This seminar will provide students an opportunity to engage closely with emerging law and policy issues associated with the need to increase coastal resilience in the face of climate change.

The recent experiences of both North and South Carolina with Hurricane Florence have highlighted the need for coastal communities to address a wide range of issues associated with climate change. In addition to designing approaches to increase resilience when faced with storms and rising sea levels, these issues include: (1) information-gathering (via maps, drones, and scientific research about coastal/ocean processes); (2) law and policy refinements (via statutes, regulations, and guidance); and (3) possible litigation to develop useful common law doctrines relevant to the tidelands and the public trust.

This seminar will introduce students to key scientific, legal, and policy aspects of these issues. Through the use of current cases and policy issues under debate in coastal communities, students will work together to research the most salient questions presented by these issues. They will analyze relevant facts, laws, policies, socio-economic considerations, and local ordinances, and prepare their own proposed solutions to these questions in the form of advisory memos and recommendations.

**Materials.** There is no required text for this course. Basic readings are excerpted from various sources, including court files, law review articles, scientific journals, and news sources, and made available electronically via the course website. Additional readings are posted weekly. Readings will cover a wide range of issues, including the National Flood Insurance program, flood zone mapping, sea level rise adaptation, questions of “taking” private property along the coast, the Public Trust Doctrine, evaluations of the efficacy of relocating residential properties, and sources of funding to support increased coastal resilience.

**Evaluation.** Students in this seminar will research and prepare materials designed to address several important issues that are emerging in connection with coastal resilience challenges. Final course grades will be based in part upon class participation (including the quality of contributions to class discussions) (roughly 25% of the final grade), and on the written submissions generated in response to specific questions about ways to increase coastal resilience (roughly 75% of the final grade).

**Submission of written work and timely filing policy.** All papers and memorandums in this class must be submitted in timely fashion. Please plan to send them to us directly via
email attachment. Absent an approved excuse, papers or memos filed late will be penalized with a .2 reduction for each day they are late (or 1/2 letter grade for non-law students).

**Honor Code.** We expect you to abide by the Duke Honor Code in this course. You will be encouraged to share ideas and research with other students throughout the semester, including in connection with the preparation and presentation of your written submissions. At the same time, we will expect you to be able to identify those specific portions of your submissions that are attributable to your own work.

**Office Hours.** Michelle’s office is in the Clinic Wing of the Law School (Room 2180); she typically is on campus each week and works from Grainger Environment Hall (Room 4114) on Wednesdays. Steve’s office is Room 4020 of the Law School; he typically is on campus Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We are glad to talk with students at any mutually agreeable time. Please email us to arrange meetings/conversations. Email addresses are nowlin@law.duke.edu, and steve.roady@duke.edu.