



To: Master of Climate and Environmental Policy Class of 2025
Master of Energy Regulation and Law Class of 2025

From: Anne Linehan, Director of Graduate Programs

Greetings from Vermont Law and Graduate School. I am an academic advisor for students in our master's degree programs. I have worked here for over 26 years and every year I enjoy welcoming a new group of master's students.

Here are some important dates to keep in mind as the fall semester approaches:

Tuesday, August 1: Understanding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion module opens (online)

Monday, August 12–Wednesday, August 14: individual advising sessions (virtual)

Thursday, August 15: registration for fall and spring classes opens at 9:00 am (online)

Monday, August 19–Friday, August 23: Orientation (on campus)

You will be registering for both fall and spring semesters but will have the opportunity to add and drop courses during the first two weeks of each semester. You will register for summer courses next spring.

It is a good idea to spend some time before Orientation thinking about what courses you want to take; whether you want to write a thesis; if you want to participate in a clinic, research team, or externship; and how you plan to fulfill your degree requirements. To help you plan, I have enclosed the fall and spring class schedules and planning guidelines for your degree.

Successful completion of the non-credit Understanding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion module is a **graduation requirement** for all MCEP, MERL, and MPP students. Please see the emailed memo from Admissions for more details.

Please feel free to email me with any questions at alinehan@vermontlaw.edu. I look forward to meeting you soon!



2024 ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

Draft Schedule – 6-18-24 – subject to change

Master of Climate and Environmental Policy (MCEP) Master of Energy Regulation and Law (MERL) Master of Arts in Restorative Justice (MARJ)

MONDAY, AUGUST 19

8:30-9:00 AM	Check-In Chase Community Center
9:00-10:00 AM	Welcome Ceremony Breakfast & Oath Administration Debevoise Back Lawn
10:00-11:00 AM	Meet & Greet Library Quad Photo IDs, IT Assistance, State and Local Resource Application Assistance Chase Community Center
11:15-12:00 PM	MCEP & MERL Introductions Oakes 208
11:15-12:00 PM	MARJ Community Building and Open House Rogers House
12:00-2:00 PM	Break
2:00-3:00 PM	Technology Services and CampusWeb Microsoft Teams
3:15-4:15 PM	Financial Aid Teams

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

9:00-10:00 AM	Library Resources and Services Cornell Library
10:15-11:15 AM	U.S. Legal System Oakes 007
11:30-12:30 PM	What's Law Got to Do with It? Basic Training for Policy Students 1 Oakes 208
11:30-12:30 PM	Introduction to Restorative Justice Rogers House
12:30-1:30 PM	Lunch with Student Ambassadors Debevoise Back Lawn
1:30-2:15 PM	Master's Career Planning Oakes 208
1:30-2:15 PM	Master's Career Planning Oakes 208

- 2:15-3:30 PM** **Break**
- 3:30-4:30 PM** **Important Policies, Wellness Resources, and Safety Information | Teams**
- 4:45-5:15 PM** **Your Alumni Community | Teams**
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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

- 9:00-10:30 AM** **Reading and Briefing a Case | Oakes 110**
- 10:45-12:15 PM** **Diversity Session (breakout groups) | Chase Community Center**
- 12:15 PM** **Brown bag lunches available | Yates Common Room**
- 1:00-2:00 PM** **What's Law Got to Do with It? Basic Training for Policy Students 2 | Oakes 208**
- 1:00-2:00 PM** **Program Pathways | Rogers House**
- 2:00-4:30 PM** **Break**
- 4:30-5:30 PM** **Academic Regulations & Plagiarism | Teams**
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

- 8:30-9:00 AM** **Board buses for Montpelier | Oakes Hall Parking Lot**
- 10:00-1:00 PM** **Meet with State Officials | House Chambers**
- 1:00-3:00 PM** **Lunch on your own and explore downtown Montpelier**
- 3:00-3:15 PM** **Class Photo | Capitol Steps**
- 3:15-3:30 PM** **Board buses for South Royalton | Vermont State Capitol Parking Lot**
- 5:00-7:00 PM** **Welcome Picnic | Debevoise Back Lawn**
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FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

- 8:30 AM-12:00 PM** **Environmental Field Trip | Meet in the Oakes Hall Parking Lot**
We will visit local farms and other environmental sites

10:30 AM-12:00 PM **MARJ Field Trip | Meet at Rogers House**

We will visit the Orange County Community Justice Center

12:00 PM

Return to VLGS

2:00-4:00 PM

Beach Day | Paine's Beach, South Royalton

Fall 2024 MCEP/MERL/MPP/LLM Schedule Grid

Time	Monday		Tuesday			Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
8:30 - 9:45	Intro to Policy Research & Writing					Intro to Policy Research & Writing				Green Finance	Transnat'l Env Clinic
9:55 - 11:10	Administrative Law		Animals & Law			Administrative Law		Animals & Law			
11:20 - 12:35	Energy Law & Policy	Intro to Food/Ag Law & Pol	Oil & Gas Development			Energy Law & Policy	Intro to Food/Ag Law & Pol	Oil & Gas Development		Global Sustainability (Cuba Trip) - during Thanksgiving break	
12:45 - 2:00	Land Use Regulation	Food Regulation & Pol				Land Use Regulation	Food Regulation & Pol			LLM Seminar	
2:10 - 3:25	Legislation/Regulation Survey		Natural Resources Law			Legislation/Regulation Survey		Natural Resources Law		International Climate Change (COP)	
3:35 - 4:50/5:10	Climate Change: Power of Taxes		Quant Analysis	Fund of ESG	Farmed Animal Clinic/Food & Ag Clinic	Energy Clinic	Env Advocacy Clinic/Env Justice Clinic	Fund of EJ/Struct Inequality	Animal Ethics	Professional Identity module - dates TBD	

Fall 1 Online: 8/26/24 - 10/13/24

Climate Change & Law	Native Americans & Law
Energy Law & Policy	Policy Design
Env Restorative Justice	Professional Identity module
Fed Reg of Food/Ag	Science of Animal Law
Intro to Ag & Food L&P	Understanding DEI module
Intro to Public Policy	Water Quality
Leg/Reg Survey	

Fall 2 Online: 10/21/24 - 12/8/24

Administrative Law	Land Use Regulation
Animal Protection Policy	Law & Pol of Local Food
Energy Regulation	Natural Resources
Environmental Law	Negotiation module
Fund of Climate Change	Public Participation module
Fund of Env Justice	Structural Inequality
Intro Policy Res & Writing	Sustainable Transportation

Spring 2025 MCEP/MERL/MPP/LLM Schedule Grid

Time	Monday		Tuesday			Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
8:30 - 9:45											
9:55 - 11:10	Energy Regulation		Law of Animals in Ag			Energy Regulation		Law of Animals in Ag		Master's Thesis Seminar I	Transnat'l Env Clinic
11:20 - 12:35	Climate Change Law	Enviro Law				Climate Change Law	Enviro Law				
12:45 - 2:00											
2:10 - 3:25	Climate Justice	Energy Regulation	Animal Protection Policy			Climate Justice	Energy Regulation	Animal Protection Policy		Negotiation module - dates TBD	
3:35 - 4:50/5:10	Env Econ (3:35-6:10)	Water Quality	Env Adv Clinic	Farmed Animal Clinic	Energy Clinic	Env Justice & Food/Ag Clinics	Water Quality	Fundamentals of Climate Change		Public Participation module - dates TBD	

Spring 1 Online: 1/13/25 - 3/2/25

Administrative Law	LLM Seminar
Energy Regulation	Natural Resources
Intl Env Law & Pol	Policy Design
Law of Animals in Ag	Professional Identity
Leg/Reg Survey	Understanding DEI

Spring 2 Online: 3/10/25 - 4/27/25

Animal Ethics	Intro to Policy Res & Writing
Comms Advocacy Leadership	Land Use Reg
Env Dispute Resolution	Negotiation module
Environmental Economics	Public Participation module
Fund of Climate Change	Quantitative Analysis
Fund of Env Justice	Structural Inequality
Global Food Security	Sustainable Energy Proj Fin
	Water Resources

Master of Climate and Environmental Policy (MCEP) Planning Guidelines

Requirements of the MCEP Degree

- A minimum of 34 credits, including all required courses
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.3 for successful completion of the degree

Required Courses

- REQ7186 Legislation & Regulation Survey (3 credits, waived for JD students)
- POL5510 Intro to Policy Research & Writing (3) (waived for JD students)
- CLM5200 Fundamentals of Climate Change (2)
- EJU5120 Fundamentals of Environmental Justice (2)
- EJU5110 Structural Inequality (1)
- POL5520 Quantitative Analysis (2)
- ENG5220 Environmental Economics & Markets (3)
- POL5530 Policy Design (3)

Required Non-credit Modules

- EJU5100 Understanding Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
- POL5200 Professional Identity Formation
- POL5300 Negotiation & Consensus-Building
- POL5100 Public Participation

Research or Practice Track

Students must choose either the Research or Practice Track. Students who choose the Research Track must complete both POL5700 Thesis Seminar I (3) and POL5701 Thesis Seminar II (1).

Students who choose the Practice Track must complete a minimum of four credits in at least one of the following:

- MCEP Externship
- CLI9302 Environmental Advocacy Clinic (JD students only)
- CLI9318 Environmental Justice Clinic
- CLI9321 Farmed Animal Advocacy Clinic
- CLI9427 Energy Clinic
- CLI9428 Food & Agriculture Clinic
- CLI9433 Transnational Environmental Clinic

Electives

Choose any remaining courses from the approved list in the Academic Regulations.

Transfer Credits

Master's-only students may transfer in up to 6 approved, relevant credits from another law school or accredited graduate program. VLGS JD students and JD students from approved dual degree programs may transfer in up to 12 approved, relevant JD credits. Courses completed

more than 5 years prior to matriculation will not transfer. Grades for transfer credits must be "C" or better.

Academic Planning

During the registration process, work with your academic advisor to establish a tentative schedule of courses you plan to take for your degree, subject to later modifications. Consider what, if any, courses you want to transfer or waive. It is your responsibility to ensure fulfillment of all degree requirements. Check with the Registrar if you have questions regarding your degree status.

Tuition Billing

Master's students are billed on a per-credit basis. For further information, contact the Business Office at studentaccounts@vermontlaw.edu.

Summer Session

Summer Session registration begins in April.

Online Classes

All of the master's required courses, as well as many electives, are available as online, asynchronous classes. Online semesters are divided into two terms; each online class is seven weeks long.

Updated 4/24

Master of Energy Regulation and Law (MERL) Planning Guidelines

Requirements of the MERL Degree

- A minimum of 34 credits, including all required courses
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.3 for successful completion of the degree

Required Courses

- ENG5226 Energy Law & Policy in a Carbon-Constrained World (3 credits)
- ENG5228 Energy Regulation, Markets & the Environment (3)
- ENG5220 Environmental Economics & Markets (3)
- REQ7186 Legislation & Regulation Survey (3)
- POL5520 Quantitative Analysis (2)

Required Non-credit Modules

- EJU5100 Understanding Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
- POL5200 Professional Identity Formation
- POL5300 Negotiation & Consensus-Building
- POL5100 Public Participation

Energy Electives (minimum of 6 credits)

There are energy elective courses offered during the academic year, in the Summer Session, and online. See Academic Regulations for an approved list.

Project/Writing Requirement

You must complete at least one project or course from this list.

- CLI9427 Energy Clinic
- Environmental Advocacy Clinic, Environmental Justice Clinic, Food and Agriculture Clinic, Farmed Animal Advocacy Clinic, or Transnational Energy Clinic (working on an energy topic)
- Independent Research Project
- MERL Externship
- Institute for Energy and the Environment Research Team
- POL5700 Thesis Seminar I and POL5701 Thesis Seminar II (on an energy topic)

Remaining Electives

Other environmental and energy courses from the approved list in the Academic Regulations

Transfer Credits

You may transfer in up to 6 approved, relevant credits from another law school or accredited graduate program. Courses completed more than 5 years prior to matriculation will not transfer. Grades for transfer credits must be “C” or better.

Academic Planning

During the registration process, work with your academic advisor to establish a tentative schedule of courses you plan to take for your degree, subject to later modifications. Consider what, if any, courses you want to transfer or waive. It is your responsibility to ensure fulfillment of all degree requirements. Check with the Registrar if you have questions regarding your degree status.

Tuition Billing

Master's students are billed on a per-credit basis. For further information, contact the Business Office at studentaccounts@vermontlaw.edu.

Summer Session

Summer Session registration begins in April. You can look at the previous year's summer calendar to get an idea of what classes will be offered residentially.

Online Classes

All master's required courses, as well as many electives, are available as online, asynchronous classes. Online semesters are divided into two terms; each online class is seven weeks long.

Updated 6/24