

SUSTAINABILITY, JD/MA

Program Director Eric Stottlemeyer

Overview

The Sustainability Program and School of Law have designed an innovative dual degree program to provide students a pathway for succeeding in professional roles where legal scholarship and practice intersect with sustainability.

Students will expand their potential workforce networks, deepen their knowledge base, and cultivate leadership skills. Attorneys seeking to work in a sustainability related practice area will benefit greatly from foundational knowledge gained through coursework focusing on energy, environmental and sustainability related studies.

Degree Requirements

The dual degree requires completion of 78 hours of law coursework including the degree requirements prescribed by the Law School for graduation and 22 hours of coursework in the Sustainability program. The joint degrees are designed to be completed in six semesters and one full summer session.

MA in Sustainability Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
SUS 600	Communications Workshop	1
SUS 601	Professional and Leadership Skills	1
SUS 602	Scientific Literacy	1
SUS 603	Natural Capital Valuation and Ecosystem Services	1
SUS 701	Global Human Systems	3
SUS 702	Sustainable Organizational Management	3
SUS 703	Natural Science for Sustainability	3
SUS 704	Environmental Law and Policy *	3
SUS 705	Applied Sustainability 1	2
or SUS 706	Applied Sustainability: Creativity and Impact	
SUS 694	Internship	4
or SUS 791	Thesis Research	

In addition, you must complete at least 9 credit hours of the following sustainability-related law courses:

Code	Title	Hours
LAW 512	Environmental Law	2-3
LAW 414	Energy Law	2-3
LAW 443	Sustainable Corporations	2-3
LAW 656	International Environmental Law	2-3
LAW 530	Natural Resources Law	2
LAW 642	Animal Law	2
LAW 536	Land Use Regulation and Planning	2-3
LAW 641	Regulatory Law and Policy	3
LAW 367	Environmental Law and Policy Clinic I	4
SUS 704	Environmental Law and Policy **	3

* SUS 704 requirement may be fulfilled by taking 3 credit hours of sustainability-related law courses

** SUS 704 can count toward the nine sustainability-related law credits

For additional degree requirements, see Requirements for Degrees (<https://bulletin.wfu.edu/graduate/requirements-degrees/>).

Admissions

Candidates for the dual degree program must apply to both the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Law, following the admissions' requirements of the respective programs. Applicants must be accepted to each program in order to pursue the dual degree. A committee consisting of faculty and staff from both the School of Law and the Sustainability Graduate Program will make final determination about an applicant's suitability for the program.

Wake Forest students already enrolled in the JD program are encouraged to apply in the spring semester of their 1st year. Current students may apply after this time, but completion of the program will not follow the traditional three-year plan of study.