POLICY CLINIC:  
Climate, Health, Human Rights, Trade  
(part of the Harrison Institute for Public Law)

Apply online at: [http://apps.law.georgetown.edu/clinic-application/](http://apps.law.georgetown.edu/clinic-application/) (available March 25—April 12). Learn more about the Harrison Institute [here](http://apps.law.georgetown.edu/clinic-application/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Prof. Stumberg; Adj. Profs. Porterfield, Hoverter, and Li</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What do students do</td>
<td>Students work in one of four teams to support clients who make or shape policy. Students analyze lawmakers' authority, develop policy alternatives, and help clients plan their strategy. They present work to clients, seminars, and conferences. Seminars develop management, analysis, and communication skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project teams</td>
<td>Climate, health, human rights, and trade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semester or year-long</td>
<td>Full year or fall only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open to</td>
<td>All rising 2Ls and 3Ls (at least 30 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prerequisite(s)</td>
<td>First-year courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>8 for Fall only; 14 for full year (8 in Fall, 6 in Spring)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Requires Student Bar Cert.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>How many students</td>
<td>14, at least 10 of whom will enroll for the full year</td>
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<td>Conflicts</td>
<td>Handle on a case-by-case basis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average time commitment</td>
<td>Average per week: Fall semester, 28 hours average – Spring, 22 hours average. Work on projects ends by December 18 (fall) or May 15 (spring).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar hours</td>
<td>Tues. 3:30pm - 5:00pm and Fri. 9:00am - 12:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>Mandatory orientation is on Thursday and Friday afternoons, August 27-28</td>
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<td>Information sessions</td>
<td>McDonough 120, behind the chaplain’s office</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TBD Or email <a href="mailto:stumberg@georgetown.edu">stumberg@georgetown.edu</a></td>
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ABOUT THE POLICY CLINIC – The Harrison Institute for Public Law

The Harrison Institute involves students of the policy clinic in its mission—to enable communities, public officials, and universities to make and shape policy at all levels: local, state, national, and international.

Policy teams and goals. Students work in four teams to advance client goals, which include:

**Climate team** – Adapting to climate change.
- Enable state and local governments to prepare for higher seas, hotter summers, and recurrent floods.
- Strengthen resilience of vulnerable, frontline communities to the impacts of climate change.

**Health and food team** – Achieving health justice and healthy food.
- Expand oral health access for children with special health needs.
- Reinvent a healthier food chain for universities, schools, hospitals, and shelters.

**Human rights team** – Implementing human rights for workers.
- Protect workers in the FIFA World Cup 2026 in North America: construction, hotels, food, transport.
- Develop purchasing standards to respect human rights in university supply chains, starting with food.

**Trade team** – Balancing democracy and trade.
- Design a carbon tax that is consistent with international trade agreements.
- Reform international investment agreements and protect policy space for regulation in the public interest.
Clients and collaborators
Our clients include nonprofit organizations, university programs, and decision-makers—legislators, attorneys general, local governments, national associations, and international policy networks. See our web page (linked under Georgetown clinics) for details on clients and collaborators for each team.

Student work and policy skills
Students analyze law-making authority, identify policy alternatives, help clients plan a strategy, and draft documents based on client choices. Students develop three skill sets that they can transfer to any job, anywhere:
- Management – manage clients and supervisors, collaborate in teams, relate to professional culture.
- Analysis– interpret statutes/treaties, analyze legal authority, plan strategy, and frame policy choices.
- Communication – hone writing and presentation skills for diverse clients, media and audiences.

Range of services
Our clients ask us to:
- Analyze lawmaking authority and its limits – at multiple levels.
- Analyze policy options at all levels – local, state, federal, and international.
- Draft policy proposals (e.g., model legislation and agency rules).
- Prepare policy briefs and web pages for public education.
- Create the legal structure for an association or network.
- Organize hearings or conferences and make presentations.

Clinical teaching methods
Students work an average of 28 hours/week in the fall and 22 hours in the spring. A typical fall week looks like:
- Seminars – 6.5 hours per week including preparation.
- Team meetings and peer critique – 2.5 hours per week.
- Supervisor meetings – 1.5 hours per week.
- Client or constituency meetings – 2 hours per week.
- Independent student work – 15.5 hours per week.

POTENTIAL POLICY PROJECTS

Adapting to Climate Change
Sea level rise on Maryland’s Eastern Shore
Rising seas are an existential threat to many coastal communities. Six Maryland counties and two municipalities organized the Eastern Shore Climate Adaptation Partnership to preserve their housing, jobs, economy, and culture.

Support clients & partners
- Eastern Shore Land Conservancy
- Georgetown Climate Center
- Eastern Shore Climate Adaptation Partnership (ESCAP)
- State of Maryland

Build a strategy
- Survey and compare community goals to preserve housing, jobs and culture.
- Contribute to a regional plan for local governments.
- Present alternatives to local governments, and draft policies to implement the regional plan.
- Enlist support from state agencies and other regions.

Learn and build on law & policy
- Delegation of state authority for land use controls
- Regional land use plans
- National Flood Insurance – Identify policies that reduce premiums (Community Rating System)

Learn business practices
- Conservation easements
- Risk management for floods and weather events by utilities, banks, insurance companies, and other businesses
### Local climate equity in Washington, DC
We are consulting with recent collaborators to develop a local climate equity project to advance grassroots goals including job creation, affordable housing, and neighborhood resilience hubs.

#### Support clients & partners
- Georgetown Climate Center
- DC Department of Energy and Environment
- Community-based organizations
- Climate-sensitive businesses

#### Build a strategy
- Identify forums for decision-making including agencies in traditional silos
- Engage with community residents and adapt climate policies to achieve their goals for jobs, affordable neighborhoods, and resilience
- Engage legislative oversight to prompt agency action

#### Learn and build on law & policy
- Risk assessment – floods, heat, loss of power supply
- Affordable housing – finance, zoning, displacement law
- Emergency management – communications, shelter
- Job creation – local hiring, wage subsidies, job training

#### Learn business practices
- Climate opportunities for nonprofit developers
- Sustainable energy investments
- Legal work: after engaging with stakeholders,

### Health Justice and Healthy Food
**Oral health for children with special needs**
Oral health can be a life and death issue for low-income children with special needs like physical disabilities, autism, or behavioral disorders. We lead work of the Health Justice Alliance to overcome barriers to oral health.

#### Support clients & partners
- Georgetown’s Health Justice Alliance
- DC Pediatric Oral Health Coalition
- O’Neill Institute for National & Global Health Law
- Children’s Dental Health Project

#### Build a strategy
- Identify barriers to access for dental services
- Organize forums with local experts and practitioners
- Develop and draft solutions to barriers
- Vet solutions with the Health Justice Alliance, local experts, and the DC Medicaid agency

#### Learn and build on law & policy
- Federal and state Medicaid statutes and rules
- DC “state plan” for health care services
- Federally qualified health centers
- State scope-of-practice laws

#### Learn business practices
- Contracts for managed-care services
- Medical/dental school curriculum and policies
- Billing practices of doctors and dentists
- Regulatory frameworks for health professions

### Good food purchasing
The cheapest food is usually not fresh, nutritious, or humanely produced. Our clients lead a reform movement to advance “good food” values, which lead us to reinvent the food chain for consumers and producers alike.

#### Support clients & partners
- DC Food Policy Council
- Large urban school districts (including DC)
- Hospitals and hospital systems
- University procurement and supply chains
- Center for Good Food Purchasing

#### Build a strategy
- Set goals for nutrition, local sourcing, worker protection, animal welfare, sustainable agriculture
- Identify state and local forums
- Engage food, labor, and agriculture networks
- Identify pathways and barriers for making change
**Learn and build on law & policy**
- State and local procurement law
- National School Lunch Program rules
- Nutrition and quality standards
- Worker rights – see university purchasing below

**Learn business practices**
- Labs for regional innovation
- Purchasing contracts
- Procurement process
- Transparency platforms

**Human Rights for Workers**

**Human rights in the FIFA World Cup 2026**

In 2026, the FIFA World Cup will take place across three countries in North America, hosted jointly by the United States, Mexico, and Canada ("United 2026"). Harrison is working with NGOs to ensure that FIFA and United 2026 implementing a human rights strategy that prevents worker abuse, globally and in American host cities.

**Support clients & partners**
- Human Rights Watch
- AFL-CIO, Solidarity Center
- International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
- Worker Rights Consortium, Electronics Watch
- Int’l Corporate Accountability Roundtable (ICAR)

**Build a strategy**
- Assess risk of abuses: stadiums, food, apparel
- Identify targets (FIFA, United, host cities)
- Organize a coalition that is too big to ignore
- Advocate locally (based on a scorecard that compares the policies of host cities)
- Advocate globally (based on FIFA licensing and procurement from global supply chains)

**Learn and build on law & policy**
- Scorecard to compare laws of host cities
- Sourcing codes
- Transparency platform
- Contract clauses
- Remedies & arbitration process

**Learn business practices**
- Contracts for supply chain management
- Corporate social responsibility (CSR)
- Transparency mandates and mechanisms
- Risk management roles and strategies

**University purchasing and supply chains**

Like other institutions, universities purchase food, apparel, and electronics from supply chains that abuse their workers. In the food industry, for example, poultry workers endure high risks of amputation, exposure to hazardous chemicals, and wage theft. Starting with food service, the Kalmanovitz Initiative is organizing a university working group to develop a sourcing code to protect workers and aggregate purchasing power to influence markets on a significant scale.

**Support clients & partners**
- Kalmanovitz Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor
- GU’s Health Justice Alliance (law and medicine)
- Worker Rights Consortium
- Students Against Sweatshops
- Other universities – California, Michigan, Jesuit schools

**Build a strategy**
- Assess risks to poultry workers
- Map university supply chains
- Consult with food service companies on scale
- Convene other universities in a working group
- Develop a shared sourcing code that protects workers

**Develop law & policy**
- Code of conduct for multiple purchasing sectors
- Standards specific to the food industry
- Procurement incentives and remedies

**Learn business practices**
- Structure of corporate supply chains
- Business barriers to supply-chain transparency
- Stainability rating services that reduce monitoring cost
### Balancing Democracy & Trade

**Carbon pricing that complies with trade rules**

#### Support clients & partners
- Resources for the Future
- Climate Leadership Council
- Citizens Climate Lobby
- Congressional staff

#### Develop law & policy
- WTO agreements: GATT, TBT, ASCM
- Regional / bilateral trade agreements
- International standards for carbon content

#### Build a strategy
- Develop options to avoid “carbon leakage” and tax avoidance (e.g., via transshipments)
- Analyze trade conflicts in proposed legislation
- Connect to networks that advocate a carbon tax
- Develop guidance and draft border adjustments

#### Learn business practices
- Trade rules on border tax adjustments
- Transshipment practices
- Industry approaches to standard-setting

### Reforming International Investment Agreements

#### Support clients & partners
- Columbia University’s Center for Sustainable Investment
- Center for Advancement of the Rule of Law in Latin America (CAROLA), Georgetown Law
- Negotiators from countries involved in the UNCITRAL process

#### Learn and build on law & policy
- Multilateral conventions – implementation of tax (BEPS conv.) and investment treaties (Mauritius conv.)
- US Model Bilateral Investment Treaty and related investment chapters in NAFTA, USMCA, and other FTAs
- Other IIA models: EU, ASEAN, others
- EU model for investment court
- Domestic investment laws in South Africa & elsewhere

#### Build a strategy
- Set goals to minimize IIA exposure and preserve policy space to regulate in the public interest
- Collaborate with a coalition of academics, think tanks, and government officials
- Engage with UNCITRAL forum and US congressional committees
- Present potential IIA reforms to networks of developing countries

#### Learn business practices
- Project investment agreements
- Private investment litigation tactics
- Trade association approaches to trade advocacy

### Recommend future projects

The Harrison Institute seeks your recommendations for projects or clients that the Policy Clinic should consider in future semesters. Use the clinic’s supplemental application form, or send your ideas to stumberg@georgetown.edu.

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**CLINIC WORK AT END OF SEMESTER**

The Harrison Institute depends on its students to complete the work commitments they make to their clients or project teams. This requires careful planning throughout the year in order to create reasonable expectations. Fall-only students must complete work by December 18th, yearlong students must complete work by May 15th.
SELECTION CRITERIA/APPLICATION PROCESS

Application Process

- **Information session.** TBD.

- **Application deadlines.** Submit your online clinic application by noon on April 13th.
  - The general application asks you to rank up to three clinics.
  - If you rank the Policy Clinic, indicate “full-year” or “fall-semester only.”
  - As part of your application, please upload your resume, transcript, a general statement of interest, and up to three statements of interest for specific clinics.

- **Supplemental preference form.** When you submit your statement of interest for the Policy Clinic, please cut and paste the project preference form (last page below) as page two of that same document. Type your preference rating into the blanks on that form.

Criteria for Selecting Students

- **Matching interests.** As part of your clinic application, we ask you to cut-and-paste a supplemental preference form as page two of your statement of interest in the Policy Clinic.

- **Personal interest.** We look for personal interest in clinic goals, subjects and clients as stated in your application, your supplemental preference form, and your resume.

- **Student diversity.** Diverse life experience strengthens our seminar, teamwork, and client relations. Our students typically span the political spectrum. We also value non-legal education or work experience.

### STUDENTS – 2019-20

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Climate team</th>
<th>Human rights team</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Votaw</td>
<td>Matt McKenna</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linn Bumpers</td>
<td>Katherine Rumer</td>
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<td>Food and health team</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ezra Tanen</td>
<td>Alexander Keyser</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samantha Weiner</td>
<td>Christina Welch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maya Desai</td>
<td>Greg Hawkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Lee</td>
<td>Sophia Panero</td>
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<td>James Carey</td>
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<td>Sam Pickerell</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Food and health team

- Samantha Weiner
- Maya Desai
- Ashley Lee
Robert Stumberg  
*Director and Professor of Law, stumberg@georgetown.edu*


Matthew Porterfield  
*Deputy Director and Adjunct Professor, porterfm@georgetown.edu*


Sara Pollock Hoverter  
*Staff Attorney (food and health) and Adjunct Professor, smp32@georgetown.edu*

BA, Yale University; JD, Cum Laude, Georgetown University; LLM, Advocacy, Georgetown University. Her areas of concentration are public health and climate policy, including supporting the transformation of food systems, increasing access to health care (including oral health services), assisting local governments in protecting their most vulnerable residents from the public health and environmental impacts of heat in urban areas, and development of a community health worker network. Relevant publications include guest editing Legal Solutions in Health Reform (JLME, 2009), *Urban Heat Adaptation: A Toolkit for Local Governments* (2012), Federal Funding Compendium for Urban Heat Adaptation (2013), and a chapter on heat in the casebook, *Climate Change, Public Health, and the Law* (2018). Sara’s past positions included jobs at the National Partnership for Women and Families, the Center for Law and the Public’s Health, and the DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice.

Jennifer Li  
*Staff Attorney (climate, human rights), jennifer.li@georgetown.edu*

BA, New York University; JD, Fordham Law School. Jennifer works on policies for adapting to climate change with the Georgetown Climate Center and local government partners like the District’s Department of Energy and Environment and Maryland towns and counties. Jennifer also supervises student work for the clinic’s human rights team to support worker rights in global supply chains. Before coming to Georgetown, Jennifer was a Fulbright scholar in India, where she researched climate policy and developed an international human rights course at Jindal Global Law School. She has also worked at the Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation, Human Rights in China (New York), the Human Rights Law Network (New Delhi), and the Innocence Project.
Supplemental Application – Project Preferences

Copy, paste and upload this preference form as page 2 of your clinic-specific statement of interest at http://apps.law.georgetown.edu/clinic-application/ (available March 25—April 13). You can also email this form to Stumberg@georgetown.edu.

Preferences: Rate your interest in potential (not guaranteed) projects. Use a scale of 10, 10 being highest.

___ Adapting to climate change – Rate your general interest and specific projects
Adapting to sea level rise (SLR) on Maryland’s Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay
___ Analyze state and local authority to prepare for rising seas and flooding.
___ Help local governments develop land-use, building, and infrastructure policies for SLR.
Climate equity in Washington, DC – project in development
___ Risk assessment for heat, floods, and residential displacement.
___ Policies to create jobs in renewable energy and to preserve affordable housing.
___ Neighborhood advocacy for climate equity.

___ Health justice and healthy food – Rate your general interest and specific projects
Oral health for children with special needs
___ Expand access to oral health care for children with special health care needs.
___ Develop advocacy projects for Georgetown’s Health Justice Alliance.
Good food purchasing
___ Support purchase of fresh local food by schools and hospitals.
___ Support multi-district and/or multi-sector collaboration, e.g., between school districts and hospitals.
___ Create policy to reduce food insecurity in D.C.
___ Develop a “sustainable” sourcing code for university food purchasing (including worker rights).

___ Human rights for workers – Rate your general interest and specific projects
___ Organize a coalition on human rights in the FIFA World Cup 2026 in North America.
___ Develop a scorecard to compare worker rights and remedies of state and local governments.
___ Develop a sourcing code to protect workers in FIFA supply chains: construction, hotels, transport.
___ Develop a working group on worker rights in university purchasing.
___ Develop a sourcing code to protect workers in university supply chains: food, apparel, electronics.

___ Balancing democracy and trade – Rate your general interest and specific projects
Carbon pricing that complies with trade rules
___ Analyze the impact of trade rules on climate-change policies, e.g., solar incentives.
___ Provide guidance to jurisdictions that are drafting carbon taxes.
___ Analyze the WTO-consistency of carbon taxes.
___ Develop options for international coordination of carbon pricing programs.
Reforming international investment agreements (IIAs)
___ Contribute options to reform IIAs in the UN Comm. on Int’l Trade Law (UNCITRAL).
___ Develop models for multilateral reform of investment treaties (including a framework treaty).

___ Recommend future projects – The Harrison Institute seeks your recommendations for projects or clients that the Policy Clinic should consider in future semesters.
___ Project topic or potential client: