The Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic Experience

The Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic (IEC) functions as a pro bono law practice handling environmental and community health cases.

IEC students engage in litigation and advocacy as part of an interdisciplinary team, which includes students from the schools of law, engineering, arts and sciences, public health, medicine, and occasionally business and architecture. Students develop their lawyering skills acting as the student attorneys in their cases and through extensive interaction with experienced IEC faculty.

IEC cases tackle some of the most challenging and important water, air, waste, climate change, and environmental justice problems in the region. In addition, students will learn about public interest law, as most clients are non-profit organizations and under-represented communities. The IEC works in Missouri and Illinois, and on some cases of national scope.

Clinic Aims

As much as possible, students are responsible for making key decisions and performing much of the “heavy lifting” in pursuit of client goals. Students experience the challenges and rewards of lawyering by stepping into the role as professionals in a supportive setting, with ongoing faculty feedback and assistance.

IEC Faculty

Peter Goode, Environmental Engineer
Liz Hubertz, Assistant Director
Maxine Lipeles, Director
Ken Miller, Environmental Scientist

Pre-/Co-Requisites

There are no pre-requisites. Administrative Law or a course related to environmental law is recommended but not required.

Requirements

Students are required to devote an average of 21 hours per week to IEC work for 6 credit hours. With permission from the instructor, a student may enroll for 8 credits. Hours include preparation for and attendance each week in:

- A 2-hour seminar on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- At least one individual meeting with your supervising professor.
- One team meeting with other students and faculty working on your case(s).

The Bottom Line

- This course can be taken for 6 credits, or, with permission of instructor, for 8 credits.
- Graded on a modified pass/fail basis.
- Substantial reading and writing on client work. Limited additional reading and writing for seminar.
- No final exam.

For more information:

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http://law.wustl.edu/clinicaled/pages.aspx?id=6834