

# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Introduction to the Law of Food & Agriculture

LAWW 7511

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Orientation course that provides an overview of the legal and policy issues presented by the production of food and fiber, including a discussion of structural changes in agriculture, sustainability issues, and trends in consumer interest.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To orient students to the study of food and agriculture law.
- 2) To introduce substantial themes and tensions in food and agricultural law and policy.
- 3) To begin exploring the interests of and interaction between lawmakers, regulators, agricultural producers, food purveyors, and consumers.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Agricultural Law: Origins & Scope
2. The Evolving Structure & Practice of Agriculture
3. Stewardship, Sustainability, & the Environmental Impact of Agriculture
4. Food Law: Origins & Scope
5. Food: A Systems Perspective
6. Food, Nutrition & Public Health
7. Producers & Consumers: Connections & Protections

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Agriculture and the Environment

### Course Number(s)

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

#### Course Description:

Agriculture is increasingly criticized for its impact on the environment. This course examines the tensions between the desire to produce food and fiber efficiently and concern for sustainability and the protection of natural resources.

#### Course Objectives:

- 1) To consider the impact that agriculture has on the environment;
- 2) To examine and critique the exemptions from environmental regulation that are enjoyed by the agricultural sector;
- 3) To introduce the major federal environmental statutes and conservation programs applicable to agricultural operations; and
- 4) To integrate consideration of sustainability and ethics principles into students' discourse about agriculture and its environmental impact.

#### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. The Environmental Impact of Agriculture
2. Global Dimensions of Agri-Environmental Problems
3. Policy Instruments for Agri-Environmental Regulation
4. Federal Farm Programs & Conservation Compliance
5. Conservation Incentive Programs
6. Right to Farm Laws & Controversies
7. Introduction to Federal Statutes that Regulate Agri-Environmental Impact

#### Course materials:

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#### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Food Law & Policy

LAWW 786V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

An introduction to the network of laws that govern our food system. An overview of regulation by both the Food & Drug Administration and the USDA is provided. Policy considerations are discussed in light of current issues.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To introduce the body of federal laws that regulate the U.S. food system, studying the dual roles of the Food & Drug Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture; and
- 2) To engage students in a thoughtful policy critique of issues related to our food system.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Introduction to Food Law
2. Food Labeling Overview
3. Defining Misrepresentation
4. Special Labeling Issues
5. Introduction to Nutrition Policy
6. Hunger
7. Obesity/Chronic Disease
8. Health Claims
9. Food Safety Overview
10. Defining Adulteration
11. Additives & Non-additives
12. Policy Issues

### Course materials:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Federal Farm Programs and Crop Insurance

LAWW 740V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Survey of the complex network of federal farm programs and federal crop insurance programs that are available to U.S. producers.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To introduce students to the history and evolution of federal farm programs;
- 2) To explain and explore the mechanics of federal farm programs and federally subsidized crop insurance programs; and
- 3) To enable students to navigate and interpret farm bill legislation and the political and policy debates surrounding the same.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. History & Politics of Federal Farm Programs
2. The Current [/Proposed] Farm Bill
3. Structure of Current Farm Programs
4. Overview of Crop Insurance Programs
5. Conservation Programs
6. Legal Representation of Farmers Participating in the Federal Farm & Crop Insurance Programs

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Agricultural Perspectives

LAWW 7312

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Agriculture has a rich and varied history, and today's issues are often best understood in the context of this history. This course examines a wide range of social and economic issues, considering their origin and how history is reflected in today's policies. The course includes a series of documentaries.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To provide historical context for the study of contemporary agricultural law and policy;
- 2) To critique dominant narratives in agriculture including agrarianism, land tenancy issues, slavery, early farm activism, the Dust Bowl, competition for natural resources, and issues of environmental sustainability; and
- 3) To enhance students' appreciation of the complexities of agricultural policy and its effect on individuals, minority groups, the economy, and ecosystems and the environment.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Location & Luck: Agriculture & Societal Development
2. Blood on the Land: Class, Race, & Farming
3. Man vs. Nature: Ecological Transformation & Its Ramifications
4. Pitchforks to Tractors (& Back Again?): Revolutions in Agriculture
5. Beyond Our Borders: Global Perspectives on Agriculture

### Course materials:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Administrative Process and Practice in Agricultural & Food Law

### Course Number(s)

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Study of administrative law & practice in the specialized areas of agricultural and food law. Relevant regulatory agencies are introduced. Rulemaking, adjudication, and judicial review are covered.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To provide a background in U.S. administrative processes and practice to facilitate further study of the food and agricultural regulatory regime;
- 2) To introduce the major federal agencies with regulatory authority over the food and agricultural sector;
- 3) To study the rulemaking process and understand how regulations are promulgated; and
- 4) To understand administrative adjudication and judicial review processes.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Rulemaking
2. Adjudication
3. Judicial Review
4. Agency Practices

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Agricultural Bankruptcy

LAWW 709V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Examination of bankruptcy law as applied to agricultural operations, including Chapter 12 - Family Farmer Reorganization. No prior knowledge of bankruptcy is required.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To introduce basic principles of bankruptcy law in an agricultural context;
- 2) To examine the application of bankruptcy law to agricultural operations, with an emphasis on Chapter 12 – Family Farmer Reorganization; and
- 3) To develop the skills needed to advise agricultural clients in financial distress.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Introduction to Agricultural Bankruptcy
2. Chapter 7 Bankruptcy: The Fresh Start
3. Chapter 12 Bankruptcy: Family Farm Restructuring
4. Representing & Counseling Farm Families Through Bankruptcy

### Course materials:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Agricultural Biotechnology

LAWW 710V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Study of the regulation of agricultural biotechnology, including the approval process for new technologies, the patenting of new products and technologies, and the restrictions associated with their use.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To introduce the law involved in the regulation of biotechnology;
- 2) To develop an understanding of the legal approval processes applicable to new agricultural biotechnologies;
- 3) To study the intellectual property dimensions of agricultural biotechnology, including the patenting of new products and the protection of patent rights; and
- 4) To investigate current issues in agricultural biotechnology law, addressing economic, environmental, public health, and ethical implications.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. History & Development of Agricultural Biotechnology
2. Conventional Breeding Techniques
3. Patent Law & the Plant Variety Protection Act
4. Approval Process for Genetically Engineered Seeds
5. Cloned & Genetically Engineered Animals
6. Organic vs. GE Farming
7. International Trade of Genetically Engineered Products

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Agricultural Cooperatives and Local Food Systems

LAWW 7071

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Introduction to the legal structure of a cooperative and examination of the recent use of the cooperative model in encouraging local and regional food systems.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To provide an understanding of the basic legal structure of cooperatives;
- 2) To examine the differences among various types of cooperatives and between cooperatives and other types of business entities; and
- 3) To explore the use of the cooperative model to support local and regional food systems.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Introduction to U.S. Farmer Cooperatives
2. Statutory Authority & Cooperatives
3. Cooperative Formation & Operation
4. Financing Cooperatives
5. Cooperatives & Income Tax
6. Cooperatives & Securities
7. Cooperative Reorganization & Dissolution
8. Purchaser Cooperatives
9. Cooperatives & the Local Food Movement

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Agricultural Finance & Credit

### Course Number(s)

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

#### Course Description:

Study of the legal issues surrounding the financing of agricultural operations, including credit availability, agricultural security issues under the Uniform Commercial Code, and debt restructuring opportunities. Special focus is on lending options offered by the Farm Service Agency and the Farm Credit System.

#### Course Objectives:

- 1) To develop an understanding of the legal opportunities and challenges associated with financing agricultural operations;
- 2) To explore the distinct legal issues involved in agricultural finance, including the purchase or leasing of agricultural real estate, agricultural security issues under the Uniform Commercial Code, discrimination in agricultural lending, and opportunities for debt restructuring; and
- 3) To study the legal and policy issues associated with the specialized agricultural lenders.

#### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Introduction to Farm Finance
2. Government Farm Program Payments
3. Agricultural Real Estate Purchase & Leasing
4. Personal Property Financing (UCC Article 9)
5. Crop Financing
6. Conservation Program Payments
7. Agricultural Statutory Liens
8. Buyers of Farm Products Rule
9. Special Agricultural Lenders
10. Debt Restructuring
11. Discrimination in Lending
12. Lender Liability Issues

#### Course materials:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Agricultural Labor Law

LAWW 778V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Study of the legal, social, and economic issues that arise from the extensive use of migrant labor in U.S. agricultural operations. Topics include agricultural exemptions from labor laws, the Migrant & Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act, and agriculture's reliance on undocumented alien workers.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To gain an understanding of the significant role that agricultural workers play in U.S. agricultural production and to examine who performs this work;
- 2) To understand the framework of the most important laws that apply to agricultural labor relationships and explore the difficulty in enforcing these laws; and
- 3) To consider immigration law in the context of agricultural labor needs.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. American Farmworkers: Demographics, Identity & Struggles
2. "Employed in Agriculture"
3. Fair Labor Standards Act
4. Migrant & Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act
5. Farm Labor Hazards & Legal Protections
6. Forced Labor
7. Child Labor
8. Immigration
9. Economic Pressures & Solutions

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Agricultural Water Law

LAWW 713V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Study of the basic legal principles applicable to water rights through consideration of water rights for agricultural use.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To introduce water law and the history of water rights allocation throughout the United States, distinguishing riparian and prior appropriations doctrines;
- 2) To examine how water law is applied in the agricultural context and consider emerging challenges for agricultural water users; and
- 3) To explore alternatives for promoting sustainable water use and insuring continued access to adequate agricultural water.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Fundamentals of Water Law & Administration
2. The Riparian Doctrine
3. The Appropriation Doctrine
4. Statutory Allocations
5. The Public Trust in Navigable Waters
6. Groundwater
7. Tribal Rights to Water
8. Water Quality Issues
9. Interstate Problems and Solutions
10. Special Issues Related to Agriculture & Water Law

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Energy Policy & Agriculture

LAWW 7211

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Survey of the legal dimensions of various energy issues occurring on agricultural lands and in rural areas, including wind power, solar power, ethanol production, power line transmission, and fracking.

### Course Objectives:

To examine the land use, property rights, contract rights, and environmental law issues associated with energy production and extraction on agricultural and rural lands.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Introduction Energy Issues on Agricultural Lands
2. Wind Power & Development Agreements
3. Solar Power
4. Biofuels, Ethanol Production, & Renewable Fuel Standards
5. Power Line Transmission
6. Fracking & Mineral Rights

### Course materials:

The course materials will consist of readings selected by the professor and made available in advance of the reading assignment. These materials will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Environmental Regulation of Agriculture

### Course Number(s)

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

This course examines the major federal environmental statutes applicable to agricultural operations with attention to current cases and controversies under those laws. It also explores the regulatory authority and enforcement practices of the EPA and other agencies.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To develop a sophisticated understanding of the major federal environmental statutes applicable to agricultural operations;
- 2) To explore the regulatory authority and enforcement actions of the EPA;
- 3) To examine current agri-environmental cases and controversies and emerging areas of concern; and
- 4) To critique the exemptions from environmental regulation that are enjoyed by the agricultural sector.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. A Brief History of Environmental Law in the United States
2. Water (CWA, SDWA, & CZMA)
3. Air (CAA)
4. Agri-Chemicals (FIFRA & FQPA)
5. Wildlife Protection (ESA)
6. Toxic discharges & compromised lands (CERCLA & RCRA)
7. Environmental Protection Agency: Authority & Enforcement
8. Private "Regulation" of Agri-Environmental Harms: Toxic Tort Litigation
9. Agricultural Exceptionalism & Environmental Justice

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Farmed Animal Welfare Law & Policy

LAWW 726V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Examination of the legal issues involved in determining welfare standards for animals raised for food. In addition to introducing federal animal welfare and humane slaughter laws, state referenda, state law standards, and so-called “ag gag” laws are studied.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To provide a general introduction to animal law and review the exceptions to animal welfare laws provided for those who raise livestock and poultry;
- 2) To develop an understanding of the regulation of animal slaughter; and
- 3) To explore the political, economic, and ethical tensions and implications of animal welfare laws.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Introduction to Animals & the Law
2. Contemporary Animal Agriculture
3. Federal Laws Applicable to Agricultural Animals
4. State Animal Cruelty Laws and Livestock Production
5. Efforts to Create Legal Production Standards
6. Efforts to Shield Agricultural Operations
7. Biotechnology in Animal Agriculture: Welfare & Ethical Dimensions
8. Product Labeling & Welfare Standards
9. International Perspective & Ramifications

### Course materials:

The course materials will consist of readings selected by the professor and made available in advance of the reading assignment. These materials will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Federal Nutrition Law & Policy

LAWW 785V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Study of federal nutrition policy, including the development of the federal nutrition standards, the framework for the food assistance programs, the federal school lunch program, and the government's efforts to encourage healthy eating.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To examine government efforts to establish nutrition standards, disseminate nutrition information, encourage healthy eating, and provide nutrition assistance to those in need;
- 2) To develop a working knowledge of significant federal nutrition assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, FDIPR, School Lunch, Breakfast, and Snack, etc.) and the ways in which these programs are implemented at the state level; and
- 3) To debate the role of government and private organizations in addressing problems of food insecurity.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Hunger in the Land of Plenty
2. Federal Programs to Prevent Hunger & Improve Nutrition
3. SNAP: A Closer Look at a Successful but Controversial Program
4. WIC: Prescriptive Feeding for Vulnerable Populations
5. School Food
6. The Farm Bill & the Nutrition Title
7. Federal Nutrition Policy
8. Public or Private: Who Should Be Responsible For Addressing Hunger

### Course materials:

The course materials will consist of readings selected by the professor and made available in advance of the reading assignment. These materials will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Federal Regulation of Food Labeling

LAWW 7042

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Study of the federal laws regarding the labeling of food, considering both FDA and USDA regulation. The course includes the study of nutrition labeling, health claims, advertising issues, and efforts to curb the obesity epidemic through educational labeling.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To examine federal laws and regulations concerning the labeling of food;
- 2) To develop the research skills necessary to answer legal questions involving food product labeling and to evaluate the legality of representations; and
- 3) To develop a heightened awareness of food products, food marketing, nutrition information, and health claims and to consider public health consequences.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. History of Federal Regulation of Misbranding
2. Affirmative Labeling Requirements
3. Prohibited Labeling Requirements
4. Regulation of Food Identity and Quality
5. Regulation of Nutrient Labeling
6. Food Labeling and Health
7. Food Advertising
8. Alternative Approaches to Food Labeling

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Federal Regulation of Food Safety

LAWW 7872

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Study of the federal laws that regulate food safety, considering the FDA authority under the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, as expanded by the Food Safety Modernization Act and USDA authority to regulate meat and poultry safety. Current issues and concerns are addressed.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To examine federal laws and regulations concerning food safety;
- 2) To assess the scope of regulatory authority afforded to the FDA and USDA with respect to food safety and consider both compliance and enforcement difficulties;
- 3) To consider consumer expectations regarding the safety of the U.S. food supply and evaluate various approaches to promoting food safety; and
- 4) To engage with current issues and debates regarding the law of food safety.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. History of Federal Regulation of Adulterated Foods
2. Food Sanitation & Federal Regulation
3. Regulation of Pathogenic Adulteration
4. Enhanced Regulation Under the Food Safety Modernization Act
5. Regulating the Safety of Imported Foods
6. Safety of Food Constituents
7. Safety of Livestock Feed and Feed Additives
8. Emerging Issues of Concern Regarding Food Safety

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Food Justice: Law & Policy

LAWW 782V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Survey of the legal and policy issues raised by the food justice movement. Topics covered include food insecurity and poverty, public health concerns such as obesity, the economics of healthy eating, food deserts, and food waste.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To introduce and explore the emerging concept of “food justice” and situate it within the social, environmental, and economic justice movements;
- 2) To identify and examine the ways in which the legal framework of the food system can create and perpetuate injustices; and
- 3) To consider the public health and ethical implications of inequitable access to healthy food.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. What is “Food Justice”?
2. Hunger: A Problem of Shortage or Distribution
3. The Economics of Eating
4. Food Deserts: Where Are Americans Getting Their Food?
5. Poverty within the Food System
6. Food as an Agent of Illness or Healthcare
7. Food Waste & Recovery
8. Towards a More Just Food System

### Course materials:

The course materials will consist of readings selected by the professor and made available in advance of the reading assignment. These materials will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Food Safety Litigation

LAWW 727V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Examination of food borne illness litigation with an initial introduction to food product liability followed by the study of actual cases brought against food manufacturers.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To explore the law of food product liability and the role of strict liability in shaping both producer/purveyor conduct and consumer expectations;
- 2) To introduce common types of foodborne illnesses and the public health mechanisms for identifying and tracing outbreaks;
- 3) To examine actual food product liability cases brought against food companies; and
- 4) To provide students with practical strategies for litigating food product liability claims and advising food sector clients regarding risk mitigation.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Food Safety & Civil Liability
2. Foodborne Pathogens, Outbreaks, & Illnesses
3. e-Coli O-157: a Microbial Game-Changer
4. Client Relations
5. Affixing Liability
6. Discovery in Foodborne Illness Cases
7. Valuing Claims & Proof of Damages
8. Mediation & Settlement Strategy
9. The Defense Perspective
10. Criminal Liability
11. Toward a Safer Food System

### Course materials:

The course materials will consist of readings selected by the professor and made available in advance of the reading assignment. These materials will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Food, Farming & Sustainability

LAWW 741V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Survey of the complex legal topics that make up the body of agricultural and food law focusing on current issues of significance.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To explore the development of agricultural law as a discipline and critique the notion of agricultural exceptionalism;
- 2) To introduce students to the legal structure and regulation of the agricultural sector, considering the areas of law where agriculture is treated differently than other businesses; and
- 3) To explore the connections between the framework of agricultural law and the structure of our food system.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Agriculture & Agricultural Law
2. Economic Support to Agriculture
3. Financing the Farming Operation
4. Discrimination in Agriculture
5. Agriculture Labor Law
6. Regulation of Livestock Sales
7. Animal Welfare & Farm Animals Raised for Food
8. Biotechnology & Agricultural Law
9. Food & Agriculture

### Course materials:

The course materials will consist of readings selected by the professor and made available in advance of the reading assignment. These materials will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Global Food Security

LAWW 742V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Survey of the role of law and policy in affecting problems of global food security in the face of increasing population, changing diets, environmental pressures, and climate change.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To explore the concepts and ramifications of global food insecurity and to develop an appreciation of the scope and effects of global hunger;
- 2) To examine various explanations for the phenomena of global food insecurity and hunger;
- 3) To introduce students to the legal structures and political dynamics that influence global food security; and
- 4) To explore the connections between US policies and global food security.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Global Food Insecurity: Causes & Consequences
2. Global Institutions involved In Food Security & Food Standards
3. The Green Revolution, Considered in Context & Retrospect
4. Global Population Growth & Food Security
5. Appropriate Use of Agricultural & Biotechnology in “Feeding the 9 Billion”
6. Food Distribution & Marketing in Developing Countries
7. Land Grabbing & Food Crises

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Introduction to Agricultural Taxation

LAW 7111

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Overview of federal income tax law as applied to agricultural operations

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To provide an overview of federal income tax law as applied to agricultural operations; and
- 2) To enable students to recognize important agricultural taxation issues and effectively advise or refer agricultural clients.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Introduction to Farm Income Taxation
2. Types of Farm Income
3. Farm Business Expenses
4. Soil and Water Conservation Expenses
5. Basis of Farm Assets
6. Depreciation, Depletion, and Amortization
7. Farm Gains & Losses
8. Dispositions of Property Used in Farming
9. Installment Sales
10. Self-Employment Tax
11. Current Issues in Controversy

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Legal Issues: Indigenous Food & Agriculture

LAWW 762V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Overview of the legal, historic, social, and economic issues important to sustainable food and agriculture development in Indian Country. It features in-depth discussion of historic and emerging issues including land use challenges, tribal food and agriculture code development, and barriers to effective agriculture development.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To cultivate an understanding of the legal frameworks surrounding the intersection of Indian law and Food/Agriculture Law;
- 2) To examine legal barriers and challenges to sustainable food and agriculture systems development in Indian Country;
- 3) To examine rule of law and code development (governance) as a means to stimulate and support food systems development in Indian Country; and
- 4) To gain greater understanding of historic land use challenges unique to Indian Country and the unique regulatory context within which Tribal food and agriculture systems exist.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Introduction to Indigenous Food and Agriculture
2. Statutory Authority
3. Land Use in Indian Country
4. Business Entity Formation in Indigenous Food and Agriculture
5. Financing and Access to Credit Issues
6. Doing Business in Food and Agriculture: Economics & Risk
7. Civil Rights and Credit Discrimination Issues
8. The Future of Indigenous Agriculture and US Food Policy
9. Indigenous Food and Agriculture and International Instruments
10. The Spirit of Our Foods

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Specialized Legal Research and Writing

LAWW 7231

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Legal writing skill development, including training in plain-English legal writing, electronic research training, and publication strategies.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To cultivate a highly-readable, “plain-English” style of legal writing;
- 2) To provide advanced training in efficient and effective legal research methods and tools;
- 3) To review principles of attribution and sourcing and discuss the problem of plagiarism; and
- 4) To explore ways of developing one’s professional profile through legal writing for a variety of formal and informal, print and online outlets.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Principles of Effective Legal Research & Writing
2. Electronic Research Training
3. Legal Writing in Plain-English
4. Attribution & Integrity
5. The Path to Publication
6. Informal Legal Writing

### Course materials:

The course materials will consist of readings selected by the professor and made available in advance of the reading assignment. These materials will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Local/Regional Food Systems & the Law

### Course Number(s)

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

#### Course Description:

This course examines recent efforts to re-establish local and regional food systems and explores the attendant legal and policy issues.

#### Course Objectives:

- 1) To introduce and explore the (re)development of geographically-specific agri-food systems, considering the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of the mounting interest in local food;
- 2) To identify and examine the legal issues involved in local and regional agricultural production and marketing;
- 3) To explore federal, state, and local programs designed to facilitate local/regional food production and marketing; and
- 4) To develop practice skills needed to advise various players involved in the local/regional food sector.

#### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Food, Society & Culture
2. The Dominant Model: The Transnational Food Systems
3. Place-Based Agri-food Systems
4. Legal & Practical Barriers to Local & Regional Food Production, Marketing & Distribution
5. Federal Farm Programs & Local/Regional Food
6. State & Local Laws to Support Foodshed Development
7. Advising the Local/Regional Food Movement

#### Course materials:

The course materials will consist of readings selected by the professor and made available in advance of the reading assignment. These materials will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

#### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Regulated Markets in Agriculture

LAWW 763V

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Study of the economic regulation of specific sectors of the agricultural industry focusing on perishable agricultural commodities (fruits & vegetables), and dairy products. Included is the study of formal and informal administrative review

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To introduce the laws and regulations that govern discretely regulated elements of the agricultural industry, including perishable commodities (fruits & vegetables), and dairy products;
- 2) To examine the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, Marketing Orders, Formal & Informal Adjudication, and Judicial Review; and
- 3) To understand the market effects of these special laws and regulations and critique the food policy implications.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Overview of the U.S. Livestock Industry
2. The Packers & Stockyards Act (PSA)
3. Overview of the Fruit, Vegetable & Nut Industries
4. The Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA)
5. Federal Marketing Orders

### Course materials:

The course materials will consist of readings selected by the professor and made available in advance of the reading assignment. These materials will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Regulation of Livestock Sales & Marketing

LAWW 7031

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Study of the regulation of livestock and poultry sales under the Packers and Stockyards Act, with a particular focus on production contracting, mandatory price reporting, industry concentration, and anti-trust issues.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To introduce students to the structure of the U.S. livestock industry and the legal issues presented, with an emphasis on the Packers and Stockyards Act; and
- 2) To debate issues of policy with respect to both individual contracting disputes and overall concerns regarding the concentration of the livestock market.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. Overview of the U.S. Livestock Industry
2. Overview of Antitrust Law & Policy
3. The Packers & Stockyards Act
4. Agricultural Exemptions From Antitrust Law
5. Traceability & International Livestock Trade
6. Legal Issues in Livestock Production
7. State Laws Applicable to Livestock Marketing & Sales
8. Federal Programs & Initiatives

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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# LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

## Urban Agriculture: Law & Policy

LAWW 7741

Course Syllabus - *For Approval Process*

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Contact information for Professor - TBD

Class Schedule - TBD

### Course Description:

Study of the legal issues raised by the rising interest in urban agricultural activities. Topics of study include land use and zoning issues, farmers market issues, and legal issues associated with community sponsored agriculture.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) To explore the legal dimensions of agricultural production, distribution and marketing in an urban setting, with attention to planning, land use and zoning issues, and legal issues associated with farmers' markets and community sponsored agriculture;
- 2) To prepare students to advise and represent parties interested in engaging in or facilitating urban agriculture; and
- 3) To explore the food policy implications of urban agriculture.

### Outline of Course Coverage:

1. What is Urban Agriculture?
2. Local/State Authority & Federal Preemption
3. Land Use Law & Urban Agriculture
4. Nuisance & Right to Farm in the Urban Ag Context
5. Urban Livestock & Aquaculture
6. Ecological, Resource & Waste Considerations
7. Marketing / Distributing Urban Agricultural Products
8. Federal Farm Programs & Urban Ag
9. Local Food Policies & Councils

### Course materials:

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### Course Credit & Grading:

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