

Lewis &  
Clark  
Law  
School

Portland,  
Oregon

# Center for Animal Law Studies

## WHY ANIMAL LAW?

**Because animals matter.** Whether recognized for their intrinsic worth, their role as companions, or the value they bring to the environment and world economy, animals are integral to every aspect of human society.

**Because animal law attorneys can change the world.** Lawyers interested in animal law have numerous opportunities to incorporate the field into their own practices. State, federal, local and international laws all contain provisions regulating or impacting animals. Animal law graduates of Lewis & Clark Law School work in small and large private firms, American nonprofits, foreign nongovernmental organizations, corporations, and all levels of government.

**Because animal law is an exciting and rapidly expanding field of law.** Animal law overlaps with many traditional areas of the law such as torts, criminal, wills & trusts, constitutional, and property law. Animal law is rooted in the practical application of statutes, regulations and case law, but the field also explores legal theory and jurisprudence. In animal law we ask fundamental questions about the nature of a legal right or interest, how laws create or entrench power imbalances, and how those imbalances impact animals.

## WHY LEWIS & CLARK LAW SCHOOL?

**Because Lewis & Clark Law School is the leading academic institution in animal law.** Since 1992, Lewis & Clark Law School has led the development of the field. We have distinguished ourselves with many innovations, including the following list of “firsts”:

- Animal law journal, *Animal Law*
- Academic animal law conference
- Summer intensive animal law program
- Animal law clinic with full-time faculty
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund chapter
- National Animal Law Competitions
- Animal Law LL.M. Program

## THE CENTER

Founded in 2008, the Center for Animal Law Studies, in collaboration with the Animal Legal Defense Fund, is the home of the animal law programs and activities of Lewis & Clark Law School. The Center works to educate and support law students and legal professionals through classes, conferences, scholarship, competitions, and clinical opportunities. The Center is a policy institution, an animal law think tank and the umbrella program of the nation’s premier scholarly animal law program. We offer a rigorous curriculum and valuable training to educate the next generation of animal law attorneys.

## CHANGING THE WORLD FOR THE BETTER

The Center trains aspiring animal law attorneys and serves as a driving force for change in the field of animal law. The Center’s Animal Law Program introduces students to legal concepts and prepares them to skillfully handle animal law issues no matter where their professional endeavors take them. Students benefit from the interactions between respected scholars and practitioners who are attracted to Lewis & Clark’s renowned resources, including the Animal Law Clinic, and the opportunity to teach animal law in a supportive and innovative atmosphere.

The Center offers guidance and support to all of the components comprising Lewis & Clark’s impressive Animal Law Program. In addition to its own activities, the Center works with Lewis & Clark’s Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, the Animal Law Review, the Animal Law Conference, the National Animal Law Competitions, and much more. From advising outside institutions or working with esteemed legal scholars, to developing new and creative ways to advance the consideration of animal interests in all realms, the Center remains at the forefront of the animal law field.



CENTER FOR  
ANIMAL LAW  
STUDIES

AT LEWIS & CLARK

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE  
ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

For instance, the Center filed an *amicus curiae* brief in the United States Supreme Court on behalf of a group of animal law professors in the case of *U.S. v. Stevens*. This historic brief offered the Court the expertise of nationally renowned animal law professors as the Court considered the constitutionality of a federal law prohibiting depictions of unlawful animal cruelty. The final List of Signatories included forty-five professors representing fifty law schools from across the nation, illustrating the Center's unique ability to organize a legal response to crucial animal law issues. To read the Center's brief, please visit: [lclark.edu/livewhale/download/?id=135](http://lclark.edu/livewhale/download/?id=135)

Another important component of the Center is the Animal Law Clinic (Clinic), the only clinic in the country dedicated to animal law issues. The Clinic focuses on matters of national and international importance while also remaining connected to local community issues. Clinic students receive valuable training in research, writing, client communications, transactional work, litigation, professional responsibility, and strategic planning. Students also work with lawyer-partners locally and around the country, observe legal proceedings, and conduct fieldwork to better understand animal protection issues. In addition to offering hands-on experience to student attorneys, the Clinic works to further develop the field of animal law and encourage consideration of the interests of animals in legal decision making.

Like the Clinic, the Center continually works to further relationships within the local community and beyond. The Center works to build bridges that ultimately serve the field of animal law, the people who work within that field, and the animals they strive to protect. The Center values the strength such relationships foster and does not shy away from unconventional alliances when they ultimately benefit animals. The Center's work has an impressive reach extending around the globe to locales such as Africa, China, Japan, and Brazil. While focused on the development of the field of animal law here in the United States, the Center also contributes to the field's development in other parts of the world.

## FACULTY & STAFF

Today, Lewis & Clark Law School is the first and only law school in the country to offer an animal law program with a full-time assistant dean and executive director, a full-time clinical professor and a full-time assistant director, all devoted to expanding course offerings, working with students, running the clinic, developing community outreach, and engaging in research and scholarship to further the field.

The Center's faculty and staff train, mentor, and place students with prominent organizations throughout the country. They enjoy assisting and following the evolution of alumni's careers and working with talented graduates who have become accomplished animal law attorneys. At Lewis & Clark Law School, the animal law community is strong, vibrant and ever-growing. It is a truly special institution; there is no better place to study animal law than Lewis & Clark's Center for Animal Law Studies.

## COURSES

The following is a sampling of the animal law classes offered at Lewis & Clark:

*Advanced Animal Law Seminar · Animal Law · Animal Law Clinic I & II · Animal Law Legislation Clinical Internship Seminar · Animal Law: Legislation, Lobbying & Litigation · Animal Legal Philosophy & Development · Animal Rights Law Jurisprudence · Comparative International Animal Law · Endangered Species Act Seminar · Environmental/Animal Law Advocacy · Emerging Law/Policy Companion Animals · Farmed Animals: Law & Policy · International Wildlife · Pacific Salmon Seminar · Wildlife Law*

## MOVING FORWARD

At Lewis & Clark, we are proud of the work of our students, faculty and staff as they seek to make the world a better place for animals. Together, the Center is poised for the future, armed with the goal of further easing the suffering of animals. The Center's work ensures not only that animals and their advocates have a voice, but that those voices are strong and effective.

**To find out more about the Center for Law Studies and its programs, please visit:**

**Website:** [CenterForAnimalLawStudies.org](http://CenterForAnimalLawStudies.org)

**Blog:** [CenterForAnimalLawStudies.blogspot.com](http://CenterForAnimalLawStudies.blogspot.com)

**Email:** [CALS@lclark.edu](mailto:CALS@lclark.edu) **Facebook:** [Facebook.com/CALSAnimalLaw](https://www.facebook.com/CALSAnimalLaw) **Twitter:** @CALSAnimalLaw

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