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***Environmental Sustainability and the Law –* International Placement**

**Sabah, Malaysia (Borneo)**

Monday 13 Jan to Friday 14 Feb, 2020

Applications ***are now open*** for interested UQ law students to participate in the *Environmental Sustainability and the Law* placement as part of **LAWS5233** (Transnational Perspectives in Law).This elective law course is run by the Law School in partnership with a Malaysian-based NGO, [Future Law.](https://www.futurelaw.org/)

**Four UQ law students** will be selected to participate in the program, which will commence in-country on Monday 13 January and will run for a period of **five weeks**. The timeframe aligns within the standard semester course profile (it will be counted as a standard elective for Semester Two 2019).

**About Future Law**

Future Law is a non-government legal organisation that delivers cutting-edge legal advice and support, including identifying strategic entry points in the law for a range of environmental issues. Lawyers at Future Law work with leaders across sectors to innovate how environmental law is developed, practised and used. Future Law grew out of [Forever Sabah,](https://www.foreversabah.org/) the Law School’s previous placement partner for this course.

This course offers students a ‘hands-on’ opportunity to make a real contribution to environmental justice while being involved in a remarkable experience of living and working in Asia.

Some of the activities of this course will include:

* Living and working in Sabah for six weeks, from January to February 2020;
* Participating in a weekly legal seminar series to build students’ knowledge of the interaction between local laws and policies and broader political, economic and juridical processes and their impacts on environmental conservation in Sabah;
* Researching and developing technical papers on relevant areas of law. Specific topics will be decided with Future Law staff and will likely concern environmental courts and marine or terrestrial conservation.

The course will operate on a full-time basis (approx. 9am - 5 pm Mon – Fri) and students will work under the close supervision of environmental lawyers Harry Jonas and Holly Jonas. Future Law will identify suitable accommodation and will provide induction, team building, reflections and other activities during the placement period.

**Application process**

The application deadline for this program is **Friday 26 July at 4pm.** The application process requires students to complete an online Application Form – **attached.**

Students should email their completed Application Form to tcbeirne@law.uq.edu.au. The Law School will share your application with Future Law for selection purposes.

The Law School and Future Law will shortlist candidates on the papers. All applicants will be advised whether or not they have been shortlisted no later than **Friday 2 August.**

Shortlisted candidates will be expected to attend a pre-selection Skype interview in the **week starting Monday 5 August.** Final offers will be made to the successful candidates in the following week.

**Course Costs**

All interested students are encouraged to apply for an[**OS-HELP Loan**](https://my.uq.edu.au/node/633/4#4)with the support of UQ Abroad. The **deadline** for OS-Help loans for overseas study commencing November to April is **15 September. PLEASE NOTE: OS-Help loan applications can be withdrawn without penalty if the student’s application is unsuccessful, so it is best to apply at the outset.**

Selected students will also be supported by the UQ Law School by way of a **$3,000 AUD** stipend thanks to mobility grant funding via the [New Colombo Plan.](http://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/new-colombo-plan/mobility-program/pages/mobility-program.aspx)  Selected students are expected to put the $3,000 towards the costs of this academic placement.

Estimated costs include:

* Future Law 2019 Programme Administration Fee – **1000 AUD**
* Return flights – approximately **2000 AUD**
* Accommodation (+ utilities) - approximately **500-600 AUD** per person per month.
* Food, internet, local transport – approximately **150-200 AUD** per month (with variations depending on personal choices such as phone plans and evenings out).
* Visas – no cost. There are no visa requirements for [Australians travelling to Malaysia](http://www.malaysia.org.au/travel6.html) - students will receive a free 90 day tourist visa upon arrival in Sabah.

Student flights to and from Kota Kinabalu must be arranged through Campus Travel. As an official elective law course, UQ travel, personal accident, professional indemnity and public liability insurance will cover students on placement. UQ will arrange a full pre-departure risk assessment for selected students.

**LAWS5233 and further contacts**

This is a graded course. Formal assessment will involve weekly reflective journals in addition to a final research paper. All selected students will be required to complete a research proposal on their assigned research topic in early December, prior to their departure in January. Students will also be expected to attend a pre-departure induction at UQ in early December 2019 (date/time TBA).

* Bridget Burton, Deputy Director, UQ Pro Bono Centre b.burton1@uq.edu.au - 3346 9351
* Harry Jonas, Future Law Supervisor: harry@futurelaw.org

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***Environmental Sustainability and the Law –* International Placement, Borneo, Malaysia**

Monday 13 January to Friday 14 February, 2019

Name:…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Student number: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Total LAWS units already completed: …………………………………………………………………………..

Expected graduation date:…………………………………………………………………………………………….

**1. What is your aim and motivation for applying for this course (200 words)**

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**2. What do you think are the most pressing environmental, development and/or social justice issues that lawyers should address in the next 10 years? (200 words)**

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**3. Do you have any prior experience studying and/or working on environmental, sustainable development and/or social justice issues? Please describe with specific examples (200 words)**

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**4. Do you have any prior experience travelling/living/working overseas? Please describe, including any particular challenges you faced and how you addressed them (200 words)**

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**5. Previous describe your legal research and writing skills, providing examples of research topics or assignments: (200 words)**

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***Please attach a sample of your writing with this application.*** Please send this application with two writing samples to tcbeirne@law.uq.edu.au by **Friday 26 July 4pm.** The Law School will share your application with Future Law for selection purposes.