



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DI PARMA**

DIPARTIMENTO DI GIURISPRUDENZA,  
STUDI POLITICI E INTERNAZIONALI

DIPARTIMENTO 2023  
DI ECCELLENZA 2027

## Summer School 2026

### Corporate & Food Law: A Global Perspective

Widener University, Delaware Law School – Università di Parma, LLM Global Food Law:  
Sustainability Challenges and Innovation

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** Students will (1) demonstrate knowledge of core doctrines and institutional frameworks governing international, comparative, and corporate food law, including EU and U.S. regulatory systems, global trade regimes, and the intersection of corporate governance and food regulation and (2) analyze and apply legal principles to complex, real-world food law and corporate governance problems, including risk regulation, compliance failures, agency conflicts, sustainability regulation, and international trade disputes.

**REQUIRED TEXT:** readings as indicated in the following Schedule.

#### CLASS SCHEDULE:

##### **Class 1 - May 18 – Location: Parma**

**9:00-12:00** Educational Visit: European Food Safety Authority EFSA (with Professor Sarah Everhart)

**14:30-15:30:** Professor Sarah Everhart: A Conceptual Framework for International and Comparative Corporate Food Law. Required reading for the lecture: Neal Fortin, *Advanced Introduction to International Food Law*, 2023, 1-21 available [here](#) (hereinafter, Fortin).

##### **Class 2 - May 19 – Location: Parma**

**8:00-10:00** Educational Visit: Latteria Cooperativa di Marano, Dairy Cooperative Parmigiano Reggiano (with Professor Sarah Everhart).

**11:00-13:00** Professor Valeria Paganizza: Corporate & Food Law – the connection.

Reading suggested for the lecture: [Corporate power and human rights in food systems](#), Report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Michael Fakhri, 20-22 (for the students who choose the final presentation on related topics, required reading: entire paper indicated above).



UNIVERSITÀ  
DI PARMA

DIPARTIMENTO DI GIURISPRUDENZA,  
STUDI POLITICI E INTERNAZIONALI

DIPARTIMENTO 2023  
DI ECCELLENZA 2027

💡 Key questions: Why is food law important when considering corporations? What is corporate power like in food systems?

**15:00-17:00** Dott. Simone Gabbi, Legal officer: EFSA (European food safety authority) in the EU legal system.

### **Class 3 - May 20 - Location: Parma**

**9:00-11:00** Professor Sarah Everhart: International Food Law and Risk Regulation: Scope, Methods & Regulatory Actors. Recommended pages to read in advance for the lecture: Fortin 22-31 (for the students who choose the final presentation on related topics, required reading Fortin 22-39).

**11:00-12:00** Dott. Riccardo Rao: The key features of corporations.

Recommended pages to read in advance for the lecture: [What is Corporate Law? by Henry Hansmann, Reinier Kraakman :SSRN](#), 1-6 (for the students who choose the final presentation on related topics, required reading: entire paper indicated above (pages 1-19)).

💡 Key questions: what are the main features of a corporation? Do separate personality and limited liability always coexist, or not necessarily? How do the roles of investors (shareholders) and managers (directors) differ?

**12:00-13:00** Professor Valeria Paganizza: Practical cases: managing risks, managing incompliances. Reading recommended for the lecture: World Economic Forum, [The Food Rules: How Regulation Is Transforming the Future of Food](#), December 2025, 1-6 (for the students who choose the final presentation on related topics, required reading: entire paper indicated above).

💡 Key questions: what must operators pay attention to in food business? What may the consequences of incompliances be? How to manage risks and incompliances in a proper way?

### **Class 4 - May 21 - Location: Parma**

**9:00-11:00** Professor Sarah Everhart: Quality Schemes, Geographical Indications & Competing Narratives in European Food Governance. Recommended pages to read in advance for the lecture: Review the following web pages: European Commission, [Geographical Indications and Quality Schemes Explained](#).

**11:00-12:00** Dott. Riccardo Rao: Agency problems in corporations: shareholders, directors, potential conflicts and strategies to manage.



UNIVERSITÀ  
DI PARMA

DIPARTIMENTO DI GIURISPRUDENZA,  
STUDI POLITICI E INTERNAZIONALI

DIPARTIMENTO 2023  
DI ECCELLENZA 2027

Recommended pages to read in advance for the lecture: [Agency Problems and Legal Strategies by Henry Hansmann, Reinier Kraakman : SSRN](#), only pages 21-23 (for the students who choose the final presentation on related topics, required reading: 21-31.)

💡 Key questions: what is the definition of an agency problem? What types of agency problems arise in corporations? What are the main legal strategies for reducing agency costs?

**12:00-13:00** Professor Tommaso Bonamini, Dott. Francesco Maria Moglia: Corporate Law - Workshop on agri-food contracts (corporate: a pragmatic perspective) (Part 1).

💡 Key questions: What are the main structural parts of an agri-food supply contract? Who are the parties, and how do their commercial interests differ? How does the seasonal nature of supply affect the contractual balance? How do standard clauses reflect bargaining power and commercial planning?

### **Class 5 - May 22 - Location: Parma**

**9:00-11:00** Professor Sarah Everhart: Sources and Functionality of International Food Trade Regimes. Recommended pages to read in advance for the lecture: Fortin 40-47 (for the students who choose the final presentation on related topics, required reading: Fortin 47-58).

**11:00-13:00** Professor Valeria Paganizza: The EU Deforestation Regulation and its extraterritoriality: impact on trade and business. Reading suggested for the lecture: A. Beltrame de Moura, The EU's [Deforestation Regulation: Balancing Environmental Goals and Global Trade Challenges](#), in eurolatinstudies.com.

💡 Key questions: what is Brussels effect? How does the Brussels effect apply to deforestation? What are the consequences of the EU Deforestation Regulation on global trade?

### **Class 6 - May 27 - Online lesson**

**15:00-17:00** Professor Sarah Everhart: U.S. Food Law and Regulatory Institutions. FDA, USDA, and Federalism in Food Governance. Recommended pages to read in advance for the lecture: Ronald H. Schmidt, Douglas L. Archer, and Michael T. Olexa, [Federal Regulation of the Food Industry—Part 2: Federal Regulatory Agencies](#).



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DI PARMA**

DIPARTIMENTO DI GIURISPRUDENZA,  
STUDI POLITICI E INTERNAZIONALI

DIPARTIMENTO 2023  
DI ECCELLENZA 2027

### **Class 7 - May 28 – Online lessons**

**15:00-17:00** Professor Sarah Everhart: Comparative Food Law. Convergence, Divergence, and Complexity of Global Food Systems. Recommended pages to read in advance for the lecture: Fortin, 88-97.

**17:00-18:00** Professor Francesca Consorte: Food, Sustainability, and Criminal Law: The Case of the EU Crime of Deforestation. Slides Provided by Professor F. Consorte.

💡 Key questions: In the new criminal offense of deforestation as described by the EU, can a real harm or a danger to the protected legal interest be identified that is sufficient to justify the punishments as provided for by the directive?

### **Class 8 - May 29 - Online lessons**

**15:00-17:00** Professor Sarah Everhart: Politics of Food Safety. How U.S. and EU Political Structures Shape Regulatory Outcomes? Recommended pages to read in advance for the lecture: Fortin 108-113. Discussion of final presentations.

**17:00-18:00** Dott. Riccardo Rao: Other corporate constituencies: majority vs minority shareholders, creditors and other stakeholders, sustainable development.

Recommended pages to read in advance for the lecture: [Toward a Dynamic View of Corporate Purpose by Dorothy S. Lund :: SSRN](#), only pages 2-3 (for the students who choose the final presentation on related topics, required reading: 2-9).

💡 Key questions: Who are the main stakeholders? What is the stakeholder view of corporations? How has the debate shareholders v. stakeholders shaped the evolution of corporate law over time?

### **Class 9 - June 3 – Online lessons**

**15:00-17:00** Professor Sarah Everhart: Consumer Empowerment and Sustainable Food Systems: Emerging Directions in Global Food Law. Recommended pages to read in advance for the lecture: [EU's Farm-to-Fork Strategy \(F2F\) for Sustaining Tomorrow's Food System: Progress, Achievements & Looking Ahead](#) and Vincent Delhomme, [Rethinking Consumer Empowerment: New Directions for Sustainable Food Law in an Era of EU Discontent](#) (pages 1-14).

**17:00-18:00** Professor Tommaso Bonamini, Dott. Francesco Maria Moglia: Corporate Law - Workshop on agri-food contracts (corporate: a pragmatic perspective ) (Part 2).



UNIVERSITÀ  
DI PARMA

DIPARTIMENTO DI GIURISPRUDENZA,  
STUDI POLITICI E INTERNAZIONALI

DIPARTIMENTO 2023  
DI ECCELLENZA 2027

💡 Key questions: Which clauses are essential for the performance of an agri-food supply contract? How should price, delivery schedules, and payment terms be regulated? How is risk allocated between retailer and supplier? Which clauses may amount to unfair trading practices under Directive (EU) 2019/633 and Legislative Decree No. 198/2021?

### **Class 10 - June 5 - Online lessons**

**15:00-17:00** Professor Tommaso Bonamini, Dott. Francesco Maria Moglia: Corporate Law - Workshop on agri-food contracts (corporate: a pragmatic perspective) (Part 3).

💡 Key questions: Which clauses are compliant, and which clauses raise legal concerns? When may a contractual term be regarded as invalid or unenforceable? How can problematic clauses be redrafted in a clearer and fairer way? How can legal compliance be combined with commercial efficiency in agri-food contracts?

**17:00-18:00** Professor Valeria Paganizza - Food information to consumers: the non-misleading art. Reading suggested for the lecture: EU Court of Auditors, [Food labelling in the EU. Consumers can get lost in the maze of labels](#), 2024, 43-47 (for the students who choose the final presentation on related topics, required reading: entire paper indicated above).

💡 Key questions: Why food labelling is important for consumers' choice? How can consumers be misled by labelling? What can food business operators do to avoid misleading consumers?

### **Class 11 - June 8 - Online**

Final Exam/Presentations - 15:00-17:00

### **Class 12 - June 11 - Online**

Final Exam/Presentations - 15:00-17:00

### **Scientific and Organizing Committee:**

Prof.ssa Francesca Consorte

Prof.ssa Malaika Bianchi



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DI PARMA**

DIPARTIMENTO DI GIURISPRUDENZA,  
STUDI POLITICI E INTERNAZIONALI

DIPARTIMENTO **2023**  
DI ECCELLENZA **2027**

**Educational Committee:**

Prof.ssa Sarah Everhart

Prof.ssa Valeria Paganizza

**International Relations Coordinator:**

Eileen Grena

(Associate Dean and Executive Director: Graduate, International, and Compliance Programs)