



Project Title:

Global Environmental and Resources Law Externship Program (GERLEP)

Project Summary (150 words maximum)

The UBC Faculty of Law is launching an innovative Global Environmental and Resources Law Externship Program (GERLEP), the first in Canada, for students in the JD degree. It is an intensive, one semester program offering students practical experience working on "live" environmental and natural resources law projects. Each year, 10 students would be selected for two-month externship placements in businesses, environmental groups, Aboriginal First Nations, and government agencies in Vancouver, in other parts of Canada, and abroad. Unlike regular law courses, GERLEP focuses on practical learning outcomes that prioritize real world experience and community engagement. Further, the two weeks of daily classroom sessions are a vital adjunct to the program, enabling students to draw parallels and lessons from each other's externship experiences, in a collaborative approach to learning. Overall, GERLEP will inculcate in the students a passion for environmental issues, and train a new generation of environmental law leaders.