



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

Melbourne  
Law School

# SUSTAINABILITY AND LAW IN THE JURIS DOCTOR

At Melbourne Law School we want to create pathways for our graduates to be sustainability professionals. This document provides an overview of curricular and co-curricular opportunities within and alongside the Juris Doctor for knowledge and skills development available to our students.

## SUSTAINABILITY LAW IN 2023. GET STUDYING.

### THE FOUNDATIONAL

Students with undergraduate degrees from the University of Melbourne have exposure to Law breadth subjects including: Environmental Rights and Responsibilities, Global Human Rights Law, Health Law, Ethics and Society, and Free Speech and Media Law: each offering foundational ideas about the place of law in a sustainable and fair society. Environmental Law provides a good foundation for learning about sustainability in the Juris Doctor

Environmental law  
(Summer or sem 1)

### THE PRACTICAL AND EXPERIENTIAL

The law school supports students to explore facets of sustainable development in practical subjects, including Human Rights in Practice, Access to Justice on Country and Indigenous Legal Advocacy Clinic. Plus these three environment focused subjects

Projects and the  
Environment  
Practicum  
(Intensive)

Sustainability  
Business Clinic  
(sem 2)

Legal Internship  
(Eg with  
Environmental  
Justice Australia)  
(Summer)

### THE SPECIALISED

There are a suite of Masters subjects available to students in the Environmental Law, Construction Law and Law and Development subject streams. Students may study two Masters subjects in their degree.

Masters subject.  
Eg Climate Change  
Law (March)

Masters subject.  
Eg. Law of the Sea  
(October)

### THE RELATIONAL

The Juris Doctor program offers subjects with curriculum that that traverse Sustainable Development Goals 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16.

Subjects on cities.  
Eg Construction  
Law (sem 2)

Subjects on Law  
and Development.  
Eg Law and Civil  
Society in Asia  
(year 3)

Subjects on  
Indigenous  
knowledge or  
self-determination.  
Eg Treaty (sem 2)

Subjects on  
relations with the  
more than human.  
Eg Animals and the  
Law (2024/TBC)

### THE CAPSTONE

Each year there will be a Legal Research stream touching upon sustainability. It may offer the change to research the law with a focus on the environment focused, health, animals or Indigenous peoples' rights.

Legal Research  
(sem 2)

## SUSTAINABILITY IN OUR SCHOLARLY COMMUNITY. GET INVOLVED

Our students have access to technical and critical understandings of the law through research hubs, including the **Centre for Resources, Energy and Environmental Law** and the **Institute for International Law and Humanities**. Both groups offer public lectures and in-house discussions that include student attendees.

Our researchers are part of and forge links for students with **Melbourne Climate Futures** and the **Melbourne Centre for Cities**.

Our teachers continue to support individual students with environmental leadership, mentoring **Wattle Fellows**.

Our students take part in the **Student Law Clinics Global Day of Action for Climate Justice**, in collaboration with law students around the world.

Our students are leaders of the **Victorian Environmental Law Students Association**, and in that capacity have advocated for climate ethical lawyering, promote careers in sustainability and law and run competitions for students to develop practical skills.

The **Environment portfolio of the Law Students Society** supports actions, linking students with movements for change within the law building, across the profession and to the law.