

LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law

University of Arkansas School of Law 2023 Fall Curriculum

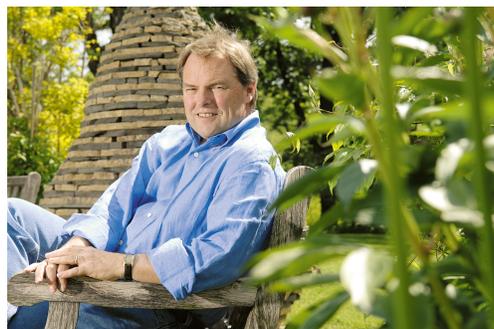
An Introduction to the Law of Food & Agriculture

Neil Hamilton

1 credit condensed course

LAWW 7511

Dates TBD week of August 14



This special condensed course taught by visiting professor Neil Hamilton kicks off our semester. Recognized internationally for his insightful analysis of food and farms, Professor Hamilton is an Emeritus Professor of Law at Drake University Law School and is the author of the recent books, *THE LAND REMAINS: A MIDWESTERN PERSPECTIVE ON OUR PAST AND FUTURE* (2022) and *THE RIVER KNOWS: HOW WATER AND LAND WILL SHAPE OUR FUTURE* (2023). This course provides an overview of the complex legal and policy issues presented by agricultural production, including a discussion of structural changes in agriculture, sustainability, and trends in consumer interest.



Food, Farming & Sustainability (Survey of Agricultural Law)

Susan Schneider and Kelly Nuckolls

2 credit full-semester course

LAWW 7412

Friday, 10:30 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.



This course provides a survey of the complex legal topics that make up the body of agricultural law: how and why is agriculture treated differently than other industries? The course covers many of the traditional areas of agricultural law with a focus on current issues of significance. It is taught by LL.M. Program Director and W.H. Enfield Professor of Law Susan Schneider and Assistant LL.M. Program Director Professor Kelly Nuckolls. It's based on Professor Schneider's book by the same name, *FOOD FARMING & SUSTAINABILITY: READINGS IN AGRICULTURAL LAW* (2016).

Food Law & Policy (required for LL.M.)

Susan Schneider

2 credit full-semester course

LAWW 7862

Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

This course, taught by Program Director Professor Susan Schneider, introduces the network of laws that govern our food system and explores how those laws impact that system - for good or ill. An overview of regulation by both the Food & Drug Administration and the USDA is provided. Law and policy considerations are discussed through current issues. Professor Schneider is the W.H. Enfield Professor of Law and has decades of experience teaching and practicing agricultural and food law. She is also proud to be one of our alumni.

Agriculture & the Environment (required for LL.M.)

Christopher Kelley

2 credit full-semester course

LAWW 7962

Thursday, 10:30 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.



One of Professor Kelley's signature LL.M. courses, Agriculture and the Environment examines the impact that agricultural production has on the environment. This policy-oriented course examines the tensions between the need to produce food and fiber efficiently and the concern for sustainability and the protection of our natural resources. As global perspective is included.



The Right to Food

Uche Ewelukwa Ofodile

2 credit full-semester course

LAWW 714V

Primarily Asynchronous with 3-4 scheduled online meetings

Taught by Professor Uche Ewelukwa Ofodile, E.J. Ball Professor of Law, this online course provides

an overview of the historical development of the right to food; evaluates the rights, obligations and responsibilities of rights-holders and duty-bearers of the right to food; and examines the legal and non-legal mechanisms that are increasingly used to adjudicate the right to food.

Business, Human Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility in the Food/Ag Sector

Uche Ewelukwa Ofodile

2 credit full-semester course

LAWW 794V

Primarily Asynchronous with 3-4 scheduled online meetings

In this online course, Professor Ewelukwa Ofodile explores the business-human rights nexus within the food and agricultural sector using relevant case studies. The course introduces students to the linkages between business and human rights from a variety of legal, regulatory, and policy perspectives.

Effective Legal Writing

Professor Christopher Kelley

1 credit full-semester, Pass/Fail

LAWW 7231

Thursday, 9:00 -9:50 a.m. Central Time

Not your typical LRW class. Professor Kelley explores effective legal writing strategies, exposes problems with legalese and helps students to improve their writing skills. Using a format that he has used to offer instruction to hundreds of lawyers and law students worldwide, students discuss examples in class and explore bad habits to avoid. This course is designed to assist students in completing their LL.M. advanced legal writing requirement and to improve their writing overall. It does not involve writing exercises and is offered for ungraded credit.

Farmed Animal Welfare

Lauren Manning

1 credit half-semester course; Aug. 21 - Oct. 6

LAWW 726V

Primarily Asynchronous with 3-4 scheduled online meetings

This online course, taught by Lauren Manning, presents an examination of the legal and policy issues involved in determining welfare standards for animals raised for food. In addition to exploring the lack of federal animal welfare standards and introducing humane slaughter laws, state law standards and so-called “ag gag” laws are discussed. Private certifications are also addressed. Policy discussions welcome all views.



Agricultural Water Law

Lauren Bernadett

2 credit full semester course

LAWW 713V

Primarily Asynchronous with 3-4 scheduled online meetings

This online course, taught by California water law attorney Lauren Bernadett introduces students to the basic principles of water law in the United States through the lens of water rights for agricultural use. Students will learn about the modernization of water law throughout the last century and develop a foundation for analyzing current water crises and the impacts on agriculture. In addition to online lessons, students will have several opportunities throughout the semester to discuss the issues and ask questions by video conference.

Agricultural Policy and the Federal Budget

David Grahn

1 credit condensed course over three days

LAWW 7321

Dates in November TBD

This unique course provides the back-story to policy development in Congress. Developed and taught by none other than Adjunct Professor David Grahn and based on his decades of experience in D.C., this fast-paced course introduces the impact of the Office of Management and Budget and the cost scoring system on federal agricultural policy making. Current farm policy issues are discussed within the context of budgetary constraints and pressures. Professor Grahn currently serves as Principal Deputy General Counsel in the USDA Office of General Counsel. He will teach this course remotely.



Independently Conducted Courses with Faculty Support

Advanced Legal Research & Writing (required for LL.M.)

Lauren Manning

1 credit full semester course

LAWW 770V

This required course includes research in a specialized area of agricultural or food law and the development of a paper that demonstrates rigorous legal analysis and quality legal writing. A variety of different article formats are available, from practice-oriented to scholarly. Professor Manning monitors student progress and provides assistance as needed, including the opportunity to workshop works-in-progress. There are no required class sessions, but several optional synchronous sessions will be conducted and recorded. While there is no prerequisite for this course, LL.M. candidates typically take it during their second full semester or after several semesters of part-time work.

Independent Research in Agricultural & Food Law

Susan Schneider

1-2 credit full semester course

LAWW 771V

This course provides an opportunity for independent research in agricultural and food law conducted under the supervision of a faculty member. This can involve the drafting of a research article or undertaking a project outside of the scope of the classes offered. Professor Schneider approves the initial proposal and works with the student to assign a faculty advisor.

Practicum in Advocacy (candidates must generally have completed at least one semester to participate)

Susan Schneider and Kelly Nuckolls

1-4 credit full semester course

LAWW 764V

This course provides experiential learning opportunities involving practice, regulatory, or policy work in agricultural or food law under the supervision of an experienced professional and an LL.M. faculty member. The practicum includes the opportunity to apply to work with the USDA under its new internship program.

Important dates for Fall Semester 2023

Semester begins: Week of August 14 (Condensed course, exact dates TBD); August 21 (regular semester courses begin)

Holidays: September 4 (Labor Day); October 16-17 (Fall Break); November 22-24 (Thanksgiving)

Final day of class: December 1

Final exam period: December 4-15