

Module number 10LE07-M.640009	Module name Elective: Environmental and Energy Transition Law	
Course of study MSc Renewable Energy Management M.Sc. Environmental Governance MSc Environmental Sciences MSc Forest Sciences	Type of course Elective	Semester / Rotation 3 rd / Winter Term
Teaching methods Socratic lectures, group work, presentations	Prerequisites for attendance None	Language English
Type of examination (Final Grade Composition) PL Group presentation (20%, 15 min.) PL Written exercise (40%, 120 minutes), PL Written individual report (40%, 3000 words)		ECTS-LP (Workload) 5 (150h, of this 60 contact hrs.)
Module coordinator Jun.-Prof. Dr. Cathrin Zengerling, e-mail: cathrin.zengerling@enlaw.uni-freiburg.de Prof. Dr. Errol Meidinger, email: eemeid@buffalo.edu		SWS 4
Additional teachers involved Invited experts from the private and public sector		
<p>Syllabus</p> <p>In this module students gain fundamental knowledge of environmental and energy transition law from multi-level governance and international comparative perspectives. They acquire sector-specific knowledge of environmental law in the fields of climate change, air pollution, water, oceans, biodiversity, nature protection, chemicals and waste/circular economy law. With regard to energy transition law, students become familiar with energy and planning law directed to energy efficiency and the switch from fossil fuel based to renewable energy in the sectors of electricity, heating/cooling and mobility.</p> <p>Throughout the course, students learn about different legal instruments and their strengths and weaknesses in reaching regulatory goals. Both, public and private law perspectives as well as different legal traditions such as common and civil law approaches are covered. Students also get insights into the role of environmental protection and the energy transition in other international legal regimes such as world trade, investment and human rights law.</p> <p>The course is taught interactively and active participation of students is encouraged. Students become familiar with various primary legal documents such as (excerpts of) international treaties, European directives, constitutions, national laws, administrative permits, land use plans as well as decisions of the judiciary, and learn how to work with them. Students apply and deepen their knowledge under guidance of the instructors in their specific fields of interest via case studies. Throughout the course, various soft skills such as debating in socratic discussions, scientific writing, interdisciplinary and intercultural teamwork are imparted.</p>		
<p>Learning goals and qualifications</p> <p>In this module students learn to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identify the main types and instruments of environmental and energy transition law and their distinctive characteristics (1)(2); 		

- understand interactions and conflicts between different types, sources and instruments of environmental and energy transition law (2);
- assess the inherent strengths and limitations of environmental and energy transition law for environmental and energy governance (5);
- realize that there are alternative ways of structuring environmental and energy transition responsibilities and powers through law (2)(4);
- formulate legal and policy arguments relevant to future environmental and energy transition law development (6);
- critically and intelligently evaluate arguments for legal change (4);
- understand the relationship between scientific knowledge, social movements, and environmental/ energy transition law (2);
- apply basic skills of legal research and legal arguments to relevant case studies (3)(6).

Classification of cognitive skills following Bloom (1956):

1 = *Knowledge*: recalling facts, terms, basic concepts and answers; 2 = *Comprehension*: understanding something; 3 = *Application*: using a general concept to solve problems in a particular situation; 4 = *Analysis*: breaking something down into its parts; 5 = *Synthesis*: creating something new by putting parts of different ideas together to make a whole; 6 = *Evaluation*: judging the value of material or methods.

Core readings

Sands, P., & Peel, J. (2018). *Principles of international environmental law*. Cambridge University Press.

Meidinger, Errol (2008), "Property Law for Development Policy and Institutional Theory: Problems of Structure, Choice and Change." In David Mark, Barry Smith, and Isaac Ehrlich, *The Mystery of Capital and the New Philosophy of Social Reality*. Chicago: Open Court Publishing, pp.193-227.

Reading material will be provided during the course via the e-learning platform ILIAS.