



DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY

SCHULICH
SCHOOL OF LAW

Funded LLM opportunity at Dalhousie University, Halifax

Governing Soil Data for Sustainable Agriculture

Applications are now open for a funded LLM (Master of Laws) position to study legal and policy issues in soil data sharing and data governance as part of a multi-disciplinary project hosted at Dalhousie: *Transforming Canada's Soil Data Infrastructure to Facilitate GHG Reductions and Climate Change Mitigation*. The successful applicant will join an interdisciplinary research group supervised by **Dr. Jamie Baxter** at the Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University in Halifax. The position begins September 2025 and is funded at \$30,000 per year for up to two years.

Project description

Soils—especially agricultural soils—are key resources for combating climate change through GHG emission reduction and carbon sequestration, but we lack the comprehensive soil data and infrastructure to support these strategies and enable cost-effective monitoring, reporting and verification of soil resources. To successfully develop and use soil data tools, however, we need a much better understanding of the the social, economic and legal dimensions of soil data sharing and governance.

The project offers the chance for an LLM student interested in food and agricultural systems and their relationships to data governance and privacy to develop a range of quantitative and qualitative skills as part of an interdisciplinary project team involving data and climate scientists, social scientists and legal scholars, and their partner organizations. The successful applicant will join a supportive and inclusive academic community that puts an emphasis on mentorship, creativity and building long-term skills for rigorous research.

This project is funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Application process

Candidates must apply and be selected independently for admission through the Dalhousie Faculty of Graduate Studies to the **LLM program in law at the Schulich School of Law** (application deadline December 1, 2024). Please send the following application materials directly to Dr. Jamie

Baxter at jamie.baxter@dal.ca with the subject line “**Governing Soil Data LLM Application**”:
(1) a letter of intent describing your interest in the project and your relevant qualifications and experience; (2) CV; (3) university transcripts; and (4) contact details for two references. Applications for the position will be accepted immediately and remain open until the position is filled.

Applicants are also encouraged to apply for additional funding through Dalhousie’s Harmonized Scholarship Process and for internal funding at the law school.

Dalhousie University is committed to fostering a collegial culture grounded in diversity and inclusiveness. The university encourages applications from Indigenous persons, persons with a disability, racially visible persons, women, persons of a minority sexual orientation and/or gender identity, and all candidates who would contribute to the diversity of our community. For more information, please see Dalhousie’s Fair Hiring Practices.