**OVERVIEW**

The Emmett Environmental Law and Policy Clinic at Harvard Law School offers students the opportunity to explore the practice of environmental law through work on a variety of litigation, administrative, legislative, and policy projects. Clinic offerings include federal, state, and local level projects covering the spectrum of environmental issues. Depending on the project, students may undertake litigation and advocacy work by drafting briefs, conducting legal research and preparing memoranda for clients, developing litigation strategy memoranda, and reviewing proposed regulations. Students present their work to clients, stakeholders, and decision-makers, including attorneys and non-attorneys alike.

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| **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED** | Fall or Spring |
| **CLINICAL COURSE COMPONENT** | Environmental Law and Policy Clinical Seminar |
| **COURSE CREDITS** | 1 classroom credit |
| **CLINICAL CREDITS** | 4 or 5 clinical credits (Fall or Spring) |
| **LOCATION** | On campus at HLS or off-site placement with Boston area nonprofit and government organizations (made in consultation with Faculty Director). Remote placements are possible. |
| **REGISTRATION TYPE** | Helios (Fall and Spring) |

**TYPES OF CASES/CLIENTS/PROJECTS**

Clinic projects focus on environment, natural resources, energy, public health, and social justice issues. The Clinic works with scientists, medical professionals, nonprofit and public interest organizations, Native American communities, and government clients on legal issues at the federal, state, and local level. The work includes writing briefs and comment letters; developing litigation strategies that are pursued in state and federal administrative and judicial forums; commenting on proposed federal and state regulations; proposing legislative and regulatory reforms; providing legal advice to non-profit and government clients; preparing guidance documents and manuals for non-lawyers; drafting model legislation; and preparing policy papers. The Clinic develops novel strategies to address environmental problems; investigates new cases; works with scientific, economic, and policy experts to help them present their views about the impacts of legal reforms, and convenes meetings of policy-makers and regulators. The Clinic also works with groups across the country to help their advocates prepare for oral arguments in federal appellate courts. Some students work off-campus with government agencies and nonprofit organizations, while others work on-campus on projects and case work under the supervision of the Clinic’s faculty and staff. Students are typically assigned one project for the semester and most students work on projects as part of a two- to four- student team.

**SKILLS**

Skills that students will be able to work on include:

* Factual and legal research
* Client conferences and advising
* Draft legal memoranda and briefs
* Write guidance manuals for non-lawyers
* Prepare comments on rules
* Write model statutes/ordinances
* Draft policy papers
* Oral presentations (to courts, governments, NGOs, others)

**TYPICAL WORK SCHEDULE**

*The work schedule will vary depending on the type of project and whether the clinic student is working on site or in an externship. The clinic provides students the opportunity to improve research and writing skills, meet with clients and work on communications skills. Finally, the clinic ensures that each student is receiving feedback from supervisors.*

e.g.

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| **Morning** | **Afternoon** | **Evening** |
| **8:30 - 9:15 am:** arrive at office**9:15 - 10:00 am:** Draft agenda for case check-in and client meeting**10:00 am:** Prepare for client meeting.**10:00 - 11:00 am:** Meet with client**11:00 am - 12:30 pm**: Prepare and distribute notes on client meeting. | **12:30 - 1:15 pm:** lunch**1:15 - 2:30 pm:** Perform research informed by client meeting.**2:30 - 3:15 pm:** Begin organizing thoughts, work on outline.**3:15 - 3:45 pm** discuss outline with supervisor.**3:45 - 4:30 pm:** Begin drafting. | **4:30 - 5:20 pm:** Review draft; engage in peer review as appropriate.**5:20 - 6:15 pm**: prepare for clinical seminar. |