

LAWS70100 Environmental Law

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	7 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2013, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: February, Parkville - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: The total class time is between 24 and 26 hours. Total Time Commitment: Not available
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	Applicants without legal qualifications should note that subjects are offered in the discipline of law at an advanced graduate level. While every effort will be made to meet the needs of students trained in other fields, concessions will not be made in the general level of instruction or assessment. Most subjects assume the knowledge usually acquired in a degree in law (LLB, JD or equivalent). Applicants should note that admission to some subjects in the Melbourne Law Masters will be dependent upon the individual applicant's educational background and professional experience.
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	The Melbourne Law Masters welcomes applications from students with disabilities. The inherent academic requirements for study in the Melbourne Law Masters are: The ability to attend a minimum of 75% of classes and actively engage in the analysis and critique of complex materials and debate; The ability to read, analyse and comprehend complex written legal materials and complex interdisciplinary materials; The ability to clearly and independently communicate in writing a knowledge and application of legal principles and interdisciplinary materials and to critically evaluate these; The ability to clearly and independently communicate orally a knowledge and application of legal principles and interdisciplinary materials and critically evaluate these; The ability to work independently and as a part of a group; The ability to present orally and in writing legal analysis to a professional standard. Students who feel their disability will inhibit them from meeting these inherent academic requirements are encouraged to contact the Disability Liaison Unit: www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/
Contact:	For more information, contact the Melbourne Law Masters office. Email: law-masters@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:law-masters@unimelb.edu.au) Phone: +61 3 8344 6190 Website: www.law.unimelb.edu.au/masters (http://www.law.unimelb.edu.au/masters)
Subject Overview:	<p>Environmental law deals with some of the most vital but also highly controversial issues within Australia and the global society. Environmental issues are a prominent feature of public debate, scientific research and regulatory action and this subject canvasses how law has evolved in response to such challenges, as well as identifying where reform may be required. The subject equips students with a strong grounding in the foundational principles of environmental law in Australia by reference to the Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999</i>, as well as relevant pollution control and biodiversity legislation. In addition, it provides an introduction to international environmental law dealing with questions such as trans-boundary harm and World Heritage protection, as well as considering how international influences have shaped the direction of Australian environmental law.</p> <p>This subject will provide an examination of the development and current scope of Australian environmental law, with a focus on the <i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth) and related state environmental protection legislation.</p> <p>Principal topics will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # The growing importance of international law, with the recognition that environmental protection issues cross regulatory boundaries # Greater integration between relevant discipline areas concerned with environmental protection

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Greater diversity in environmental law approaches, including integration with other regulatory areas such as planning, natural resource management, water use and indigenous land management, and financial measures and economic instruments. <p>These themes will be illustrated by case studies in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Environmental law: The drivers of change # Environmental actors, including public interest litigation # The range of legal and regulatory tools deployed in environmental law, including consideration of market mechanisms # The interaction of law and science, with a focus on the precautionary principle # Integration and complexity challenges in implementing environmental law with a focus on biodiversity protection # International law trends, including trade and environment and climate change governance.
Objectives:	<p>A student who has successfully completed this subject should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Gain an understanding of the evolution of environmental law and the factors driving change at an international and national level # Appreciate the pervasive nature of environmental regulation # Understand the influence of other disciplines, such as science, on the scope and character of environmental law # Analyse the nature of current environmental law approaches such as the 'regulatory mix' # Be familiar with key case studies that illustrate the dynamic trends in environmental law, such as cumulative impact assessment # Understand the need for integration across many areas of law to achieve environmental goals, such as ecologically sustainable development.
Assessment:	In-class presentation and 1,500–2,000 word written presentation (25%) (18 March) 7,500 word research paper (75%) (29 May) on a topic approved by the subject coordinator
Prescribed Texts:	Core subject materials will be provided free of charge to all students. Some subjects require further texts to be purchased. Visit the Melbourne Law Masters website for more information about this subject.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Links to further information:	http://www.law.unimelb.edu.au/subject/LAWS70100/2013