

India's First Master's Program in Animal Protection Laws



M.A. Program in Animal Protection Laws

The Campus

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NALSAR University of Law

In collaboration with :



The National Academy for Legal Studies and Research University has been a torchbearer and among the pioneers for pushing the boundaries of legal excellence in India. Accredited in A++ Grade with a score 3.60 on a 4 point scale by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), this institution of higher learning has steadfastly been recognized as amongst the top law schools of the country, a melting pot for students, faculty and staff from diverse cultures and backgrounds across the country and the globe. In keeping with its legacy of being home to vital conversations on law and justice since its inception, NALSAR instituted the first research centre in India for Animal Laws in September 2017. The Animal Law Centre reverberates NALSAR's strong culture of using law as an instrument of social change and has been driving and nurturing the dialogue on issues of animal welfare and policy. The Animal Law Centre has in its four years of existence worked alongside experts in the field and legal luminaries to build India-specific research, undertake gap studies and sensitize and build capacity in law enforcement agencies with respect to laws, rules and regulatory framework pertaining to animal welfare and protection. In 2019, the ALC took yet another bold leap by designing a unique postgraduate Diploma program in Animal Protection Laws. In accord with NALSAR's liberal outlook, this promising one-of-a-kind educational avenue took on an interdisciplinary approach. This avenue is open to professionals and students beyond the legal and animal welfare spheres. All public-spirited citizens were welcome to partake in this space for knowledge sharing between the lecturers and the participants to further the dialogue on animal laws and policy in India.

Over the two years, the alumni of Animal Advocates has become over 100 participants strong and growing. The challenges that 2020 has presented to us and the "wicked problems" of the coming decade has made the interconnectedness of all life on **the planet evident.**

The challenges before us are not conventional and novel solutions are coming to the fore to which law and society evolve with. The global policies are shifting towards an ecocentric outlook whether it be through the Sustainable Development Goals to meet the commitments of the Paris Agreement or the One Health policy adopted by the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the World Organization of Animal Health (OIE). To meet the changing and pressing needs for the global citizenry to step up, support and step into the shoes of the decision-makers of tomorrow, we have restructured our postgraduate program into a Masters Program in Animal Protection Laws for advanced students who can join the current workforce and next generation of lawyers and changemakers to be empowered with the knowledge and wherewithal to creatively and strategically utilize the laws in India to protect animals, the last among those who are vulnerable in India. We welcome animal advocates to build their legal toolkit and theoretical framework in animal law jurisprudence. The link between animal cruelty and human violence is proximately established, as is the link between animal health, environmental health and public health. The newly launched M.A. Program in Animal Protection Laws at NALSAR aims to provide a space for government officials, civil society, allied stakeholders and concerned citizens to come together and undertake a study of the legal and regulatory framework in the Indian context. NALSAR is committed to the creation of a legally conscious and ethically balanced community that protects and promotes the rule of law by imbibing the values of sustainability, inclusivity and diversity for society and respect and dignity of life for all living beings.

All the best!

-Faizan Mustafa



VC's Message

The MA in Animal Protection Law is a unique opportunity for any individual who is interested in defending animal interests. This program not only intends to add value to the existing skill-set of individuals working in the animal welfare/rights space but also acts as a fantastic starting point for those who want to initiate a career in animal advocacy in India or abroad.

Animal advocacy is increasingly becoming relevant in the public policy/governance space since animal protection has taken the shape of a social movement that informs public sentiments. In India, the movement is at a critical juncture where multiple templates are available from the experiences of both similarly placed as well as developed nations. It is high time to contextualize those experiences to the Indian condition without losing the international character of the movement. It is with the awareness of this responsibility in mind that NALSAR decided to start a masters program in Animal Protection Laws.

The masters program is special for two reasons. Firstly, the thought process that has gone into designing the different pedagogical approaches to this program is grounded in reality. The courses in this program are delivered by a mix of experts from both theoretical and practical backgrounds. Experts with decades of experience in the field will be engaging with students to offer hands-on skill building. At the same time, professors and researchers who are active participants in the contemporary debates in the field will ensure a firm theoretical background for students. Overall, the program takes a clinical approach to animal law advocacy which caters to individuals from across the spectrum within the movement. This is done using the simplest of language to communicate the most complex concepts accessible to all takers. We have created a system within the program with our research associates at Animal Law Centre to ensure individualized attention for each student so that nobody is left out.

Secondly, the masters program stands on a firm foundation of the experience of the Animal Law Centre with its collaborators. The centre was established in collaboration with Humane Society International/India in 2018 and has worked on several research projects since then. Some of the experts from HSI/India will be bringing their experience from the field to the classroom through the courses taught in the program. The centre has also collaborated with animal law research centres from reputed universities across the world like Harvard Law School and Barcelona University. We hope that students will benefit from the invigorating environment created by the centre for research in the developing area of animal laws. Moreover, from our experience with the PG Diploma course that we have been running for the past few years, we have learnt that students of different levels of experience in the field of animal advocacy take the course and such courses offer a great peer-to-peer networking opportunity for students. We are currently working on creating a database of all alumni who have taken courses offered by the ALC and we hope that we are able to create synergies and convergences among like minded people who can stand up for those who need it the most.

Best wishes!

-Vivek Mukherjee



Course Coordinator's Message

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The National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR) was established in 1998 by a Statute of the State of Andhra Pradesh. Since its inception, the University has been home to vital conversations on law and justice. These conversations have acknowledged that questions of justice arise in all legal pursuits whether in the world of courts, corporations, education or administration. Using law as an instrument of social change the University has supported crusades for land rights, disability empowerment and against moral policing and hate speech. NALSAR is committed to the creation of an ethical legal culture, which protects and promotes the rule of law. The social justice agenda is no laughing matter but the university believes that the cause of building a rule of law society is a continuous enterprise, which is sustainable if it is undertaken with optimism and good cheer.

With students admitted from all over the country and faculty drawn from home and abroad, NALSAR is counted amongst the top law schools of the country. We are proud of the position but do not see it as defining us. Students and administration revel in laughing at self and other. Humour both black and genial will be found aplenty at NALSAR.

In accord with its liberal outlook, legal education is imparted in an interdisciplinary manner. Consequently, there is convergence between the disciplines of law, social sciences, humanities, and management studies in both developing and executing the curriculum in the various degree and diploma courses. Teaching we believe becomes monotonous and mediocre unless accompanied with both theoretical and empirical research. A symbiotic relationship between teaching and research has thus been proactively forged in the operation of the academic programs.

The University in all its years of existence has attempted varied strategies to create a vibrant scholastic environment. We continue in honest reflection on what works and what does not as we strive to realize our aims and objectives.



About NALSAR

Animals for all intents and purposes have been seen as means to an end without any consideration or value unto themselves. However, current events unfolding across the world reiterate how closely the welfare of all living beings is interconnected. An anthropocentric approach to law, society and governance is not effective and the repercussions of such a system has devastating effects on the environment, public health, human rights and animal welfare.

In order to build a more equitable world for all, we must examine how the legal system impacts welfare as a whole. Animal law is an imperative area of learning for all individuals working in furtherance of a more just, compassionate and equitable country and world.

“Animal law,” includes in its aegis the issues that affect humans and animals alike and enfolds the concepts of “animal welfare,” and “animal rights.” One of the fastest growing fields of legal practice, animal law may involve issues of constitutional law, administrative law, environmental law, consumer protection law, criminal law, civil laws, etc. The unifying factor within this field of practice is its underlying substance of the matter which addresses the interests of animals themselves. Through this program, NALSAR aims to create experts be it lawyers or other professionals in allied sectors catering and specializing in the legal aspects of animal laws in India, as well as, internationally recognized laws. Our course participants would not only have a sound and strong foundation on legal and jurisprudential patterns of animals rights and animal welfare issues but will also be well-equipped to handle practical and contemporary aspects and . challenges faced on the ground, with respect to cruelty towards animals, policy development as well as litigation in ancillary matters regarding animals.



Rationale behind the M.A. Programme in Animal Protection Laws

Objective 1

To provide citizens a strong foundation at the intersection of animal welfare and law in a world actively shifting towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals and the One Health policy.

Objective 2

To develop a cutting-edge area of the law offering legal and policy solutions to problems of the coming decade- climate change, sixth mass extinction of species, zoonotic disease, link between human violence and animal cruelty, water and food security.

Objective 3

To build legal capacity in individuals to aid law enforcement, governance and justice systems to improve implementation of the law in their professional or personal capacities.

Objective 4

To sensitize people in the legal sphere about the relevance of cultivating an ecocentric perspective, the challenges involved and the pragmatic approach towards building an equitable world for all.

Expand your horizons and pave the way for the future!



Rationale behind
the M.A. Program in
Animal Protection
Laws

Objective 5

To foster critical and design thinking for creative and strategic utilization of laws and a holistic foundation of animal ethics, principles and philosophy.

Objective 6

To build a legally aware community and create a compassionate, vibrant and global network with a firm basis in intersectionality to ensure dignity of all living beings

Objective 7

To recognize animals as equal stakeholders in the ecological balance to sustain life on Earth, reflected within the Indian and international legal and regulatory framework.

Expand your horizons and pave the way for the future!



Rationale behind
the M.A.
Programme in
Animal Protection
Laws

From its inception, the university is committed to ensuring the highest quality in imparting legal education. One of the core missions of NALSAR is to produce legal professionals who are professionally competent, technically sound and socially relevant lawyers. In this regard the University through the aforesaid Animal Law programme aims to cater to the growing need to protect animals and to impart knowledge and train the participants in the legal aspect of Animal welfare.

The curriculum of the programme is tailor-made to meet the professional needs of animal welfare and rights advocates and lawyers. It includes education on legal aspects in relation to the welfare and rights of animals so that the trained professionals are well equipped to deal with legal issues. Anyone be it a lawyer or a public policy or advocacy expert who is traditionally endowed with a rational mind can perform this role in the form of an animal law professional who can serve in the capacities of public interest lawyer, animal rights activist or even a compassionate citizen.

The unique advantage of the above programme is the comprehensive understanding of the animal laws across the world- the challenges and issues faced in ethics and moral values intertwined within legal discourses. The course would include its operational aspects, legal understanding and technical knowledge with a special focus on catering to the contemporary developments in the field of animal welfare and rights.

The primary focus of the course is to garner the substance and principles of existing Indian laws as it addresses animals and those who work with them, to understand the links between cruelty to animals and violent, delinquent, and criminal behaviour and acquire legal knowledge to adequately prosecute animal cruelty cases. The aim is to assess the possibilities of using various legal concepts and tools to manage human-animal interactions and create rights for the animals.

Legal aspects and developments in the animal welfare movement are so closely entwined that a study of one aspect is incomplete without the study of the other. Thus, NALSAR through its Animal Law Centre (ALC) proposes to offer a Masters Program in Animal Protection Laws.



Why choose
NALSAR?

One of the fastest growing fields of legal practice and one among the most relevant of this decade, animal law may involve issues of constitutional law, administrative law, environmental law, consumer protection law, criminal law, civil laws, etc. The curriculum of the programme is tailor-made to meet the professional needs of animal protection activists, lawyers or anyone in the animal protection space. It includes education on legal aspects in relation to the welfare and rights of animals so that the trained professionals are well equipped to deal with legal issues.

Through this program NALSAR aims to create experts, be it lawyers or other professionals in allied sectors. It caters to those who want to specialize in theory and practice of animal laws in India and international law relevant to animal protection. Anyone with the motivation to learn about the nuances of animal laws can perform this role in the form of an animal law professional who can serve in the capacities of public interest lawyer, animal rights activist or even a compassionate citizen.

The eleven courses in this first-of-its-kind program in India are designed with an interdisciplinary and intersectional background with the awareness that legal, social, cultural, political and economic aspects in the animal protection movement are so closely entwined that a study of one aspect is incomplete without the study of the other.

The course is curated for individuals interested in making a career in policy development, academic research, litigation, or working with an NGO. It also aims to train any public official (including individuals in legal enforcement or justice) who might knowingly or unknowingly be major stakeholders with power to impact animal law or its enforcement.

Lastly, this course is also helpful to individuals who want to make a difference for animals in their personal lives or at a grassroots level.



Program Design

Structure of Program

The curriculum of this unique distance education program is designed to be holistic and comprehensive. The pedagogy is learner-centred to complement the participant's personal and professional goals. The University provides a healthy balance of live sessions and self-paced study with strong IT and Admin support and 24/7 access to online resources and databases.

Participant Engagement

The contact sessions cater to active interaction and knowledge sharing between the participants and the core and guest faculty who are leading experts with decades of experience in their fields. The Q&A sessions provide valuable network-building opportunities. Contact details are made available for the participants to reach out to the highly approachable experts and academics during the duration of the program and post the program.

Sector-agnostic Legal Development

Interdisciplinary approach is an integral part of the curriculum. It caters to participants from diverse backgrounds and covers the basics of law as well as a nuanced perspective relevant for both lawyers and allied professionals.

Rare Upskilling Opportunity

This is a one-of-its-kind program in India, with courses encompassing every aspect of law relevant to animal advocacy. It is one of the most relevant and burgeoning fields of the coming decade of climate action, protecting threatened species and India's rich biodiversity, balancing human and animal interests to promote health, water and food security as well as a society respecting the dignity of all individuals.



Program Design

Expand your horizons and pave the way for the future!

Practical Exposure

Assignments and examinations are subjective and application-based. The applied law courses introduce the legal vocation to the students and vice-versa through case study analysis and simplified legal precedents. Talks and webinars with leaders and experts working in the animal protection space help the participants understand the practical application of laws to real-world issues and problems faced in an Indian context at the grassroots level. Students doing the Master's programme will also have the option to do a practical internship as part of their course requirements.

Learning Resources

Participants are provided access to NALSAR's e-resource library portal with access to journals and databases such as SCCOnline, Manupatra, Westlaw, HeinOnline, JSTOR etc. Textbooks and curated compilations of readings specially designed for the program. The recordings for all sessions are made accessible to the students for the duration of the program.

Academic Foundation

Socratic method of teaching and assignments foster critical thinking. Theoretical law courses introduce the global context to the students and vice-versa through guidance from national and international legal luminaries.

Expand your horizons and pave the way for the future!



Program Design

First Year

In order to build a more equitable world for all, we must examine how the legal system impacts welfare as a whole. Animal law is an imperative area of learning for all individuals working in furtherance of a more just, compassionate and equitable country and world.

The primary focus of the courses in the first year is to garner the substance and principles of existing Indian laws as it addresses animals, to understand the links between cruelty to animals and violent, delinquent, and criminal behaviour and to acquire legal knowledge to adequately assist competent authorities in prosecuting animal cruelty cases.

The unique advantage of this programme is that it covers a comprehensive understanding of animal laws across the world by intervening ethical issues within legal discourses. The courses would include operational aspects of animal laws by imparting technical legal knowledge with a special focus on catering to the contemporary developments in the field of animal welfare and rights.

Second Year

“Animal law”, includes in its aegis the issues that affect humans and animals alike and enfold the concepts of “animal welfare,” and “animal rights.” The unifying factor within this field of practice is its underlying substance of the matter which addresses the interests of animals themselves. The aim of the second year is to assess the possibilities of using various legal concepts and tools to manage human-animal interactions and create rights for the animals. Animals for all intents and purposes have been seen as means to an end without any consideration or value unto themselves.

However, current events unfolding across the world reiterate how closely the welfare of all living beings is interconnected. An anthropocentric approach to law, society and governance is not effective and the repercussions of such a system have devastating effects on the environment, public health, human rights and animal life.



Objectives of the First and Second Years

Subject Code	Subject	Marks	Credits
SEMESTER- I			
1.1.1	Introduction to Law	100	5
1.1.2	Constitutional Law	100	5
1.1.3	Laws relating to Prevention of Cruelty to Animals -1	100	5
SEMESTER- II			
1.2.4	Animal Ethics	100	5
1.2.5	Laws relating to Prevention of Cruelty to Animals -2	100	5
1.2.6	Wildlife Laws	100	5



Course Structure Semesters I & II

SEMESTER- III

2.3.7	Criminal Law	100	5
2.3.8	Associated Laws Relating to Animal Protection	100	5
2.3.9	Civil Laws	100	5
2.3.10	Animals and Society	100	5

SEMESTER- IV

2.4.11	Governance and Compliance	100	5
2.4.12	Laws relating to Prevention of Cruelty to Animals -2	100	5
2.4.13	Dissertation (written: 150 marks + viva: 50 marks)	100	5



Course Structure Semesters III & IV

The Master's Programme will have four semesters. Each Semester will have Personal Contact Programme (PCP) sessions by the subject experts, followed by an Online session where participants will work on the research project / assignments / case studies and upload them on the dedicated web platform / submit them by email. The candidates can contact / communicate through email with the subject experts for queries, if any, on the concerned subject. Relevant course material will be uploaded on the website and can be accessed through their login id. The Self Learning Materials' (Reading Materials) printed copies will be sent to the enrolled candidates.

PCP sessions will be conducted for six days in the First & Second Semester; for seven days in the Third Semester and for four days in the Fourth Semester at Hyderabad by the subject experts. Suggested reference guidance would be provided at the contact sessions. Each subject shall consist of 15 teaching hours. The recorded videos of the classes will be uploaded on the dedicated website. Attendance at the PCP is compulsory and the candidate should have at least 75% attendance in the PCP to appear for the end semester examination. The learners are also expected to put in at least 30 hours of study for each credit.

Case study analysis / projects / assignments will be part of the concerned subjects and will be discussed in onsite / online sessions. There will be one project / legal and research assignment / case study for each course. In total a candidate must complete twelve projects / assignments / case studies by the end of the programme.

The website will be the main delivery system in terms of updating information on the subject. The access to the website will be deactivated after the completion of the minimum duration and will be revived on the payment of the continuation fee.



Conduct of the Program

This course is designed to be flexible and holistic to ensure that it can accommodate all citizens, from a plethora of different backgrounds and build their network to collaborate as a part of the global community.

Our program participants would not only have a sound and strong foundation on legal and jurisprudential patterns of animals' rights and animal welfare issues but will also be well-equipped to handle practical challenges faced on the ground with respect to cruelty towards animals, policy development and litigation in matters regarding animals.

The programme aims to meet the needs of citizens who wish to improve the lives of all living beings. This course aims to help individuals effectively show compassion and uphold their fundamental duties, enshrined in the Constitution of India under Article 51A(g). Those interested in the course may already be involved in activism, or in an allied sector (like public policy, environmental welfare, human rights, public health etc.), or wish to carry out work in this space after the completion of the course.

The course provides such individuals with the information and tools to detect the legality of acts towards animals, ways to report acts of animal cruelty, amplify animal welfare issues, and support other local bodies and organisations with their animal protection work.



Life as a Distance
Education Masters
degree student

Alokparna Sengupta is the Managing Director for Humane Society International/India. She has worked in the animal protection movement for a decade. She has been part of several government and scientific committees including that of Indian Council of Medical Research, CDSCO, Central Insecticides Board, Bureau of Indian Standards, etc.

She has also been part of several stakeholder committee meeting to bring in animal friendly policies in India including the prohibition on animal testing for cosmetics, amendment in pesticide testing, farm animal welfare, amendment of prevention of cruelty to animals Act, etc.

She has served as a trainer on animal law at workshops for judicial magistrates, police personnel and animal welfare advocates. Her expertise lies in animal protection issues and animal law. She serves as the Honorary Director of the Animal Law Centre at NALSAR University of Law, has been a guest faculty at NALSAR University of Law's P.G. Diploma course on Animal Law, O.P. Jindal University and National Law School, Bengaluru.

Having obtained a degree of Masters in Science (M.Sc) for Biotechnology from Osmania University, she has also completed her LLM (Professional) course from National Law University, Delhi. Prior to joining HSI India in 2012, she has worked in organizations such as Thomson Reuters, FIAPO and has volunteered extensively in animal welfare organizations. She is also a certified trainer for preventing sexual harassment at workplace.



Core Faculty
Alokparna Sengupta

Akansha Singh has completed her M.A. in English from the Centre for English Studies, JNU. As part of her M.A. program she wrote her dissertation on the fiction of Borges titled, “Wounds of Unfulfillment: Fragmented Narratives of Jorge Luis Borges”. She has done her B.A. (Hons) in English with minors in Sociology from Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi. Before joining NALSAR she was teaching at Ashoka University. Her areas of research and teaching interest include comparative literary studies, resistance literature, translation studies. She is currently working on a comparative cross-cultural study of nationalism in the mid-twentieth century India and Argentina.



Core Faculty
Akansha Singh

Vivek completed his Bachelor's degree in Law from NLIU, Bhopal; further pursuing L.LM with a specialization in Human Rights from NLSIU, Bangalore. It was during this year that he worked as a teaching assistant under Prof. M.P. Singh and Prof. M.K. Ramesh, which created an affinity towards teaching. In 2016, he joined COLS, UPES; where he taught for about a year. In 2017, he joined NALSAR. Animal Law, International Law, and Environmental Law are his areas of interest. At NALSAR, Vivek co-ordinates the Animal Law Center which creates curriculum and runs research projects on Animal Laws.



Core Faculty
Vivek Mukherjee

Jayasimha Nugehalli is the co-founder and Chief Operating Officer of Global Food Partners. Global Food Partners is an international consulting company that provides innovative solutions to meet the growing demand for higher welfare products – with a focus on cage-free egg sourcing and production- and to ensure long-term business profitability and sustainability. He was a Visiting Fellow at the Animal Law & Policy Program 2019-2020 at Harvard Law School.

Jayasimha has previously served as Managing Director of Humane Society International/India, and was involved in the expansion of the organization in Asia, Founding Director of the Animal Law Centre at NALSAR School University of Law, Hyderabad, Member of the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI).

In addition to serving on several committees for various government ministries, Jayasimha has been an integral part of monitoring committees set up by the High Court of Bombay to control illegal trade in wildlife in India and the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision on Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA). He has closely worked with various ministries of the Government of India, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal where his roles have entailed drafting new legislation and codes and reviewing the existing ones to incorporate animal welfare measures for food and agricultural standards; ensuring animals are treated humanely on movie sets and depicted in the correct manner; and successfully drafting standards for animal transport, zoos and aquaria; pet shops and circuses. He has also worked on bringing in animal welfare into the Indian leather supply chain and has represented animals before various courts in India.

Jayasimha has conducted multiple training programs for Judges, Police Officers and Prosecutors on Animals Laws in India and has taught Animal Laws in top Law schools across India. Jayasimha received a law degree from Bangalore University, is enrolled as an advocate at the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa and is a member of Supreme Court Bar Association.



Core Faculty
Jayasimha Nugehalli

Sumanth Bindumadhav is the Senior Manager, Wildlife, Disaster Response and Dharwad Program, at HSI/India.

Sumanth started working with wild animals at the age of 12. He was actively engaged in rescue and rehabilitation of injured and displaced urban wildlife in Bangalore- being the on-ground person for several organisations in 1999. He assisted in establishment of Bangalore's first wildlife rehabilitation facility that continues to serve this purpose till date. He has been working alongside the Karnataka Forest Department, forest departments of other states and various law enforcement agencies to rescue scores of wild animals from illegal wildlife trade.

In his current role with Humane Society International/India, he continues to build capacity of various government agencies and judiciary in topics ranging from wildlife laws to safe handling of conflict scenarios to detection of wildlife crime and public policy related to wild animals. He works closely with Gerry Martin to develop Mysore as a model district for human-snake conflict management while also developing model animal welfare districts in north Karnataka and building community resilience for animals against natural disasters across the country.



Core Faculty
Sumanth Bindumadhav

Gauri Maulekhi Ms. Gauri Maulekhi is the Trustee of People For Animals - India's largest animal welfare organization. She is also a member of the Uttarakhand State Animal Welfare Board.

She has worked with various ministries of the Government of India and several State Governments to formulate and implement policies, such as humane transportation of animals, humane slaughter practices, effective population management and the protection of wildlife. Through her efforts of seeking judicial intervention of Courts, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Regulation of Livestock Markets) Rules, 2017, The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Dog Breeding & Marketing) Rules, 2017 and The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Pet Shop) Rules, 2018 were notified by the Government of India

She was awarded the prestigious Nari Shakti Puraskar in 2018 by the President of India for her contribution to the field of animal welfare advocacy. Lucknow University endowed her with the Distinguished Alumni Award for her meritorious work in animal welfare in 2018. She also received the Outstanding Animal Protection Award from the Humane Society International at Kansas City, USA in 2018. She is also a recipient of the Lush Prize 2017 in London for her contribution towards reducing unnecessary use of animals in laboratories. Ms. Maulekhi was felicitated by the Government of Uttarakhand for distinguished service in animal protection and disaster management during the Uttarakhand floods in 2013.



Core Faculty
Gauri Maulekhi

Sonia Shad is an animal protection lawyer. She is currently the Manager of the Animal Law Centre at the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research, Hyderabad.

She graduated with a BA.LLB (Hons) from the National Law School of India University, Bangalore. She has worked with Mercy For Animals, The Humane Society International/India, and other animal welfare organizations both in India and the United States. She is the founder of the Society for Non-Human Persons, the first student-run animal protection group at a Law School in India.

Expand your horizons and pave the way for the future!
Sonia is dedicated to the eradication of systemic forms of cruelty and has been working for animal welfare and rights since 2014.



Core Faculty
Sonia Shad

Direct Admission subject to fulfilment of the eligibility criteria.

The duration of the programme is two years and the maximum period for completion of the programme is four years including the year of admission.

The maximum period for the candidates enrolled in the second year of M.A. Programme is two years including the year of admission to the second year M.A. Programme.

Every candidate admitted to the course shall pay the prescribed fees for the first year at the time of admission and the fee for the second year shall be paid at the beginning of the third semester. If a candidate is required to continue the course beyond the minimum duration because of his/her non-fulfillment of the prescribed requirements for the award of the M.A. Degree, he/she shall pay the Continuation Fee, as prescribed to continue their course after the minimum period.

The marks secured in the papers already appeared by the candidate shall be carried forward during the span of the eligibility for the programme.

After completion of the maximum period, if the candidate fails to fulfill all the requirements for the award of the M.A. Degree, the admission stands automatically cancelled. In such cases they need to enrol afresh for the programme.



Admission,
Duration,
Continuation and
Termination

Following is the Eligibility criteria-

- a. Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent Degree in any discipline from any recognized University; or
- b. Candidates appearing for the final year examination of Graduation / Engineering are also eligible to apply.

Candidates who have completed the One Year Advanced Diploma in Animal Protection Laws at NALSAR are also eligible for admission to the second year. In such cases, the candidates needs to surrender the Advanced Diploma in Animal Protection Laws Certificate awarded by NALSAR, after completion of the M.A. Programme, to be entitled for award of the Degree of M.A. (Animal Protection Laws) at NALSAR. The candidates should exercise this option within a maximum period of two years from the date of their admission to the Advanced Diploma.

The candidates enrolled for the Advanced Diploma Programme can enroll for the M.A. Programme within two years from the date of their admission, even though they have not completed the Advanced Diploma.

The lateral admission to the M.A. Program will be offered only when the subjects and the syllabus offered for the First Year of M.A. Program is similar to that of the subjects and the syllabus offered in the said Advanced Diploma Programme.

In any case, lateral admission will be offered subject to fulfilment of the eligibility criteria for the M.A. Program.



Eligibility and
Lateral Admission
for the Advanced
Diploma Candidates

S. No.	Name of Activity	Tentative Months	
		From	To
1	Distribution of course material	July	August
2	Personal Contact Programme	September	October
3	Submission of Assignments/projects/case study	September	November
4	Examinations	November	December
5	Declaration of Results	January	February
6	Repeat Examinations	February	March



Timelines

horizons and
for the future!

S. No.	Name of Activity	Tentative Months	
		From	To
1	Distribution of course material	January	February
2	Personal Contact Programme	February	March
3(a)	Submission of Assignments/projects/case study (in case of II Semester)	February	April
3(b)	Submission of Dissertation (in case of IV Semester)	April	May
4	Examinations (Viva Voce Examination in case of IV Semester)	May	June
5	Declaration of Results	July	August
6	Repeat Examinations	August	September



Timelines

Course fee: Rs. 30,000/- p.a. (5% fee concession to the candidates belonging to SC / ST / PWD Category)

Course fee for Advanced Diploma Candidates : Rs. 30,000/- (5% fee concession to the candidates belonging to SC / ST / PWD Category)

- Repeat examination / Supplementary Examination fee : Rs.500/- per paper / project
- Continuation fee beyond the minimum duration of the course till the maximum period : Rs.5,000/- p.a.
- Re-evaluation Fee : Rs. 1,000/- per paper
- Boarding & Lodging charges at campus (subject to availability) during classes / exam will be extra as per the University Rules.
- Convocation fee will be charged separately as per the University Rules.

Note: If a candidate fails to submit the projects / assignments / case studies for the subjects offered in the relevant semester, then the candidate should pay the applicable repeat examination fee per subject for submission of the project / assignment / case study at a later date.

Note: The University reserves the right to revise the fee structure from time to time.

Refund of Fee in case of withdrawal of admission

- In case of withdrawal within 15 days from the closure of the admission, 10% of the course fee paid shall be retained by the University towards administrative charges;
- In respect of candidates who withdraw their candidature after 15 days from the closure of admission, total course fee paid by the candidates shall be retained by the University.
- All other fees other than course fee, once paid, are non-refundable.

Note: The University reserves the right to modify the admission process, fee structure, course structure, course content, the evaluation scheme and other rules from time to time.



Fee Structure-
Program Fee and
Refund

Each paper shall carry 100 marks. The distribution of marks shall be as follows:

Assignment(s) / Project / Case Study	30 Marks
End Semester Examination	70 Marks
Dissertation (200 Marks) Written Report	150 Marks
Viva-Voce Examination	50 Marks

NOTE: No candidate will be permitted to appear for the End Semester Examination unless he / she has attended 75% in the programme specific Personal Contact Programme.



Evaluation Scheme
and Award of
Advanced Diploma
/ M.A. Degree

The performance of all the candidates in all subjects shall be evaluated on a 10 point scale with corresponding grade values as mentioned below:

Percentage of Marks	Grade	Grade Value
90 and above	O+ (Exceptionally Outstanding)	10
85-89	O (Outstanding)	9
80-84	E+	8.5
75-79	E (Excellent)	8
70-74	A++	7.5
65-69	A+	7
60-64	A	6.5
55-59	B+	6
50-54	B (Pass)	5.5
Below 50	F (Fail)	0



Award of Grades

The result will be declared as 'W-withheld' for all the candidates who appear for the examination and fail to submit the projects / assignments / case studies. Even if a candidate secures the minimum required marks, i.e, 50 in the end semester examination and fails to submit projects/assignments/case studies, the result will be declared as 'W-withheld'. In both the cases, the candidates are required to register for the repeat examination and pay the requisite fee for submission of the projects / assignments / case studies.

Calculation of CGPA

Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) is arrived at by dividing the sum of the products of Grade Values and the Credits in each subject by the total number of credits in all the subjects.

A candidate to be successful should obtain a minimum of 50% marks or the equivalent grade, i.e., B in every subject/Dissertation. A student who secures the minimum required 50% marks will not be declared passed until he/she submits the assignments/projects/case studies as prescribed. However, the candidate who fails to obtain the minimum grade (i.e., B) shall be given chance(s) to re-appear for the examination whenever the same is conducted till the completion of the maximum period, i.e., four years from the date of admission on payment of repeat / supplementary examination fee and the continuation fee as prescribed. Candidates failing to secure the minimum marks in the Dissertation shall re-submit the same. No candidate who has cleared the subject by securing 50 marks or above is allowed to re-appear in the examination for improving the marks / grade.

Rounding off and Award of Grace Marks

In case a candidate obtains fractional marks, the fraction will be rounded off to the nearest whole number.

The Course Coordinator with the approval of the Director, DDE may add FIVE grace marks in total for all the subjects in a semester to enable a candidate to pass the examination. The said provision will not be applicable in case of re-evaluation and/or for improvement of grade.

Provided that under no circumstances, a candidate shall be granted more than five grace marks in a semester to be distributed in all subjects.



Calculation of CGPA

Award of the Master's Degree

A candidate to be eligible for the award of the Master's Degree, i.e., M.A. (Animal Protection Laws) should submit all the assignments / projects / case studies and should secure 50% marks or 'B' grade in all the subjects including Dissertation obtaining at least CGPA 5.50 out of 10.00.

A student admitted to the program has to complete all the prescribed requirements within a maximum period of four years from and including the year of admission in order to be eligible for the award of the Master's Degree. However, the candidates enrolled in the second year of M.A. Programme has to complete all the prescribed requirements within a maximum period of two years from and including the year of admission to the second year M.A. Programme.

Award of the Advanced Diploma

If a candidate decides to 'EXIT' after completion of all the subjects of FIRST and SECOND SEMESTER, he/she will be eligible for award of Advanced Diploma in Animal Protection Laws. To be eligible for award of the Advanced Diploma in Animal Protection Laws, a candidate should submit all the assignments / projects / case studies and should secure 50% marks or 'B' grade in all the subjects offered in the First and Second Semester obtaining atleast CGPA of 5.50 out of 10.00. A candidate can exercise this option within a maximum period of two years from the date of admission.

After exercising the above option, the candidate will not be entitled to continue the Master's Programme.



Award of Master's
Degree and
Advanced Diploma

Procedure for Recounting / Re-evaluation

The candidates desiring re-evaluation have to apply in writing along with the re-evaluation fee within 15 days from the date of declaration of results. On receipt of the request for re-evaluation, the paper would be sent to a subject expert other than the evaluator and the results of the same will be communicated within 45 days. A change in the original score shall be made only when, upon re-evaluation, the change is FIVE marks or more. The Re-evaluation result is final and there will be no further appeal to the same.

No candidate who has cleared the subject by securing 50 marks or above is allowed to re-appear in the examination or apply for re-evaluation for improving marks / grade.

The recounting of the paper would be done without collecting any fee but on the written request to the Director, DDE by the candidate. The change, if any, shall be incorporated accordingly.

Misconduct Rules

The Vice-Chancellor on the report and recommendation of the Course Coordinator can cancel the registration of a candidate and also debar them from examinations and further enrolment if he or she is found to be indulging in abusive, unruly behavior with the faculty or staff of the University. Such behavior will also include abusive mails, phone calls or defamatory tweets / posts / blogs etc.

The NALSAR University Academic Mis-Conduct Regulations, as approved by the Executive Council of the University will apply suitably for the candidates enrolled for this program.



Recounting/
Revaluation and
Misconduct Rules

Careers in Animal Laws:

This unique upskilling opportunity makes a broad scope available for public-spirited citizens to be an asset to their organisation by cultivating a strong foundation in the intersection of law and animal welfare, which is a crucial component of One Health and metrics of well-being under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Global dialogues on climate action, trade policy, food safety, water security and public health, require a specialized knowledge of Indian and international animal laws.

Career prospects range from taking up full time legal practice, or litigation, consultancy with institutes and organisations working in fields such as the alternate protein sector etc., working alongside law enforcement and aiding the governance and justice systems, working in the field of conservation and wildlife protection, working alongside communities for protection of biological diversity, working to mitigate human-wildlife conflict working in NGOs for animal welfare or allied NGOs for intersectional campaigns, working in public policy and research think tanks focused on animal protection, sustainability, environment protection and more. Animal law recognizes and aims to bridge the narrow silos in the social sector aiming to reduce crime in society. The proximate link between animal cruelty and human violence is established and by working with police, other law enforcement officials and data from other civil society groups, we can use the legal framework to reduce crime in society. Similarly, the State Forest Departments work alongside NGOs to counter illegal wildlife trafficking which is among and linked to four of the largest international illegal trades. Animal laws can be used to report crimes, create India-specific statistics, prosecute criminals and secure convictions to ensure proper implementation of the law and lend a strong bite to the teeth of law.

This first-of-its-kind program also offers an opportunity to pursue a career in academia through the resources and brand equity made available and accessible through a premier University such as NALSAR. This is a fast developing and burgeoning field in India observing its growth and demand over the past three years of running postgraduate programs in animal laws. NALSAR intends to train and bring out changemakers and empower decision-makers in this field through our Masters/Advanced Diploma program, who can lay the path forward in the crucial decades to come.



Careers in Animal Laws

Question: Is there any entrance exam for the masters program? Would a prior internship/work experience help improve an application?

Answer: No selection process. Direct registration based on eligibility criteria.

Question: How many hours per week commitment is required as a part of the program?

Answer: No weekly commitment is required for the program. Self-paced program but recommended study of 2-3 hours per week from the textbooks and online resources. There are five days of online classes per semester and they are usually scheduled to include a weekend so working professionals can attend the same.

Question: Would the program assist in reporting or drafting cases opposing animal cruelty/Would I be able to become an advocate/enroll on the bar/file cases or appear in matters?

Answer: You will be provided with an understanding of how to file RTIs and PILs but for on-site studies and filing cases you will still require support of a lawyer as this program is not sufficient to write the bar and become a professional lawyer. This program will definitely help form a network and connect to lawyers and pro-bono lawyers who will be able to help you with any legal assistance.

If you are already a lawyer, this course will ensure you are confident about tackling cases relating to animal welfare for both domestic, farmed and wild animals and representing them in court.

*horizons and
pave the way
for the future.*

Question: Is there placement support by the university?

Answer: No, designated placements support provided by in the university at the end of the program but network-building opportunities, allows you to expand your practice and find application of animal laws into your professional and personal goals. Any potential opportunities opening up in India are shared with the alumni network via email as and when the Animal Law Centre is notified of it. Students have the liberty to organize themselves to form a placement cell.

Question: Nature of job opportunities in the animal law field/for non-lawyers?

Answer: Nature of jobs is vast- Non-profits for animal cruelty response, wildlife protection, civil society groups working on balancing human-animal interests, academia, working with the government either on policy or implementation, policy think tanks, research centres, institutes or organisations, upcoming fields such as fish welfare, replacement of animals in industry.

Question: Do we get to work directly with animals?

Answer: Not as a part of the program but you will gain practical application of laws to be used if you ever work on the field with animals as a part of animal rescues, NGOs, research centres, organizations or institutes or think tanks who conduct field work in animal welfare or wildlife protection spheres. Your dissertation may have a practical component to it that may offer an opportunity for you to interact with animals. This will of course be in consultation with your dissertation supervisor.



FAQs

Question: Will this program be helpful if I want to setup an NGO? Would this program help me in my day-to-day activities for animal welfare/raising awareness regarding animal cruelty at the grassroots level?

Answer: The M.A. program offers a course in 'Governance and Compliance' in Semester IV (Year 2) that teaches the basics of NGO management. Further this course is designed to be intersectional which will help facilitate collaboration efforts between NGOs both directly and indirectly involved in animal protection.

Question: Is the program suitable for non lawyers/Do I need to have a law background to apply/How difficult is it for graduates with non-legal backgrounds to cope with the curriculum?

Answer: The program is suitable for non lawyers that have a bachelors or equivalent degree from any discipline. The program is designed to ensure students obtain a basic understanding of the law and how to read and interpret cases and statutes in their first semester so they are easily able to follow the animal protection specific legal sessions that follow.

Question: Are there any restrictions on choosing an advanced diploma if you have signed up for the masters?

Answer: There are no restrictions on students choosing to take an advanced diploma even if they've signed up for the masters course. Payments are made yearly and students are allowed to choose to graduate after year 1 with an advanced diploma if for any reason they do not have the ability or time to complete the 2 year program.

*pave the way
for the future.*

Question: What are the differences or benefits to selecting the Masters versus the Advanced Diploma? Is this different from the postgraduate diploma program in animal protection laws?

Answer: The PGD was a smaller course, with 4 subjects and lower credit requirements. The Advanced diploma has 6 subjects and the Masters has 12. Compared to the PGD, the Advanced diploma covers similar topics in more detail, but also includes the basics of legal theory. It is better suited to individuals who wish to personally contribute their time to animal protection and may not necessarily want to take this work up professionally. Non-law background activists may also benefit from the advanced diploma.

The Master's program however is an incredible opportunity and covers material that isn't taught at any animal protection legal course in the country, currently. It covers all laws that are required for an individual working in this space, right from the basics of animal protection laws, to criminal procedure, evidence, corporate compliance, working with government institutions, environmental law, the basics of NGO management, laws relating to fundraising (incl. International funds), labour laws and more. It also offers a firm theoretical background in the animal protection movement through the courses on 'Animal Personhood' and 'Animals and Society'. The Master's program is exceptionally suited to individuals wishing to have a career in animal protection, or professionals in allied fields who wish to be able to integrate animal protection as one factor in the larger space of welfare.



FAQs

Question:What if I cannot continue after the first year after enrolling for masters?

Answer: That's okay. There is no penalty for being unable to continue in the program. Students can choose to take an advanced diploma instead even if they have signed up for the Master's program.

Question:Will we have online classes? Will it change to offline next year? I cannot come to NALSAR campus, can I still be a part of the program?

Answer: This program is carried out entirely online to ensure working professionals are able to participate and your safety is ensured during the pandemic. Even if we are able to conduct offline classes, attendance is not compulsory and you may watch and re-watch the recorded lectures at a later point to prepare for examinations. However, if the pandemic subsides around the time we intend to conduct the examination, all students may have to come down to NALSAR to write the exam. As of now, we are conducting all examinations online due to the pandemic.

Question:I have no experience in the field of animal welfare but I wish to switch careers to animal welfare, can I take up the program?

Answer: Yes! This program is a great starting point for individuals who wish to start a career in animal protection. It not only covers the law surrounding this area of work, but also the theoretical framework, provides an understanding of the larger issues in animal protection and useful policy and legal interventions to tackle them.

Question:Is the program catering to those inclined towards academia/research?

Answer: The program is certainly suited to those who wish to work in academia and

research. It will help provide an understanding of theory, ethics and law. We will also teach individuals the basics of legal interpretation so that they can continue to carry out their own research and learn more. We are in the process of roping in the best international professors in the field who will be engaging in lectures throughout the course, but especially in the second year.

Question:Do we get practical exposure? Will we get to interact with faculty? I want to build a network with people from other cities. Is there scope for interaction with other batchmates?

Answer: Students usually create their own groups on communication platforms like Signal and Whatsapp to facilitate easy communication.

Most of our faculty is also available for interaction and will provide their details and manner in which to reach out to them if you have anything you wish to discuss with them. Further the ALC also acts as a link and will ensure your questions and doubts about the subject matter are answered by the faculty even during your independent study.

Question:What would the work-academic balance be like in the program?/Is it viable for me as a busy working professional to take up the program?/How much is the academic pressure and workload?/What are the assignments and tests in the course?

Answer:Each course has an exam and project submission as part of the grading requirements but sufficient time is provided for the same and the work can be carried out over weekends. Classes are also scheduled keeping in mind the requirements of working professionals. They are also recorded and uploaded online via NALSARs database in case a student misses a session but would like to catch up.



FAQs

Q) Why should an international student choose to study Animal Protection Laws at NALSAR?

There is no doubt that India is integral in global dialogues on climate action, trade policy, food safety, water security and public health. There is an increasing trend of international students wanting to gain a specialized knowledge of Indian animal laws, helping better engage at an institutional level, to better represent perspectives in their career in the academia or legal practice in international law. India has world's largest population of livestock and world's second largest human population as we grapple with the challenges of feeding a population of nearly 10 billion by 2050. This is especially relevant as the country is among the top five countries across various metrics of meat, eggs and dairy production. India is also one among the 17 most megadiverse countries on the planet, forming a little less than 0.7% of the Earth's surface but housing nearly 7-8% of the recorded species on the planet.

Expand your horizons and pave the way for the future!

The varied geographies are host to 457 of more than 650 species of migratory fauna globally, listed under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species appendices, playing a very important role in their conservation. It is also unfortunate that India is also among the only countries home to four biodiversity hotspots, which are regions with rich endemic biodiversity threatened by human activities. We are currently facing the sixth mass extinction event in the history of the Earth caused entirely due to anthropogenic factors. Indian Law relating to animal welfare is fairly comprehensive although there is still significant room for improvement. Studying Indian Animal Protection law, will also help international students who wish to bring forth policy changes in their own countries by utilising their learnings about how these laws developed in India, to push for stronger, more comprehensive and effective laws. Interact and learn from faculty who have helped achieve progresses for animal welfare in India . Many international participants are keen to volunteer with organisations working with free-roaming animals, terrestrial wildlife or marine conservation in India; to get involved first hand at a grassroots level, in advocacy and education.



FAQs for
International
Students

Question: Is the language of instruction English? Do I need understanding of Hindi?

Answer: The language of instruction and examinations is English. You do not require an understanding of Hindi to attend this course

Question: What is the tuition fee? On the website I read that tuition fees are 30,000 rupees (342 Euros) per year which is actually very inexpensive. Have I made a mistake? Are there additional costs?

Answer: Yes the fee is Rs 30,000 per year. The total cost is Rs 30,000 for the Advanced Diploma and Rs 60,000 for the Masters. There may be additional fees if you have to retake an examination or for us to send the reading material internationally but these are likely to be minimal. The program was priced in order to make sure it was accessible to all, and cost was not a disincentive to individuals who wish to study about this area of law.

Since Nalsar is a public university and we are trying to cater to the needs of people from all walks of life, we have kept the fees low. However, that will in no way impact the quality of the course. Nalsar has consistently ranked highest among the top law schools in India, and you can rest assured about the quality of the course that we offer.

Question: Will the M.A. in Animal Protection Law at Nalsar University cover animal law worldwide or just Indian animal law?

Answer: The program primarily covers Indian law. International law is only dealt with if it applies to India or if it impacts Indian law and policy in any way. The program will be useful to students from both common law and civil law countries since the courses will mostly be principle based and not just a commentary on

statutes. The study of judicial pronouncement by Indian courts will be useful to activists and advocates worldwide considering the far-reaching tone of the judgements and the fact that they have been celebrated as major strides in animal rights in international media. The course on Indian Constitutional law is especially relevant since it undertakes a comprehensive study of the world's longest written constitution of the world's largest democracy, with the drafters incorporating aspects from the Constitutions of various nations. Moreover, courses like Introduction to Law, Animal Ethics, Animals & Society, Governance & Compliance and Animal Legal Personhood explore jurisprudential aspects that cater to a universal appeal.

Question: Why is the degree designed to be an M.A. program and not an LL.M.?

Answer: This program is also open to individuals who may not have an LLB or graduation in law. This program does not enable someone to obtain a bar licence and practice as a lawyer. In order to make this program open to all and comply with government regulations we chose to offer an M.A. in Animal Protection Laws instead of an LL.M.



FAQs for
International
Students

Nandita Ray, Lawyer

I'm immensely grateful to you for creating courses on such laws for young lawyers like myself! More power to you! My diploma program on Animal Protection Laws is coming to an end. And it's sad because I have never enjoyed studying any subject so much in my entire life! Looking forward to more engagements including the amazing webinars you have hosted!

Manpreet Singh, pursuing Ph.D. in Wildlife Science

This program empowered me in developing a pragmatic thinking towards animal protection in India. Everyone can be emotionally biased when dealing with a sensitive topic as animal protection is, however the need is to look for a balanced perspective from the prison of animal welfare. This is only possible, if one has in-depth understanding of different issues as well as perspectives governing the animal protection laws. So how to overcome sticky situations which are at the crossroads of the ethical dilemma of humans and moral responsibility towards animals, is what this course has successfully managed to ingrain in me.

I had a chance to learn a great deal of things in this program. This course made me aware about ground reality of animal welfare which was somewhere buried underneath the preconceived notions of societal generalization and further layered by media frenzy. Thus, this course not only helped me to look at the other side of the coin from new realization but also made me develop a pragmatic balance to deal with conundrums associated with animal welfare practice in an effortless way.

Radhika Rao, Researcher- Zoologist and Science Communicator

The program has helped me understand the framework that our government runs by when it comes to animal protection and conservation. I particularly enjoyed writing my exams as it wholly encompassed the laws put down for wildlife and animal protection and the questions compelled me to think and use both practical as well theoretical knowledge. The course has instilled confidence in my endeavor to work for the betterment of animals in the conservation field. I am the co-founder of a collective that advocates for bio-diversity conservation, and works in the education space for the same and understanding animal rights and how they came about will surely help me bring change and enlighten more people about how everyone can work together to create a better world for animals, armed with sufficient knowledge of the law.

Thank you so much to NALSAR. I believe everyone must be educated about the laws in place to support normal citizens, through any educational program. NALSAR is doing a great job of it and I would really like to thank my faculty for all the knowledge they armed me with. I am now empowered and enlighten to work for a brighter future for animals and give back to them, the joy that they have given me in life so far.

Dr. Rubina Mondal, pursued PhD in Ecology of freshwater fish, IISER Kolkata

This course has made me aware of everyday instances of cruelty that I would have earlier dismissed as "everyday things" but now I am



Testimonials for
Animal Protection
Laws Programmes
Offered by
NALSAR

"The welfare of animals has come to the forefront of dialogues with law makers and in the board room, this program will help build the capacity of students to improve institutional decision making for animals."- Jayasimha Nuggehally

aware of the magnitude and the gravity of the issues. Secondly, given that I am in academia, it makes me think more deeply about the ethics of "good" research and how urgently we require animal studies in India to help guide formulate scientifically backed laws.

Neha Bansod, Master's in Forestry and Wildlife

[This program empowered me] to gain knowledge regarding law of animals and how to exactly implement if I want to help animals [gain] agency. I am glad and grateful too, that I study under such reputed university with all the faculties who are responsible, understanding and supportive. I am looking forward to help animals after enlightenment of knowledge, from the roots to become a huge tree to nurture and help animals.

Rini Dalal, Canine Nutritionist

I can make informed decisions after gaining knowledge from this program. It would help me to propagate the same going ahead in the masses and thus create awareness which is very much needed in the current situation around.

This course was an enriching and invigorating experience for me. I learnt many facets of animal welfare and rights. It helped me in furthering my knowledge and implementing on the field-work with more clarity. The sessions conducted by some leading personalities in this field made the learning all the more exciting.

Asjad Bashshar S, Engineer, Animal Rescuer

When I first heard that, there is such a course, where I can learn about Animal Laws and Policies, I was excited to say the least. The course was being offered from NALSAR was like a cherry on top.

I have been an animal rescuer for the past four years, seeing so many cases of cruelty and blatant ignorance towards the law, I wanted to

know what can be done and what rights I have as an individual to help these poor souls. So, that was my primary reason for joining this course.

Coming to the content and the materials, I would say they were sufficient in covering all the basics of Animal laws and also introducing us to international laws and policies.

The guest lecturers were amazing, just being able to listen to the experience of these pioneers in animal welfare was humbling for me.

[A]nother important thing from this course is being introduced to a community of like minded people, people from different backgrounds and from different locations pan India. It offered me a chance to see the reality of animal welfare in all these places and also getting to know these people was great.

Dr Smruti Smita Mohapatra, Veterinarian

The PG Diploma on Animal Protection Laws has been of immense help to me as a veterinarian to understand professionally the implications of animal welfare laws in India.

The course has been so designed that it caters to the understanding of all the students, even when most of whom are not from law background. Having attended the first set of contact classes in NALSAR campus, the one-on-one sessions with all the course mentors, animal rights activists and batchmates have been helpful. With an active course coordinator, the care and intensity with which the course has been made accessible and reachable to all of us in this pandemic, I appreciate the [course coordinator's] sincere efforts as well as of the Animal Law Centre faculty to keep our interests intact. The online contact classes in May have been very useful in terms of preparation and keeping oneself abreast of the course.

This is not a mere course for me. It has become my way of life. Thank you so much for everything.



Testimonials for
Animal Protection
Laws Programmes
Offered by
NALSAR