

Indiana University School of Law - Indianapolis  
**Concentration in Environmental and Natural Resources Law**

A **Concentration in Environmental and Natural Resource Law** will be awarded to enrolled JD candidates who complete at least **6 approved courses** totaling at least **15 credit hours** in Environmental and Natural Resource Law and closely-related subjects (specified below) while maintaining a minimum grade point average.<sup>1</sup>

To qualify for a **Concentration in Environmental and Natural Resource Law**, a JD candidate must satisfy all general requirements for the JD degree, and also:

1. Complete **three** required core courses (Environmental Law; Natural Resources Law; Administrative Law)
2. Complete at least **two** upper level courses from approved list (see below)
3. Complete at least one writing, practical, or skills course from approved list (see below)
4. Maintain:
  - 3.2 cumulative GPA in all required core and upper level courses applied toward Concentration,<sup>2</sup> and
  - 3.0 GPA overall

**Note** that the cumulative credit hours for requirements (1), (2) and (3) above must be at least 15.

**Required Course List<sup>3</sup>**

Required Core Courses – Must take <b>all</b> of the following
Environmental Law (3-4 cr.)
Natural Resources Law (3 cr.)
Administrative Law (3-4 cr.)
Upper Level Courses – Must take at least <b>two</b> of the following:
Animals and the Law (2 cr.)
Climate Change and Law (3 cr.)
Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (2 cr.)
Environmental Justice (2 cr.)
Law of Hazardous Waste Regulation (2 cr.)
International Environmental Law (3 cr.)
Land Use (2 or 3 cr.)
Toxic Tort and Environmental Law (2 or 3 cr.)
Water Law (2 cr.)

<sup>1</sup> This Concentration is available for Academic Year 2011-12 and will be awarded to students graduating from December 2011 onward.

<sup>2</sup> This means that a student who has a low score in a core or upper level course may take a different course or courses to meet Concentration requirements and substitute the grade from that course or those courses to meet the 3.2 GPA. The student must have a minimum of 15 Concentration-relevant courses (identified in Table 1) with a 3.2 cumulative GPA, but may have additional Concentration-relevant courses at a lower GPA.

<sup>3</sup> Upper level courses that have been approved by the faculty may be added or removed from this list from time to time by the Vice Dean and Academic Affairs Committee.

Special Topics in Environmental Law (2 cr.)
Capstone – Writing and Experiential Courses – Must take at least <b>one</b> of the following <sup>4</sup>
ACrE (Advanced Course Related Experience) (variable cr.) [environmental or natural resource topic] [with topic approval of ENR faculty]
Environmental Advocacy Externship (2 cr.)
Supervised Research in Environmental Law (variable cr.)
National Environmental Moot Court (1 cr.)
Law Review Note [environmental or natural resource topic] [with topic approval of ENR faculty]
Law and State Gov't Placement [w/ environmental or natural resource agency] (2 cr.) [with topic approval of ENR faculty]
Civil Practice Clinic [environmental or natural resource topic] [with topic approval of ENR faculty]

### **Admission criteria and process**

Any JD candidate enrolled at IU School of Law – Indianapolis is eligible to seek the Concentration by filing a “Notice of Intent to seek Concentration in Environmental and Natural Resources Law” in a form approved by the Recorder’s Office of the Law School. This form should be completed and filed during or before a student’s penultimate semester prior to graduation.

Students are also encouraged to plan in advance and to seek the advice of one or more of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law core faculty (Dannenmaier, Waterhouse) prior to a decision to seek the Concentration so that they may pursue course choices suited to their interests and needs.

### **Why Take the Concentration?**

The ENR Concentration will serve as a gateway for students wishing to work in environmental or natural resources law and related fields. It will signal prospective employers that you have a serious interest in these fields and have engaged in a rigorous course of studies providing a critical foundation for practicing in these fields.

The ENR Concentration will also benefit students whose future work concerns property law, real estate development or transactions, corporate acquisitions, land use, energy policy or regulation, urban planning, transportation, agriculture, public health, and/or occupational safety, as well as those students interested more generally in public policy, public interest advocacy, or government at the state, local, national, or international level.

Beyond the direct professional benefits this Concentration will offer to students, the exposure to critical questions of how law responds to environmental and natural resource challenges facing policymakers, businesses, and the public today – challenges that feature in headlines and in public debates daily – will help students become better informed citizens and advocates regardless of their future work.

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<sup>4</sup> Writing, practical, or skills courses must be on environmental or natural resources topics to satisfy this requirement. They may be supervised by non- Environmental and Natural Resource Law faculty, but the topic must be approved by ENR faculty.