COURSE  LAW 353 Environmental Law Clinic
UNIT VALUE  1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
[Option for 2.0 units with extra credit work with permission]
INSTRUCTOR  Deborah Curran
TERM OFFERED  Spring 2020
CLASS TIMES  See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES  LAW 353 ELC is a required pre- or corequisite of LAW 386A ELC Intensive: Legal Skills and Sustainability and LAW 386B ELC Intensive: Problem Solving
LAW 353 is a required course for students working towards the Concentration in Environmental Law and Sustainability
LAW 353 is an upper-year environmental law course that qualifies as a prerequisite for LAW 384 Field Course in Environmental Law and Sustainability

OBJECTIVES

1. Gain an appreciation of the theory and practice of public interest lawyering;
2. Obtain practical experience working in a non-profit sector setting and a basic familiarity with associated legal and practical obligations and responsibilities;
3. Acquire law office management skills;
4. Acquire case management and planning skills;
5. Develop legal interviewing skills; develop legal research and analysis skills, which include identifying the issues and proposing appropriate solutions;
6. Develop writing skills by drafting high quality letters, memos, documents, and reports to the board of directors and clients;
7. Develop oral advocacy skills;
8. Develop plain language writing skills to communicate with non-legal audiences;
9. Acquire knowledge of a range of public interest environmental law issues and clients;
10. Acquire the ability to identify strategies for using the legal system to advocate on behalf of the environment.

METHODOLOGY

In-class seminar, small group work; clinical work with clients; student presentations

EXPECTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Students will be evaluated on a pass-fail basis. This evaluation will be ongoing throughout the term and involve an assessment of their performance on:

- Skills exercises (memo to Board; client interview; retainer letter; EAB hearing; media release)
- A major project (work for client on legal case/project, e.g. memo, factum or other work product approved by the instructor as the student’s major term project).

June 2019

1 The information in this document is provided for course registration purposes only and is subject to change. More detailed course information about course content and evaluation will be provided upon the commencement of the course. Students seeking additional information about the course prior to its commencement may contact the instructor or, if no instructor is listed, the Manager of Academic Administration and Student Services (lawmaass@uvic.ca).