

Course Outline

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| Course number | RMT 115 |
| Course title | The Foundations of Intellectual Property Law |
| Credit points | 3 ECTS (2 CP) |
| Total hours | 24 |
| Lecture hours | 24 |
| Seminar and other hours | 0 |
| Course level | Masters |
| Prerequisites | None |

COURSE RESPONSIBLE

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Academic degree</i> | <i>Academic position</i> |
|------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Ingrīda Kariņa-Bērziņa | Juris Doctor., M.A. in Law and Diplomacy | Visiting Lecturer, Course Leader |

COURSE TEACHERS

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Academic degree</i> | <i>Academic position</i> |
|------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Ingrīda Kariņa-Bērziņa | Juris Doctor., M.A. in Law and Diplomacy | Visiting Lecturer, Course Leader |
| Guest lecturer TBC | | |

COURSE ABSTRACT

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of intellectual property law. Through the detailed study of recent cases and current events, we will explore the legal framework of intellectual property law; trademarks, design rights, patents and copyright; trade secrets, and practical aspects of IP protection and enforcement.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Academic and professional competences to be gained through the course

- **Knowledge**

This course will focus on introducing students to the substantive law of intellectual property in Europe, including an understanding of the international, European and national legal framework for patents, trademarks, design rights, trade secrets, and copyright. The course is designed to convey an understanding of the nature of intellectual property rights, how such rights are secured and how they are enforced against third parties.

- **Competencies**

Students will gain experience in analysing the hierarchy of legal norms as it applies to intellectual property rights and identifying the correct source of law to analyse, understand and solve problems in the field of IP. The course reading will provide training in effectively reading and understanding European and national case law.

- **Skills**

Students will gain skills in reading and understanding international conventions (including the Berne and Paris conventions, TRIPS), European Union treaty law, relevant directives and regulations; identifying national legal norms relevant to solving specific IP problems; they will develop skills in analysing legal arguments and articulating their own; they will practice legal writing skills with a particular focus on clarity, structure and addressing specified issues and questions.

GRADING CRITERIA

| Criteria | Weighting |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Exam | <<70%>> |
| Course paper and class participation | <<30%>> |

COURSE PLAN – MAIN SUBJECTS

Please summarize the main parts of the course and the planned hours dedicated to each

| No. | Main subjects | Planned hours |
|-----|--|---------------|
| 1 | Intellectual property: overview, policy implications, legal framework | 4 |
| 2 | Industrial property: patents, trade secrets, trademarks, design rights | 12 |
| 3 | Copyright | 6 |
| 4 | Intellectual property enforcement and disputes | 2 |

COURSE PLAN – SESSIONS

Please specify each teaching session, with a short indication of the session subjects and readings, as well as the session formats

| Session | Session subjects and readings | Lecture/seminar |
|---------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Introduction to Intellectual Property | Lecture |
| 2 | Trademarks | Lecture |
| 3 | Trademarks | Lecture |
| 4 | Design Rights | Lecture |
| 5 | Design Rights | Lecture |
| 6 | Patents | Lecture |
| 7 | Patents | Lecture |
| 8 | Copyright | Lecture |
| 9 | Copyright | Lecture |
| 10 | Copyright | Lecture |
| 11 | IP Enforcement | Lecture |
| 12 | Course summary and review | Seminar |

COURSE RESULTS

By completing the study course and successfully passing examination, the student will be able to:

| Study results | Evaluation criteria | | |
|------------------|--|--|--|
| | (40-69%) | (70-89%) | (90-100%) |
| Knowledge | The student has acquired only basic knowledge of the course subject. The student lacks understanding of some of the core issues of the course subject. | Overall, the student's knowledge complies with the expectations. However, there are issues that the student does not fully understand. | The student has demonstrated in-depth knowledge and understanding of the issues related to the course subject. |

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| Skills | The student has demonstrated only basic level of skills. | The student has demonstrated good skills. | The student has demonstrated excellent skills. |
| Competencies | The student can apply the knowledge only at a basic level. The student struggles with assessment and evaluation of legal issues. The student can identify the relevant legal norms. However, the student cannot correctly apply them. | The student can apply the knowledge at a reasonably good level. However, the student does not have the necessary level to be able to fully apply the acquired knowledge independently. The student has some problems to correctly apply the legal norms. | The student is able to apply the knowledge independently and correctly. The student can assess and evaluate legal issues, identify the relevant legal norms, and correctly apply them. |

COURSE LITERATURE

(Please specify mandatory and supplementary reading materials)

| No. | Author, title, publisher |
|--|---|
| Mandatory reading materials | |
| 1 | Bently & Sherman, <i>Intellectual Property Law</i> 5th Ed., 2018 (Oxford University Press). |
| 2 | Guy Tritton, <i>Intellectual Property in Europe</i> 5th Ed. (London: Sweet & Maxwell). |
| 3 | Case readings are mandatory—please refer to Reading Assignments overview |
| Supplementary reading materials | |
| 1 | WIPO Handbook on Intellectual Property Law 2 nd Ed. at http://www.wipo.int/about-ip/en/iprm/ |

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| Programme director | /signature/ | /date/ |
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| Field expert | /signature/ | /date/ |
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| Course responsible | /signature/ | /date/ |

