

DAYNA L. SMITH
VERMONT LAW & GRADUATE SCHOOL
Director, Academic Success Program
Associate Professor of Law

EDUCATION

VERMONT LAW SCHOOL, South Royalton, VT, May 2020

J.D.

- Vermont Journal of Environmental Law, Editor in Chief (Vol. 21)
- Moot Court: Jeffrey G. Miller National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition, 2020;
Debevoise Moot Court Competition, 2019

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Chicago, IL, Aug. 2016

M.S. Biology

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME, Notre Dame, IN, May 2014

B.S. Biological Sciences, Minor in Sustainability

EXPERIENCE

VERMONT LAW & GRADUATE SCHOOL, South Royalton, VT, Aug. 2022 – present

Director, Academic Success Program and Associate Professor of Law July 2025 – present
Associate Director, Academic Success Program and **Associate Professor of Law** July 2024 – July 2025
Associate Director, Academic Success Program and Assistant Professor of Law Oct. 2023 – July 2024
Assistant Director, Academic Success Program and Assistant Professor of Law Aug. 2022-Oct. 2023

Teaching:

Bar Exam Skills and Tactics (online & residential); Bar Exam Test
Taking Extra Review (online); Civil Procedure (residential); Essay
Writing for Exams (hybrid); Evidence (residential); Foundations of Legal
Analysis (residential); Legal Methods (residential); Multistate
Professional Responsibility Exam Preparation (online); Torts
(residential); Independent Research Projects; Advanced Writing
Requirement; Master's Externship

Service:

AALS Faculty Representative (elected 2024-2025); Academic Advisor;
CLEO Mentor; Emory Civil Rights & Liberties Moot Court Competition
Team Coach; Faculty Appointment Subcommittees; National
Environmental Law Moot Court Competition Team Coach; Next
Generation Bar Committee; Vermont Journal of Environmental Law
Faculty Advisor

Departmental Responsibilities:

Organize and Present at Jump Start Pre-Orientation Program; Develop
and Present Academic Skills Workshops; Track Next Generation Bar
Exam Developments; Track and Report Bar Pass Data; Develop and
Implement Bar Exam Success Initiatives

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, Champaign, IL, 2021 –2022

Visiting Law Coordinator, Graduate & International Programs Office
Adjunct Professor

JD ADVISING, 2021 – 2022

Bar Exam, Law School, MPRE Tutor

Attorney Content Creator

THE COLLINS LAW FIRM, Naperville, IL, 2019 –2021

Associate, Jan. 2021 – June 2021

Law Clerk, May 2019 – Jan. 2021 (promoted upon bar admission)

VERMONT LAW SCHOOL ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM, South Royalton, VT, 2018–2020

Teaching Assistant & Student Mentor

THE APPELLATE ADVOCACY PROJECT, South Royalton, VT, 2020

Student Clinician

ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC, South Royalton, VT, 2019

Advanced Student Clinician, Aug. 2019-Dec. 2019

Student Clinician, Jan. 2019-May 2019

VERMONT AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Montpelier, VT, 2018

Law Clerk

SCHOLARSHIP

Law Review Articles

- Dayna Smith, *PFAS Litigation and Industry “Science”: Combating Deceptive Industry Practices*, 47 W. NEW ENG. L. R. 61 (2025).
- Dayna Smith, *The Ripple Effect: Examining Judicial Activism in Two Landmark Climate Cases*, 26 VT. J. ENV’T L. 167 (2025).
- Dayna Smith, *Close the Gate! A Daubert Argument for Excluding Industry-Funded “Science,”* 71 DRAKE L. R. 45 (2024).
- Dayna Smith, Note, *The Final Straw? Evaluating Possible Challenges to Single-Use Plastic Straw Bans*, 50 TEX. ENV’T L. J. 331 (2020).

Online Publications

- Contributing Editor, LAW SCHOOL ACADEMIC SUPPORT BLOG, LAW PROFESSOR BLOGS NETWORK:
 - Dayna Smith, *To Bar Support Educators: You Made It. Thank You.*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (July 30, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/07/to-bar-support-educators-you-made-it-thank-you.html.
 - Dayna Smith, *Collaboration Between Doctrinal Faculty and Academic Support: Why It Matters*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (July 16, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/07/collaboration-between-doctrinal-faculty-and-academic-support-why-it-matters.html.
 - Dayna Smith, *Creating Meaningful Online Resources*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (July 2, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/06/creating-meaningful-online-academic-support-resources.html.
 - Dayna Smith, *Using Data Without Dehumanizing*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (June 18, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/06/using-data-without-dehumanizing-.html.
 - Dayna Smith, *Step into the Unknown: Why Academic Success Professionals Should Take Risks*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (June 4, 2025),

https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/06/step-into-the-unknown-why-academic-success-professionals-should-take-risks.html.

- Dayna Smith, *Turning Self-Doubt into Strength: A Survival Skill for All Stages*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (May 21, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/05/turning-self-doubt-into-strength-a-survival-skill-for-all-stages.html.
- Dayna Smith, *Reflections of an ASP Newbie: Lessons from My First Three Years in Academic Success*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (May 7, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/05/reflections-of-an-asp-newbie-lessons-from-my-first-three-years-in-academic-success.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Look How Far You've Come*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Apr. 23, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/04/1l-of-a-blog-series-look-how-far-youve-come.html
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Your Secret Weapon for Surviving Finals*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Apr. 9, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/04/1l-of-a-blog-series-your-secret-weapon-for-surviving-finals.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Creating a Study Schedule*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Mar. 26, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/03/1l-of-a-blog-series-creating-a-study-schedule.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Mastering Essay Exams*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Mar. 12, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/03/1l-of-a-blog-series-mastering-essay-exams.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Mastering Multiple-Choice Exams*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Feb. 26, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/02/1l-of-a-blog-series-mastering-multiple-choice-exams.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Using Commercial Supplements Responsibly*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Feb. 12, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/02/1l-of-a-blog-series-using-commercial-supplements-responsibly.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Mastering Time Management*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Jan. 29, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/01/1l-of-a-blog-series-mastering-time-management.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Learning from Last Semester*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Jan. 15, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2025/01/1l-of-a-blog-series-learning-from-last-semester.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Preparing for Spring*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Jan. 1, 2025), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2024/12/1l-of-a-blog-series-preparing-for-spring.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Winter Break*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Dec. 18, 2024), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2024/12/1l-of-a-blog-series-winter-break.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Manage Stress for Success*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Dec. 4, 2024), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2024/12/1l-of-a-blog-series-manage-stress-for-success.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Conquering Your Final Exams*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Nov. 20, 2024), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2024/11/1l-of-a-blog-series-conquering-your-final-exams.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: The Lead-In to Final Exams*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Nov. 6, 2024), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2024/11/my-

- entry.html.
- Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Learning from Midterms*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Oct. 23, 2024), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2024/10/my-entry-1.html.
 - Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Preparing for Midterms*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Oct. 9, 2024), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2024/10/my-entry.html.
 - Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Outlining for Success*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Sept. 25, 2024), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2024/09/11-of-a-blog-series-part-two-outlining-for-success.html.
 - Dayna Smith, *1L of a Blog Series: Three Tips for Reading & Briefing Cases*, LAW SCH. ACAD. SUPPORT BLOG (Sept. 11, 2024), https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/academic_support/2024/09/11-of-a-blog-series-three-tips-for-reading-briefing-cases.html.
 - Erin Evans & **Dayna Smith**, *Superfund Me: A High-Level Overview of Climate Change Superfund Bills*, VT. J. ENV'T L. (Jan. 2, 2025), <https://vjel.vermontlaw.edu/top-ten/2025-top-ten/2024/12/superfund-me-a-high-level-overview-of-climate-change-superfund-bills/>.
 - Dayna Smith, *4 Things You Should Do If You Failed the Bar Exam*, ABA STUDENT LAWYER BLOG (Nov. 15, 2023), https://www.americanbar.org/groups/law_students/resources/student-lawyer/bar-admissions-and-exam/4-things-you-should-do-if-you-failed-the-bar-exam/.
 - Dayna Smith, *4 Bar Exam Study Tips*, ABA STUDENT LAWYER BLOG (May 16, 2023), https://www.americanbar.org/groups/law_students/resources/student-lawyer/bar-admissions-and-exam/four-bar-exam-study-tips/.
 - Dayna Smith, *5 Time Management Tips for Bar Studying*, ABA STUDENT LAW. BLOG (Mar. 8, 2023), https://www.americanbar.org/groups/law_students/resources/student-lawyer/bar-admissions-and-exam/5-time-management-tips-for-bar-studying/.
 - Dayna Smith & Mark Latham, *From Civil Rights to Nuisance: Novel Approaches to Battling Climate Change*, VT. J. ENV'T L. (Dec. 2019), <http://vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/civil-rights- nuisance-novel-approaches- battling-climate-change/>.

External Presentations

- Dayna Smith, Poster, *Bar Exam in the Bathroom: Using Creative Outreach to Elevate Your Program*, ASS'N ACAD. SUPPORT EDUCATORS ANN. MEETING (May 2025).
- Jessica Durkis-Stokes & **Dayna Smith**, Poster, *Next Gen at Faculty Meetings – Generating Buy-In Across Campus*, ASS'N ACAD. SUPPORT EDUCATORS ANN. MEETING (May 2025).
- Dayna Smith, Presentation, *Academic Support in an Online World: Adapting to Meet Remote Needs*, NE. CONSORTIUM ACAD. SUPPORT PROFS. (Dec. 2023).

Other

- Alison Zachritz et al., *Bioaccumulation of Mercury in Lake Michigan Painted Turtles (*Chrysemys picta*)*, 196 ENV'T MONITORING & ASSESSMENT 75 (2023) (**coauthor**).
- Dayna L. Smith et al., *Body Burdens of Heavy Metal Contaminants in Lake Michigan Wetland Turtles*, 188 ENV'T MONITORING & ASSESSMENT 1 (2016).

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Vermont Mar. 2023 – present (inactive status)
- Illinois Jan. 2021 – present (inactive status)

MEMBERSHIPS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Association of Academic Support Educators Aug. 2023 – present
 - Information & Media Committee Member Aug. 2024-present
 - Scholarship Committee Member June 2025 – present
 - Led planning for panel in Scholarship 101 workshop
- Member, Vermont Bar Association June 2023 – present
- Association of American Law Schools Aug. 2022 – present
 - Editor, *The Learning Curve*, Academic Support Section May 2025 – present
 - Section Memberships: Academic Support; Civil Procedure; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Professionals; Evidence; Teaching Methods; Torts and Compensation Systems
- American Bar Association Aug. 2022 – present
- Board Member, Magic Mountain Children's Center June 2023 – June 2025

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Learned Hand Award for Academic Excellence, Vermont Law School, May 2020
- Marc Mihaly Environmental Leadership Award, Vermont Law School, May 2020
- Best Oralist in Courtroom, Jeffrey G. Miller National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition, Feb. 2020
- Academic Excellence Awards for Highest Grade, Vermont Law School: Legal Writing II (2018), Environmental Law (2018), Criminal Practice and Procedure (2018), Environmental and Natural Resources Legal Clinic (now Environmental Advocacy Clinic) (2019), Evidence (2019), and Family Law (2019)