Welcome to Environmental Lawyering and to the Inaugural Environmental LL.M. Class of Georgetown Law! This class is an opportunity to learn about the many facets of environmental lawmaking and policy from our expert Georgetown Law environmental faculty and leading practitioners.

In addition, this class will provide an informal and collegial opportunity to get to know your colleagues in the program, to meet and get to know our faculty and their areas of expertise, and to gain insights into the many diverse ways that attorneys can engage on environmental challenges of our time. We’ll meet over lunch (which will be provided) and cover a wide range of topics and at a variety of scales (from local to global).

September 8, 2014 - Introduction to Environmental Law and Policymaking: Focus on climate change (Professor Vicki Arroyo)

Assignment: Regional Action in the U.S. (Heinrich Boell Foundation); Promoting Adaptation Through Policy in *The State of Environmental Policymaking in the U.S.*; Remarks at Brookings; and “Emerging Clarity on Climate Change Law: EPA Empowered and State Common Law Remedies Enabled,” by Howard A. Learner (all provided in August via email).

September 22, 2014 – Introduction to rulemaking and the administrative process – (Professor Lisa Heinzerling)

Assignment: Massachusetts v. EPA (excerpts provided) and WildEarth Guardians v. EPA

October 6, 2014 – Introduction to international environmental law (Prof. Edith Brown Weiss)


October 20, 2014 – Introduction to Land Use and Takings Law (Professor Peter Byrne)

Assignment: *The Rebirth of the Neighborhood* and Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Commission.

November 3, 2014 – Introduction to Litigation Strategy: through Lens of the Public Trust Doctrine (Professor Hope Babcock)

Assignment: Mono Lake case, Prof. Babcock’s upcoming publication re: groundwater and California Supreme Court Case, Alec D. climate change/D.C. Circuit case

November 17, 2014 – Introduction to the Legislative Process and Influence: Case Study: EPA’s “Waters of the U.S.” rulemaking (Professor Bill Buzbee)

Assignment: Waters of the U.S. (excerpts); Buzbee Congressional testimony

December 1, 2014 – Environmental lawyering in the White House, EPA, and the private sector – a conversation with Gary Guzy, former Deputy Chair of CEQ and EPA General Counsel, now Senior of Counsel at Covington and Burling.
Grading:

This is a small, select group. Your attendance is vital and your active participation and engagement in class discussions is required and will be counted heavily toward your grade (40%). Three brief memos (worth 20% each) during the course of the semester will also be due at the following times via email – (and brought to class or my office in hard copy as well please):

September 22nd – brief (3 to 5 page) memo regarding what your personal and professional goals are, what skills you would like to develop or hone, what substantive knowledge you intend to gain, and how this degree program (and I and other faculty members and administrators) can best help you.

November 3rd – brief (3 to 5 page) statement of one area of research or practice that you want to develop this year and an outline of the steps involved with accomplishing that goal (e.g., through a particular writing requirement or independent research opportunity, a practicum or externship, a RA position with a faculty member, Center or other work opportunity, etc.).

December 12th – final brief essay (3 to 5 pages) discussing one of the topics covered in the class that is of particular interest and how it relates to other topics you are studying here and/or another area of interest you wish to pursue (see 2nd assignment). Please include a description of how you plan to integrate what you have learned this semester into your work moving forward – and how I and other faculty members and administrators here can best help you in these efforts.

Contact Information:

Vicki Arroyo, Professor from Practice, Asst. Dean for Centers & Institutes, Environmental Program Director, Rm 357 Williams Library; Ph: 202-661-6556; Cell: 202-390-0172

Office hours: by appointment - drop me an email or see me in class to arrange a time or just call or drop by! If it’s not a good time, we’ll find one that works.