

## **MINING LAW PROGRAM**

The JD Certificate in Mining Law takes advantage of the world-class educational resources in mining and mining law available at the University of Arizona, including at the College of Law, the [Global Mining Law](#) program, the Lowell Institute for Mineral Resources, the Department of Mines and Minerals, and other science-related departments, such as the Department of Geology.

As a result of these resources and the strong collaboration between the law school and departments undertaking mining-related research across campus, we can offer students both broad and deep training in a variety of aspects of mining, from the business side of mining to regulatory compliance with tax, environmental, and human rights-related laws and norms.

Students may choose 12 units from the coursework listed below to complete the certificate. Courses are offered in person and/or online. [Check the Schedule of Classes for delivery semesters.](#)

### **Visiting JD Students – Mining Law Certificate Program**

The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law welcomes a limited number of visiting JD students who wish to pursue specialized coursework in mining law. Visiting students may be eligible to earn the **Mining Law Certificate**, which is awarded upon successful completion of the required curriculum.

Admission as a visiting student is competitive and based on the College's admissions standards, as well as additional criteria established by the Admissions Office in consultation with the Admissions Committee. Please note that visiting students are **not degree candidates** at the University of Arizona and may only enroll in courses that will transfer toward a JD degree at their home law school.

Upon fulfillment of the Mining Law Certificate requirements, the certificate is issued by the **James E. Rogers College of Law**.

Visiting Students must be in a JD program at another ABA-accredited law school and students can apply here: <https://law.arizona.edu/admissions/transfer>

We only accept Visiting Students for Fall and/or Spring semesters and will not be able to take the two summer mining law courses.

## **MINING LAW CERTIFICATE GUIDELINES**

Faculty Director: John C. Lacy

Last Updated: 16 July 2025

To earn a Mining Law Certificate, a student must satisfactorily complete at least 12 units of Mining Law-related courses specified below. The Faculty Director may approve course substitutions for a good cause.

### **Required Mining Law Courses for Receiving a Certificate at the time of Graduation**

A student must satisfactorily complete two of the following courses (\*designates courses offered fully online):

Required (3-4 units)

- LAW 640G\* Introduction to the International Mining Industry (1 unit)(waived if the student has a mining background; please contact the Mining Law Faculty Director for a waiver)
- LAW 640C\* Contractual and Related Issues for Land Acquisition and Mineral Development (3 units)

**AND**

Either (3 units)

- LAW 640\* International and Comparative Mining Law (3 units)
  - Or
- LAW 640A\* U.S. Public Land and Mining Law (3 units)

### **Mining Law-Specific Electives**

To complete the remainder of the 12 units of Mining Law-related courses, a student must satisfactorily complete at least six units of the following (\*designates courses offered fully online):

- LAW 640B\* Law if the Use of Public Land Resources (1 unit)(Summer course)
- LAW 640H\* Global Mining Tax, Law, Policy, Sustainability and Disclosure (3 units)
- LAW 697F\* Valuation of Mineral Assets and Projects (2 units)
- LAW 697G\* Acquisition and Financing of Mineral Projects (1 unit)
- MNE 697B\* Corporate Organization and Governance in Mining (1 unit)
- LAW 640F\* Managing Public Lands under NEPA (2 units) (Summer course)
- LAW 640E\* International Mining Health and Safety Law and Practice (1 unit)
- LAW 696I\* International Environmental Law (3 units)

### **Other Electives**

(For those interested in other electives, please contact the Mining Law Faculty Director to make course substitutions)

In lieu of Mining Law-specific electives, a student must satisfactorily complete the remainder of the 12 units of mining law-related courses from any of the courses listed above or below.  
(\*designates courses offered fully online)

**Courses Relevant to Mining and Indigenous Peoples:**

- LAW 643D\* Native American Natural Resources (3 units)
- LAW 527 International Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples (2 units), Plus Law 696N Substantial Paper Seminar (1 unit)
- LAW 525 Native Economic Development (1-3 units)

**Courses Relevant to Mining and International Business Transactions:**

- LAW 644B International Commercial Transactions (2 -3 units) or Law 544B\* Introduction to International Commercial Transactions (3 units)
- LAW 643M Foreign Investment in Developing Economics: Its Regulation and Protection (2-3 units)
- LAW 603I International Business and Investment Structuring (2 units)
- LAW 697P Comparative Commercial Law (3 units)

**Courses Relevant to Mining Transactions and Finance**

- LAW 614B\* Governance, Risk Management, and Compliance (3 units)
- LAW 616 Business Organization (3-4 units) or Law 516\* Introduction to Business Organizations Law (3 units)
- LAW 617\* Corporate Finance (3 units)
- LAW 640C\* Contractual and Related Issues for Land Acquisition and Mineral Development (3 units)
- LAW 644B International Commercial Transactions (2 -3 units) or Law 544B\* Introduction to International Commercial Transactions (3 units)
- LAW 696L International Trade Law (2-3 units) or Law 553A\* International Trade Law and Policy (3 units)
- LAW 643M Foreign Investment in Developing Economics: Its Regulation and Protection (2-3 units)
- LAW 603I International Business and Investment Structuring (2 units)
- LAW 633C Secured Transactions Article 9 (2-4 units)
- LAW 638C Business Planning (2-3 units)
- LAW 600A Contracts (4 units)
- LAW 655P Corporate Governance (1-3 units)
- LAW 647A Corporate Taxation (3 units)
- LAW 644H International Commercial Arbitration (2-3 units)
- LAW 658 Securities Regulation (2-3 units)
- LAW 697P Comparative Commercial Law (3 units)
- LAW 627 Oil and Gas Law (1-3 units)
- LAW 650C Energy law (1-3 units)
- MNE 697D Introduction to Engineering Contract Law (1 unit)

### **Courses Relevant to the Science, Technology, and Intellectual Property of Mining**

- LAW 655R Intellectual Property Law (2-3 units) or Law 555\* Intellectual Property (3 units)
- LAW 655C Patent Law (2-3 units)
- LAW 697Z Patent Practice (2 units)

### **Courses Relevant to Mining, Law, and the Environment**

- MNE 697K Introduction to Social and Environmental Assessment (1 unit)
- LAW 576 Natural Resource Law and Economics (3 units)
- PA 581 Environmental Policy (3 units)
- HWRS 515 - Introduction to Water Resources Policy (3 units)
- HWRS 543A - Risk Assessment for Environmental Systems (3 units)

### **Courses Relevant to Mining, Lands, and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

- LAW 540\* Introduction to Human Rights Law (3 units)
- LAW 550A\* Native American Law and Policy (3 units)
- LAW 643D\* Native American Natural Resources Law (3 units)
- ARL 541A Natural Resource Management in Native Communities (3 units)
- LAW 579A Indigenous Peoples' Rights Under International Law (1 unit)
- LAW 631A Federal Indian Law (3 units)
- LAW 696D Indigenous Peoples' Law Clinic (2-6 units)
- LAW 525 Native Economic Development (1-3 units)

### **Courses Related to Mining, Economic Development, and the Rule of Law**

- LAW 696L International Trade Law (2-3 units) or Law 553A\* International Trade Law and Policy (3 units)
- LAW 697E\* International Human Rights Law (3 units)
- LAW 695B Gender and the Law (1-3 units)
- LAW 697B Globalization and Transformation of Culture (1-3 units)
- LAW 603N Property, Social Justice and the Environment (1-3 units)
- LAW 697D International Human Rights Advocacy Workshop (1-3 units)
- LAW 670 Public International Law (2-3 units)

### **Questions**

Please send questions to the Faculty Director, John C. Lacy (jlacy@arizona.edu)