



## **U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law Fellowship**

Founded in 2006, the mission of U.S. - Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law at Vermont Law School (PEL) is to strengthen environmental governance and rule of law in Asia. We believe these outcomes are reinforced through strong laws and legal institutions, highly capable and well-resourced actors and enhanced pathways for public participation. We develop advocates, networks, and resources that support these goals, thereby enabling improved responses to environmental, energy, and social justice challenges that know no boundaries. For more information about the U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law, please visit the program's [homepage](#).

PEL invites applications for a two-year graduate fellowship starting in August 2018. The fellowship combines the opportunity to obtain an LLM or Master's degree from one of the leading environmental law programs in the nation with the opportunity to gain practical experience on a variety of policy coordination, research, and educational outreach projects related to environmental law internationally. The fellowship includes a full tuition waiver. A salary stipend of up to \$35,000 may be available for the selected Fellow depending on available funding.

### **Nature of the Fellowship**

The Fellow will work closely with the director and other team members of PEL to help coordinate and implement the range of projects being carried out. In addition to pursuing an LLM or a Masters' degree, the Fellow will work closely with PEL faculty and will take the lead role in at least one major project.

### **Fellowship Qualifications**

Qualifications for the PEL Fellowship include:

- admission to one of the LLM or Master's programs at Vermont Law School (see below for an overview of qualifying degree programs)
- a demonstrated commitment to environmental or energy issues in Asia
- prior practice or other experience in environmental or energy law
- strong legal writing and communications skills
- language skills in Chinese or one of the Southeast Asian languages preferred

### **How to Apply for the Fellowship**

Applicants interested in the PEL Fellowship must submit the LLM or Master's degree application to the Vermont Law School admissions office by April 1, 2018. In the title of your email to admissions, be sure to explicitly state you want to be considered for the PEL Fellowship. In addition to materials required for the degree applications, applicants need to submit a brief statement (not longer than one single-spaced page) explaining the applicant's interest in the fellowship, and one letter of recommendation specific for the Fellowship. Decisions on the PEL Fellowship will be made by May 15, 2018. Offers will be made by June 1, 2018.

If you have any question about the PEL Fellowship, please contact PEL Program Coordinator Gianna Petito at [gpetito@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:gpetito@vermontlaw.edu)

## **Qualifying Degree Programs for the Fellowship**

### ***LLM Degrees***

#### ***LLM in Energy Law***

The LLM in Energy Law prepares you to specialize in law and policy relating to energy use, production, and transmission. You'll build an intensive, practical curriculum that matches your objectives. Taught and guided by faculty affiliated with the law school's highly respected Institute for Energy and the Environment, you'll engage in real energy law and policy work and meet and learn from energy experts who collaborate on institute projects. You'll also complete independent research, writing, or an externship and participate in a seminar focused on advanced topics.

#### ***LLM in Environmental Law***

The LLM in Environmental Law degree is designed for a select group of post-JD candidates (for international students a Bachelor of Law degree is a prerequisite) seeking to specialize in the practice of environmental law, or pursue careers in teaching, research, or public policy. Candidates include recent law school graduates and practicing lawyers who wish to develop an environmental law specialty. The cornerstone of the LLM program is the Graduate Seminar. Vermont Law School's environmental law curriculum includes more than fifty courses in environmental law, policy, science, and ethics.

#### ***LLM in American Legal Studies***

The Master of Laws in American Legal Studies is specifically designed for students who hold a law degree from an institution outside of the United States. The required courses provide a solid foundation in US law and US legal method, so the LLM students in American Legal Studies will have immersion in the US law school experience. Some US states permit foreign lawyers who earn an LLM in US law to take the bar exam and be admitted to practice in their state, if certain other requirements are met. For more information about the LLM in American Legal Studies program, please visit the LLM degree page.

#### ***LLM in Food and Agriculture Law***

The LLM in Food and Agriculture Law prepares you to specialize in law and policy relating to sustainable food and agriculture systems. Taught and guided by faculty affiliated with the law school's Center for Agriculture and Food Systems, you will build an individual academic plan that matches your objectives. Students in the LLM program participate in a special LLM seminar focusing on advanced research topics in sustainable food and agriculture and environmental law.

**A minimum of 30 academic credits are required to complete the LLM programs. For the PEL Fellow, this thirty credit program is spread over two years. For more information about the LLM degrees, please visit the [LLM degree web page](#).**

## ***Master's Degrees***

### ***Master of Environmental Law and Policy (MELP)***

Administered by Vermont Law School's highly respected Environmental Law Center, the [MELP program](#) focuses on the political, scientific, and communications aspects of environmental law, with an added emphasis on economics and advocacy. The innovative curriculum is comprised of traditional law offerings and MELP-specific courses in writing and advocacy designed to benefit graduates in the public and private sectors. Experiential learning opportunities with state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and advocacy groups ensure you're ready to move ahead in your career or take on a new position.

### ***Master in Energy Regulation and Law (MERL)***

Taught by faculty associated with Vermont Law School's highly respected [Institute for Energy and the Environment](#), the MERL program is focused on law and policy governing energy use, production, and transmission. You'll develop a broad-based understanding of the intersection of energy and law, regulation, policy, and economic analysis. Practical training in public advocacy and writing for a legal and policy audience, opportunities for independent research with support from faculty, and externships at organizations around the country and the world prepare you for immediate challenges and opportunities.

### ***Master of Food and Agriculture Law and Policy***

Taught by faculty affiliated with the school's [Center for Agriculture and Food Systems](#), the [MFALP program](#) is designed for students who want to create the legal tools needed to innovate and support sustainable food and agriculture systems. The curriculum is comprised of food and agriculture classes, a wide range of environmental electives, and courses in writing and advocacy. Experiential opportunities with state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and advocacy groups prepare graduates for careers in food and agriculture policy and advocacy.