# Sample Personal Statement: Law School

It was not until my senior year at Haverford that I decided to apply to law school. Once I made my decision I quickly became excited by it and the possibilities it opened up. In pursuing a career in law I can follow an interest I have had since I was a boy—the environment. I was able to further my knowledge of the environment at Haverford College. As a history major with an environmental studies minor, I profited from classes in everything from specific, local environmental problems to international environmental policy. Not only did I learn more about the environment, I learned more about what I could do to protect and preserve it. I was particularly interested in classes on policy and law formation, both domestic and international.

During one of my terms off I worked as a research intern at the Environmental Institute, a non-profit research group located in Washington, DC. There I saw that getting a law degree would open doors to jobs where I could make an impact in environmental protection and policy. At EI I worked under lawyers who were working directly with different groups from around the world to solve their specific environmental problems, who worked to create environmental laws and standards in newly developing Eastern European governments. Others worked with small environmental groups in the U.S. to preserve specific ecosystems through legislation. This is the type of work that I would love to do. With my social science background this is the area where I can make the most difference. Environmental regulation involves complex issues, and I have learned that there are no quick or easy answers to these issues.

I want to be able to work these problems out. I want to go into law because I see that the law provides rules by which people can resolve differences on the basis of reason, fairness and predictability rather than brute strength or guile, and because it will enable me to work for the environment.