

# What's law got to do with it?

## 1 day interactive workshop

australian earth laws alliance



### The one-day workshop: What's law got to do with it?

The natural world provides us with everything we need to live. How we manage our use of the natural world is a critical ingredient in ensuring we have a healthy, productive society. So how do Australians look after our natural environment? And what's law got to do with it?

This interactive one-day workshop introduces students to the fundamentals of environmental law and governance, through the use of visual material, group discussions and practical examples of how environmental law impacts on everyday life in Australia. The key focus of the workshop is to explore whether the law effectively balance the needs of the environment with the economy and society. Students will evaluate and synthesise these concepts as outlined in the Queensland Legal Studies Senior Syllabus.

### Content

The material presented to students will include:

- Environmental law and how it affects our daily lives
- Law and governance in Australia
- The main organisations, institutions and Acts of Parliament involved in environmental law in Australia
- How environmental law fits into Australia's civil and criminal law systems
- Practical case studies about how environmental laws work in Queensland
- The role of individuals and communities in upholding and enforcing environmental law
- Analytical tools for students to critique the effectiveness of Australia's environmental laws

### Learning outcomes

By the conclusion of the workshop, students should be able to:

- Understand the sources and principles of environmental law
- Understand who the key stakeholders are in Australia's environmental law system
- Understand and define what 'environmental harm' is and what our responsibilities are to protect the environment
- Critique how environmental law does (and doesn't) work in Australian society
- Discuss whether the law effectively balances the needs of the environment with the economy and society, and back up their own opinions with evidence

### Who are we?

The Australian Earth Laws Alliance (AELA) is a national not-for-profit organisation whose mission is to increase the understanding and practical implementation of Earth centred law, governance and ethics (or 'Earth jurisprudence') in Australia.

### Presenter



Dr Michelle Maloney  
(BA/LLB (Hons) ANU, PhD  
Griffith Law School)

Michelle is a lawyer and Co-Founder and National Convenor of the Australian Earth Laws Alliance (AELA). Michelle is the Australian representative on the Executive Committee of the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature and is the Chairperson of the Environmental Defender's Office QLD. Michelle is an experienced educator and a lively, entertaining public speaker. In 2016 she created Australia's first university level course on Earth laws, at the Griffith University Law School.

*Please note all materials have been developed in accordance with Legal Studies curriculum outcomes for Senior High School, Queensland.*

To book a workshop and obtain an information pack, please email [education@earthlaws.org.au](mailto:education@earthlaws.org.au)