

Environmental Law Curriculum Considerations



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Source: <https://phys.org/news/2020-09-life-precarious-pangolins-vietnam-illegal.html>

Environmental Law Curriculum Considerations

Generally

- Ontology vs. epistemology – we know we want “Environmental Law” but how do we do it?
- Proposed issues to consider
 - ❖ Curriculum placement – how to place environmental law as a subject in a legal education curriculum
 - ❖ Content – what topics to include in environmental law?
 - ❖ Pedagogy – what teaching methods to use in teaching environmental law?

- Suggested Reference: Liljeblad, Jonathan. (2022) Liljeblad, Jonathan. (2022) “Integrating the Anthropocene in Legal Education: Considerations for Asia.” *Asian Journal of Law & Society* 8(3).

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Curriculum placement – things to consider

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Contextual requirements</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Discrete</u> (isolated in a single course) vs. <u>pervasive</u> (embedded across multiple subjects)• <u>Doctrinal</u> (law-only) vs. <u>interdisciplinary</u> (integrating other disciplines)• <u>Clinical</u> (practice-based) vs. <u>holistic</u> (practice & theory)• <u>Compulsory</u> vs. <u>elective</u>• <u>Undergrad</u> vs. <u>graduate</u>• <u>International</u> vs. <u>domestic</u>• ???	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the expertise in the law school?• What is the expertise across the university?• What is the organizational structure of the university?• What are the degree requirements for students?• What are the expectations for law school graduates (education, profession, society)?• ???

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Content – things to consider

<i>Topics</i>	<i>Knowledge systems</i>	<i>Institutions</i>	<i>Law</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Scholarship</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change • Biodiversity • Endangered species trafficking • Energy • Air/water pollution • Hazardous waste • Recycling • Sustainable development • Circular economy • Environmental justice • Environmental security • Indigenous rights • Human rights & environment • Rights of nature • World Heritage • ??? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Physics? ❖ Chemistry? ❖ Biology? • Economy? • Statistics? • Indigenous & traditional knowledge? • Alternative knowledge systems? • ??? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International? • Domestic? • ??? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International (hard law/soft law)? • Domestic? • Principles? • ??? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International? • Domestic? • ??? 	<p style="text-align: center;">???</p>

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Pedagogy – things to consider

<i>Teaching technique</i>	<i>Technology</i>	<i>Knowledge</i>	<i>Skills</i>	<i>Values</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture • Case method • Socratic method • Discussion • Activity • Debate/moot court • Games • Professional experience • ??? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-class? • On-line? • Mobile/wifi? • Immersive field work (travel)? • Practice setting (office)? • ??? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science? • Traditional knowledge? • Concepts/ideas? • Institutions? • Laws/principles? • Cases? • Scholarship? • ??? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorization? • Creativity? • Critical analysis? • Logic? • Debate? • Presentation? • Writing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Legal ❖ Policy ❖ Scholarly • Team work? • Individual work? • Leadership? • ??? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public service? • Image of the profession? • Duty to courts? • Duty to justice? • Duty to environment? • Activism? • ???

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Thank You

- IUCN Academy of Environmental Law: <http://www.iucnael.org/>
- IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law: <http://www.iucn.org/>

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