

Animal Law LL.M.



Welcome to the Fall 2013 Class!

Congratulations on your admission to our premier animal law program! As you know, entry into our program is competitive and limited to only a few students. We admit only lawyers who we believe will both succeed in our challenging program and contribute to this developing field. Our faculty, staff and students all look forward to greeting you this fall and welcoming you to our unique academic community in beautiful Portland, Oregon.

If you have accepted our invitation to enter the Fall LL.M. class, please review the information below to learn what's to come in the next few months.

**Please let us know as soon as possible if you decide not to come to Lewis & Clark this fall; we can offer your place to someone on the wait list.*

Email the program director, Natasha Dolezal (ndolezal@lclark.edu) with any questions.

Below you will find important information regarding expectations for our students, important dates, costs and degree planning/course selection instructions.

Expectations

Each person enrolled in the LL.M. program must understand the following conditions:

- The student is expected to read, understand and agree to comply with law school and college policies that apply to all students. The [What's What](#) is the law school policy handbook; you should read it and ask any questions before you begin classes. Please pay particular attention to the Honor Code provisions. Violating the Honor Code can result in your being expelled from the law school without a degree.
- While the law school will assist with financial, domestic and other arrangements for daily life, the ultimate responsibility for making these arrangements rests with the student.

Important Dates

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| As soon as possible: | Notify Natasha Dolezal of your intention to enroll this fall. Pay your non-refundable deposit of \$250 to hold your place in class by June 15 th . |
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| | If you wish to get a “jump start” on your LL.M. studies, then you may want to participate in our Animal Law Summer Program . If so, then please contact Lindsay Kadish immediately after you decide to attend Lewis & Clark. |
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| May: | The law school’s Orientation Office opens to provide incoming students with assistance in finding student housing. lo@lclark.edu |
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| June: | After the schedule of courses becomes available, send your choices for fall and spring to Natasha Dolezal for approval (this can be done by email). |
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| August 16th: | Orientation Day for all new law students (J.D. and LL.M.) |
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| September 2nd: | Labor Day Holiday |
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| September 3rd: | Fall semester classes begin. From this point, you have three weeks to adjust your schedule by adding or dropping classes. |
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For important law school dates, please also review the law school’s academic calendar which will be updated for the current year in May:

[Lewis & Clark Law School’s Academic Calendar](#)

Tuition and Fees

LL.M. students pay by the credit hour. Students who are enrolled in classes pay a student activities/building fee. Students not enrolled in classes who are continuing to work towards the degree while completing thesis pay an LL.M. thesis continuation fee.

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| 2013-2014 | |
| Tuition | \$1,432/credit |
| LL.M. Registration Fee | \$85 (2 semesters @ \$42.50) |
| Health Insurance | \$958/semester |
| LL.M. Thesis Continuation Fee | \$250/semester |

*Books & Supplies (estimated) \$800/semester Living, transportation and personal allowance (estimated) \$9,900/semester

Degree Planning and Course Selection

To obtain the LL.M. degree, LL.M. students must earn a minimum of 26 semester hours of credit with a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or better. Students who apply and meet the requirements to do a thesis must earn at least a “C” on the thesis. Of the 26 credits, two apply towards the required *Graduate Animal Law Seminar*. At least 18 of the 26 total credits must be taken from the animal law curriculum. All classes listed as Animal Law classes in the law school’s registration materials, including summer animal law classes or the 6 credits of a thesis, count towards the 18 “animal law credits,” except *Administrative Law* and *Animal Law*. Credits earned in Administrative Law and Animal Law count towards the 26 total credits needed, but not towards the 18 “animal law credits.”

Once the courses for Fall 2013 are online and you have determined which courses to take, you will register your courses with the program director. At any time in this process, you may contact Natasha for advice or information. After school starts, you will also have three weeks starting with the first day of class to make changes to your schedule for that semester.

(1) Budget your time

Consider how many semesters of study you will be taking at Lewis & Clark. The LL.M. degree requires a total of 26 credit hours. If you will only be here for two semesters, the *Graduate Animal Law Seminar* will provide 2 credits and you will need to take an average of 13 credit hours in fall and spring. If you are staying two semesters and summer, you have more flexibility; for example, you might take a lighter load of 10 credits in the fall, 12 credits in the spring, and 6 credits in the summer.

(2) Consider which courses you want to take

The 2013-14 courses will be available online by June. At that time, you should look through the list of what will be taught in the upcoming academic year, decide which ones are interesting to you, and determine how they fit into the number of semesters you have. Make sure that you are looking at 2013-14 course offerings.

(3) Complete the Course Selection Worksheet

After you have decided on the courses you want, download the [Class Selection Worksheet](#). You can enter your course selections for the upcoming academic year directly into the form. Since it is very important that you attend all of your classes, you must complete the entire form, including the days and times of the courses you choose, in order to avoid scheduling two classes at the same time.

On the Class Selection Form, your first task is to make sure to the following required courses are entered: Two semesters of the required *Graduate Animal Law Seminar* (1 credit in the fall, 1 credit in the spring), *Administrative Law* (3 credits) and *Animal Law Fundamentals* (3 credits) classes if you have not already satisfied these two requirements in your J.D. program.

After you have scheduled your required courses, you have 18-20 additional credits to schedule as you wish. At least 16 of these additional credits must be from the animal law curriculum; the rest can be any upper-division law courses that interest you.

(4) Send us your course selection

Save your Class Selection Worksheet on your own computer or print out a copy. Send another copy by email attachment to [Natasha](#). She will review it, approve it and send it to the Registrar for registration (or if there is a problem, she will work with you to resolve the problem). After the on-line registration period opens in early June, a certain number of seats are reserved for LL.M. students in each class, but you may be put on a waiting list if someone else reserved before you.

Contact Natasha with any questions.