



APPLICATION

Natural Resources Systems Capstone Course (2 Credits)

Texas A&M School of Law

Spring 2020

Mondays, 3:30pm – 5:40pm

Please return this form to Student Services no later than November 15, 2019.

Name: _____ UIN: _____

Email: _____

Current cumulative GPA: _____

Credit hours successfully completed in law school as of December 31, 2019: _____

Expected date (month & year) of graduation: _____

List any natural resources-related law courses successfully completed at any institution and grade received: _____

Describe any prior experience you feel may be relevant: _____

Enrollment in the Natural Resources Law Capstone Course is limited to a **maximum of 9 students**. Please attach the following items when submitting this application:

- A brief statement expressing your interest in natural resources law and this Capstone Course. Please also discuss any career interests you may have in natural resources-related areas (Maximum 300 words).
- A copy of your resume.
- A copy of your transcript (unofficial is acceptable).

Natural Resources Systems Capstone Course
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General Description: This course offers a capstone experience to TAMU Law students enabling them to blend their substantive doctrinal training in various natural resource-related legal areas (e.g., agricultural, energy, environmental, land use, oil and gas, and/or water issues) with the development of practical skills and professional identity. Modeled on a typical law firm or consulting practice, the class requires students to work in teams, endeavor to understand client needs and demands, confront decision-making challenges, and manage workload. A chief objective of the Capstone is to better prepare students to begin practicing law upon graduation.

Spring 2020 Subject Matter: The oil and shipping industries will face one of the biggest shake-ups in 2020. On January 1st, tougher international rules on sulfur emissions from ships will come into effect with the intention of limiting air pollution and protecting human health and environment. According to a report the new regulation will prevent 570,000 premature deaths between 2020 and 2025. These rules were enacted by the United Nations shipping agency, the International Maritime Organization. Failure to comply with the new regulations may result in fines or vessels being detained. As such the regulation will affect, not only users of marine fuel, but vital insurance coverage, refineries and port authorities. The enforcement of the regulation will be done by flag and port states rather than the IMO. Consequently, port authorities, ship owners and makers of marine fuel are especially interested in exploring legal tools, policies, and related mechanisms that could help them transition into the new regulations.

Our Aggie colleagues at Texas A&M University Maritime Administration Department at Galveston along with their local industry partners have requested guidance and information about these mechanisms and objectives. In particular, they have asked for assistance to:

- Assess existing local, state, and national rules and regulations;
- Investigate what legal tools and mechanisms other similarly situated nations are using to respond to analogous challenges;
- Understand the scope of these tools and mechanisms and the extent to which they can be utilized; and
- Formulate alternative and model regulations and other legal mechanisms that could be considered by decision-makers affected by the new regulation.

STUDENT SERVICES



The students' final work product from the Spring 2011 and 2019 Capstone Courses can be viewed at: <http://www.law.tamu.edu/prospective/academics/centers-clinics-programs/natural-resources/reports-publications> . All questions should be directed to Professor Garcia Sanchez.

Course Conditions:

- Students in their final year of law school, and those who have taken one or more natural resources-related courses, are preferred. Other students will be admitted based on space availability.
- Selection of students for enrollment in the Capstone Course will be in the sole discretion of the Capstone Course faculty.
- This Capstone Course involves working and coordinating with an external entity. Accordingly, barring extraordinary circumstances, students must commit to attend all class meetings including a one three-day field trip. The field trip will take place at the beginning of the semester from a Thursday afternoon to a Saturday evening and the costs will be covered by the Law School. The potential days for the trip are: January 16th to the 18th, and January 23rd to the 25th. The instructor will confirm the final dates but make sure you will be available to travel in any of those two options.