As the global demand for energy increases and U.S. oil and gas production soars, understanding laws, policies, and regulations governing energy is more important than ever. The market demands lawyers skilled in analyzing regulatory and legal issues involving fuels, energy production, exploration, climate change, renewables, environment, and natural resources. The University of Houston Law Center’s commitment to energy and environmental law is longstanding and recognized at home and around the world. That’s only fitting given that we are located in the energy capital of the world and the two fields are inextricably intertwined. The Law Center is ranked as one of the top two law schools in the country in offering energy-specific courses, especially those in oil and gas, and its faculty is internationally recognized for its expertise in energy law and related fields. Whether you are interested in a J.D. degree with an emphasis on energy-related courses or an energy-specific LL.M. degree, the University of Houston Law Center is the place for you.

Energy Programs and Recent Initiatives

- **Environment, Energy & Natural Resources Center**: Located in the heart of the energy industry with more than 3,300 energy-related companies based in Houston, the Law Center is the natural – and strategic – home for the Environment, Energy and Natural Resources (EENR) Center. The Center provides a forum for education and discussion of important issues of the day such as carbon management and shale development. [(law.uh.edu/eenrcenter/homepage.asp)]

- **LL.M. Program**: This advanced degree concentration in EENR law is open to both U.S. and foreign-trained attorneys. Full-time students can complete the LL.M. in one year or attend on a part-time basis while working. Lawyers trained abroad may also choose to enroll in the Foreign Scholars LL.M. Program and earn a Certificate of Specialization in Energy, Environment and Natural Resource law. [(law.uh.edu/llm/)]

- **JD/MBA Dual Degree**: The Law Center and the UH Bauer College of Business offer a concurrent degree program that enables students to prepare for careers in which law and business overlap and understanding both fields is a career advantage. The College of Business offers many courses, such as Project Finance, Energy Trading, Gas Marketing, and Upstream Energy Economics, that are of special value to students who want careers in the energy industry. By pursuing the J.D. and M.B.A. degrees concurrently, full-time students can complete both degrees in four years. [(law.uh.edu/academic/dual-degree.asp)]

- **Energy in Action - A Semester in Houston**: This program is available for J.D. students attending law school elsewhere who are attracted by the strong UHLC energy curriculum and reputation. Visiting students may enroll in various EENR law-related courses, attend conferences and symposia, and benefit from direct access to the Houston area energy industry. [(law.uh.edu/admissions/transfer-visiting.asp)]

- **The Canadian Connection**: The University of Houston Law Center and the University of Calgary school of law have formed a partnership that allows students to earn dual J.D. degrees in four years and practice on both sides of the border. The goal of the International Energy Lawyers Program is to develop skilled lawyers to help both countries deal with common issues of energy security and development of a comprehensive and sustainable energy policy for North America. [(law.uh.edu/academic/dual-degree.asp)]

- **Networking**: Located in the nation’s fourth largest city with a robust legal market, students have ample opportunity to meet and discuss the energy issues of the day at programs sponsored by the Association of International Petroleum Negotiators, the World Affairs Council, the Baker Institute Energy Forum, and three sections of the Houston Bar: Environmental Law, Oil, Gas and Energy Law, and International Law.

- **EENR Speaker Series**: The EENR Center sponsors periodic guest speakers to share their views on the state of energy and environment issues here and abroad. Students and the greater Houston legal community are invited to attend. [(law.uh.edu/eenrcenter/speaker-series.asp)]
EENR-LL.M. Graduates

“While teaching at UHLC for the past two years, I’ve seen how well our program trains lawyers to work on energy projects in their home country or anywhere else in the world. This transnational approach to oil and gas legal education produces attorneys who become legal experts, government officials, and scholars in a field that is continuously growing. They come to the Law Center because they know its location in the oil and gas capital of the world will give them access to key energy experts and unique insights to emerging industry trends.”

— Julian Cardenas-Garcia (Venezuela)
Visiting Assistant Professor - Andrews Kurth Energy Law Scholar
Doctoral Fellow - CREDIMI - Université de Bourgogne, Dijon, France

“I studied with exceptional professors and wonderful classmates from around the world. The cultural diversity was invigorating. Being in the energy capital of the world, there are numerous opportunities to network and get involved with the energy sector, but the diversity of the region’s economy also opens doors to numerous other career paths.”

— Maria Gabriela Reingruber (Venezuela)
LL.M. ’14, Baker Hughes internship program, Houston

“I don’t know of another school that offers the range of courses and the experience that professors bring to the study of environmental law and oil and gas.”

— Michael Quirke, J.D., Class of 2014

“The program offered me an array of courses from which I could choose to tailor the program to my needs. The fact that I keep all of my binders and class notes in my office gives you an idea of how applicable these courses are – even today – to my career.”

— Martin Lythgoe (Argentina)
LL.M. ’08, Associate General Counsel, Duke Energy, Houston

“Courses are well structured and the professors are highly knowledgeable and bring tremendous practical experience to the classes. I was particularly impressed by the inclusion of business courses from the prestigious Bauer College into the EENR program. This gave me the unique opportunity to merge law and business in one degree and learn from leading executives in Houston.”

— Sophia Nampijja (Uganda)
LL.M. ’13, Katende, Ssempebwa and Company Advocates, Uganda