Lewis & Clark Law School’s Center for Animal Law Studies, in collaboration with the Animal Legal Defense Fund, is a one-of-a-kind, world-class program focused on a quickly evolving and exciting field of law.

The Leader in Animal Law

Animals are integral to every aspect of human society, whether they are recognized for their intrinsic worth, their role as companions, or the value they bring to the environment and the world economy. At Lewis & Clark, students have the opportunity to tailor an animal law curriculum specific to their interests and career aspirations—whether they want to conduct high-level policy work, practice law in a private firm, teach, or work for a nonprofit organization or government agency.

Lewis & Clark is proud to have played a critical role in the development of the field, including being home to many animal law “firsts”:
- First animal law program with full-time administrators, clinical faculty, and support staff
- First animal law clinic with full-time animal law faculty*
- First animal law dean position*
- First animal law LLM degree*
- First summer animal law program*
- First animal law certificate program*
- First advanced animal law seminar*
- First postgraduate animal law fellow*
- First Student Animal Legal Defense Fund chapter
- First animal law journal
- First comprehensive national animal law competitions*: appellate moot court, closing argument, legislative drafting and lobbying
- Longest-running academic animal law conference
- First visiting international animal law scholar
- First recipient of international animal law award
- First legal institute dedicated to aquatic animals

*Only at Lewis & Clark

The Program

The Center for Animal Law Studies was founded in 2008, and it is home to the Animal Law Program and animal law projects and activities of Lewis & Clark Law School. We educate and support law students and legal professionals interested in animal law through classes, conferences, scholarship, and clinical opportunities.

The JD Certificate in Animal Law

At Lewis & Clark, JD students have a choice. They can take a few animal law courses as part of a broader legal education, or they can specialize in animal law by earning an animal law certificate. To earn a certificate, students must complete the following requirements:
- Take both Administrative Law and Animal Law Fundamentals.
- Take eight additional credits of approved animal law courses.
- Write two substantial papers on approved animal law topics.

Students must additionally maintain an overall minimum grade point average of 2.70. For more details on the certificate program, including a list of qualifying courses, visit our website.

LLM Degree in Animal Law

The first and only of its kind, our post-JD master of laws (LLM) program is designed for U.S. and international law school graduates who wish to focus on animal law in practice, teaching, research, or public policy. The program is appropriate for both recent law graduates and established lawyers who want to enhance their understanding of animal law for their current or future practice. Our LLM students have access to the same extensive course offerings as our JD students, along with opportunities to enroll in the Animal Law Clinic, work on the Animal Law Journal, join the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund chapter, and attend the Animal Law Conference and Animal Law Review Symposium.
The program requires all LLM students to complete 26 semester hours of study. Requirements can be completed in as little as nine months or spread over two and a half years. Students can begin their studies in either the fall or spring semester with classes meeting during the day and evening. Summer classes are also available.

The Curriculum
The Center for Animal Law Studies offers the most extensive animal law curriculum in the world. This allows our students great flexibility in selecting their area of focus within animal law. In addition, a student may design an individual research project under the supervision of a faculty member or a reading group with fellow students. Following is a current list of courses and seminars available to JD and LLM students; contact us or visit our website for the most up-to-date course listings.

Courses
Administrative Law
Advanced Animal Law Seminar
Animal Cruelty: The Link to Domestic Violence Law and Policy†
Animal Law: Advanced Legal Research
Animal Law Clinic: Advanced I & II
Animal Law Fundamentals
Animal Law Graduate LLM Seminar I & II
Animal Law Litigation
Animal Law Philosophy and Development†
Animal Law Policy, Legislation, and Lobbying†
Animal Law Review
Animal Rights Law and Jurisprudence
Animals in Agriculture: Law and Policy Seminar
Companion Animals: Law and Policy Seminar
Comparative International Animal Law†
Crimes Against Animals
Endangered Species Act Seminar†
Equine Law Seminar†
International Wildlife Law†
Law and Ethics of Animal Testing
Law of the Columbia River Salmon†
Legal Practicum: Animal Law Legislation
Moot Court: Animal Advocacy II
Moot Court: Environmental and Animal Advocacy I
Moot Court: NALC Closing Argument I & II
Moot Court: NALC Legislative Drafting and Lobbying I & II
Nonprofit Animal Law Seminar
Transactional Approach to Animal Law†
Wildlife Law

Summer School
Lewis & Clark offers the only summer program in animal law, including an online course on the law and ethics of animal testing. During the summer, students can take advantage of a two-week intensive course taught by renowned animal law scholars and practitioners from across the country. We offer students both classroom and experiential learning environments to explore the legal theory, jurisprudence, and practical application of animal law.

Beyond The Classroom
Animal Law Clinic
The Lewis & Clark Animal Law Clinic works to develop the field of animal law and to establish and advance protection for nonhuman animals. The clinic trains students to become lawyers who are prepared to recognize and capably address animal law matters in their professional lives. It works cooperatively with people and organizations in a wide variety of settings, including research, mediation, negotiation, legislation, and transactional and policy work. Fostering the transition from law student to lawyer, the clinic explores ways to harmonize human and nonhuman animal interests and seeks to expand representation for those voices that cannot be heard and have no access to the legal system.

The Center for Animal Law Studies is committed to the full range of academic and professional growth of its students; the clinic encourages students to pursue their passions, helps develop leadership and lawyering skills, and supports creative thinking. Under the supervision of Clinic Director Kathy Hessler, students focus on ethics in discourse and practice and learn methods of strategic decision making and respectful dialogue, irrespective of philosophical positions.

Pamela Frasch is the assistant dean of the animal law program and executive director of the Center for Animal Law Studies. Previously, Pamela was general counsel for the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF). In 1996, she created the ALDF Criminal Justice Program, which has since assisted law enforcement and animal advocates in investigating and prosecuting thousands of animal abuse and neglect cases nationwide.

In addition to her duties with the Center for Animal Law Studies, Pamela is the author or coauthor of many articles and book chapters and is coauthor of the first legal casebook in the field, Animal Law: Cases and Materials, now in its fifth edition (Carolina Academic Press, 2014) and Animal Law in a Nutshell, second edition (Thomson West, 2016). She has taught survey and advanced courses in animal law at Lewis & Clark Law School since 1998 and is a frequent speaker internationally on a wide range of animal law topics.

In 2016, Pamela was honored as the first recipient of the Association of American Law Schools Animal Law Section Award for Excellence in Animal Law: Teaching, Scholarship, and Service.
Jim Karani LLM ’16 is the first recipient of Lewis & Clark’s International Advocates Animal Law LLM Scholarship. Prior to entering law school, he worked as an attorney and advocate of the High Court of Kenya. Originally from Mombasa, Kenya, Jim also worked as an attorney for the Hands Off Our Elephants campaign and WildlifeDirect, a nonprofit working to save Kenya’s elephant population by strengthening the response to wildlife crime. As part of his studies, Jim worked on developing an animal law workshop for Kenyan law students, lawyers, and judges. Jim plans to use his degree and experience as the legal affairs manager at WildlifeDirect, and to contribute to the growth of animal law throughout Kenya.

Internships
One of the many benefits of attending law school in the city of Portland is the opportunity to work with practicing lawyers in an internship while still attending classes. Through our animal law internship options, students can earn law school credit in a local, part-time placement supervised by an attorney. As an example, the animal law legislative internship exposes students to both the local and state-level legislative process. Participants have the opportunity to research, analyze, develop, and advance legislation.

Additionally, students have the opportunity to create internships in their area of interest and can work locally or develop remote working relationships.

Externships
During an animal law externship, JD and LLM students can earn credits by working full- or part-time for a law firm, government agency, company, legislative body, or public interest organization while being jointly supervised by a practitioner and a faculty member. Placement opportunities exist across the country and internationally. Students are encouraged to develop a placement that meets their individual goals and interests.

Animal Law Review
Animal Law is the nation’s first law review devoted entirely to the discussion of legal issues relating to animals. It is the leading journal in this rapidly growing field. Animal Law has been ranked in the top 100 specialty law reviews, is frequently cited by practicing attorneys, and has been featured in newspapers such as USA Today, the Oregonian, and the New York Times.

The journal is published twice a year, and both JD and LLM students may apply to join the staff. Students can volunteer with the journal or do work for credit.

Animal Law Review Symposium
Animal Law also hosts a yearly symposium that brings together the leading voices in animal law as well as other legal scholars, practitioners, and students. Papers presented at the symposium are often published in Animal Law, adding to the dialogue and promoting cutting-edge legal scholarship.

National Animal Law Competitions
The Center for Animal Law Studies organizes the nation’s only moot competitions in the field of animal law. The competitions have three distinct components: the appellate moot court competition, the closing argument competition, and the legislative drafting and lobbying competition. Upper-level JD students may participate in any of the three. With the help of experienced faculty coaches, Lewis & Clark teams consistently excel in all events, having won or placed highly in each of the competition’s components over the past several years.

Student Organizations
Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
Lewis & Clark was the first law school to host a student chapter of the national Animal Legal Defense Fund. SALDF is devoted to enhancing the welfare and legal status of all nonhuman animals by educating members and others about the issues and laws that affect animals and by working to influence positive change. At the law school, SALDF’s principal activities include coordinating pro bono and volunteer activities, hosting speaking opportunities for prominent animal law scholars and practitioners, and assisting in planning the longest-running academic animal law conference.

Public Interest Law Project (PILP)
PILP funds stipends for selected law students who work during the summer in the public interest law field, which includes several animal law placements such as Animal Legal Defense Fund, In Defense of Animals, the Humane Society of the United States, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Great Ape Project, and Defenders of Wildlife. PILP also assists with funding to relieve the debt burden for graduates who pursue public interest work.
Animal Law Conference
The Animal Law Conference is the longest-running academic conference to address the subject of animal law. For almost 25 years, and now in collaboration with the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF), the mission of the conference has been to enrich the legal advocacy for animals through sharing ideas, knowledge, and practical skills, as well as providing educational and networking opportunities. Today, the conference has become one of the largest and most popular of its kind, featuring some of the most respected voices in the field.

Faculty and Staff
Natasha Dolezal, JD Lewis & Clark Law School, is director of the Animal Law LLM Program, overseeing all aspects of the program. Natasha was previously the associate director for state relations at Oregon Health & Science University. She began her legal career in the Oregon Legislature as a senator's legislative assistant and then transitioned to a position as a deputy district attorney prosecuting felony and misdemeanor crimes, including animal abuse cases. Natasha's interest in animal law began while studying wildlife conservation in Kenya.

Pamela Frasch, JD William Mitchell College of Law, is assistant dean and executive director of the Center for Animal Law Studies. She directs and develops the Animal Law Program, teaches animal law courses, and has written and spoken extensively in the animal law field. She is coauthor of the first legal casebook on animal law and coauthor, with Kathy Hessler, of Animal Law in a Nutshell and coauthor, of the forthcoming book Animal Law—New Perspectives on Teaching Traditional Law. In addition, she has written articles for several law reviews and bar publications.

Lindsay Kadish, BA University of Arizona, is the director of operations for the Center for Animal Law Studies. She runs the daily operations of the center and manages the summer program, the annual Animal Law Conference, and the National Animal Law Competition. Prior to joining the Center for Animal Law Studies, Lindsay was the assistant director of the Global Initiatives in Management program at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

Visiting Professors and Adjunct Faculty
In addition to its full-time faculty, the law school draws visiting professors and adjunct faculty members from the nation's leading academics and practitioners involved in animal law. The courses they teach reflect their special expertise and practical experience.

Some of our regular adjunct faculty include the following people:
Peter Brandt, The Humane Society of the United States
Lora Dunn, Animal Legal Defense Fund
Ramona Ilea, Pacific University
Paul Locke, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Russ Mead, Animal Law Coalition
Nancy Perry, The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Joyce Tischler, Animal Legal Defense Fund
Steven Wise, The Nonhuman Rights Project

About the Center for Animal Law Studies
The Center for Animal Law Studies at Lewis & Clark was founded in 2008 and is home for the animal law programs and activities of Lewis & Clark Law School. The center collaborates with the national nonprofit Animal Legal Defense Fund to educate and support law students and legal professionals in the rapidly developing field of animal law through classes, conferences, scholarship, and clinical opportunities.
Alumni in Animal Law

As the leader in animal law, Lewis & Clark has a strong network of alumni involved in this growing field. The list below presents some of those alumni and the positions they hold.

Jim Karani Riungu ’16, WildlifeDirect, head of legal affairs
David Rosengard JD ’15, LLM ’16, Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF), criminal justice fellow
Gieri Bolliger ’14, Stiftung für das Tier im Recht, executive director
Sarah Cruse ’14, Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), campaign manager
Moe Honjo ’14, Hitotsubashi University, doctoral candidate
Amy Jesse ’14, HSUS, public policy coordinator
Julie Zagrans ’14, One Tail at a Time PDX, director
Mitzi Bolanos ’13, StubbyDog, executive director
Marie Burcham ’13, The Comrucopia Institute, farm and food policy analyst
Lora Dunn ’13, ALDF, senior staff attorney
Laura Hagen ’13, Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, deputy director of advocacy
Claire Howe ’13, HEART, Portland program director
Jenny Keatinge ’13, Defenders of Wildlife, government relations associate
Jaclyn Leeds ’10, Northwest Veg, executive director
Michelle Pawliger ’13, Animal Welfare Institute, farm animal policy associate
Holly Gann ’12, HSUS, horse slaughter campaign manager
Kacyl McLeod ’12, HSUS, assistant general counsel
Jessica Johnson ’11, Animal Protection New Mexico, chief legislative officer
Tara Zuardo ’10, Animal Welfare Institute, wildlife attorney
Andrew Freeman ’09, Washington County, deputy district attorney
Sarah Baecskler Davis ’08, Project Chimps, president
Kim McCoy ’07, Big Life Foundation, executive director
Geoff Orme-Evans ’06, Humane Society International, environmental and climate change specialist
Tami Santelli ’06, HSUS, assistant legislative counsel
Peter Brandt ’04, HSUS, senior attorney for the animal protection litigation section
Sam Edwards ’95, Green Mountain College, professor
Nancy Perry ’85, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, senior vice president of government relations

Information

For more information about the Animal Law Program, please visit our website at www.CenterforAnimalLawStudies.org.
For specific questions about the program, contact:

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