, World Resources Institute, Environmental Defense Fund, Natural Resources Defense Council, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and many others.

Career Development

GW Law’s Center for Professional Development and Career Strategy (Career Center) features one of the largest legal career counseling teams in the country. The Career Center is dedicated to helping students develop personalized career plans. All of our counselors are former practicing attorneys with extensive experience working in both the public and private sectors. As a result, our counselors prepare students to hold clerkships; work at large, medium, and small law firms; serve in government positions; and work in international and domestic business ventures. The Career Center hosts nearly 100 programs annually, including panels and networking opportunities, the fall recruitment program, the spring interviewing program, diversity events and programs, and the public sector recruitment program.
Contact Information

LeRoy C. (Lee) Paddock
Associate Dean for Environmental Studies
202.994.0417
lpaddock@law.gwu.edu

Admissions Information

JD Admissions
Law School Admissions Office
202.994.7230
jdadmit@law.gwu.edu

LLM and SJD Admissions
Graduate Programs Office
202.994.7242
For U.S. law school graduates: grad@law.gwu.edu
For non-U.S. law school graduates: igpo@law.gwu.edu