



Module Specification

Intellectual Property Law

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Contents

| | |
|--|----------|
| Module Specification | 1 |
| Part 1: Information | 2 |
| Part 2: Description | 2 |
| Part 3: Teaching and learning methods | 3 |
| Part 4: Assessment..... | 5 |
| Part 5: Contributes towards | 6 |

Part 1: Information

Module title: Intellectual Property Law

Module code: UJGUQF-15-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2024-25

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

College: College of Business and Law

School: CBL Bristol Law School

Partner institutions: None

Field: Law Postgraduate (Programmes)

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: The module examines the law relating to intellectual property (copyright and patents) from an international and European perspective. The module is divided into two parts. The emphasis may shift where there is a shift in relative importance but the module has been drawn broadly enough so that developments in the area can be taken into account.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Please see Learning Outcomes.

In addition, students will develop the ability to work in groups.

Outline syllabus: Part 1 of the module begins by providing an overview of intellectual property, focusing on copyright and patents, and analysing the justifications for and the policy behind intellectual property protection.

The international instruments regarding intellectual property, focusing on the TRIPS Agreement, are examined and any problems associated with these instruments are critically assessed.

Part 2 undertakes a detailed evaluation of specific areas of copyright and patent protection involving new technology using a comparative analysis of US and European intellectual property law.

This includes a comparison of the US Digital Millennium Copyright Act and Copyright Term Extension Acts of 1998, and the EU Directives on Copyright and Related Rights in the Information Society (2001) and the Term of Protection of Copyright (1993) when evaluating the public domain and expansion of copyright, the investigation of the regulation of file sharing networks, and digital sampling.

It also includes a comparative analysis of US and European regulation of biotechnology patents, and software/business method patents.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The main focus of teaching and learning on the taught LLM programme is through independent research and debate in the context of 2 hour weekly workshops.

The workshop-based approach to teaching and learning is designed to enable the student to develop the independent research, analytical and reflective skills required

for successful completion of a postgraduate level course.

Students will need to complete the necessary preparatory reading and study of any set case materials in advance of each workshop.

From each workshop, the student will be expected to have developed a general mastery of the subject under consideration. In addition, students will be expected to raise, critically assess and defend different points of view on controversial issues in class and to make presentations to the class on their own and in groups.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 A critical understanding of the international legal principles (including US and European) and concepts relating to intellectual property, in particular an appreciation of the justifications for intellectual property.

MO2 A critical understanding of the global, regional and national regulation of intellectual property in particular in relation to the opportunities and difficulties of harmonisation.

MO3 An ability to locate and understand both international and national legal instruments and mechanisms relevant to intellectual property.

MO4 An ability to critically evaluate international intellectual property law in relation to its wider context, in particular in the context of globalisation, the protection of human rights and sustainable development.

MO5 An ability to discuss and critically evaluate the effectiveness of the regulatory schemes to extend intellectual property protection to new technology.

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 128 hours

Face-to-face learning = 22 hours

Total = 0

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uigupl-15-m.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uigupl-15-m.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy of the module is designed to comply with and support UWE Bristol Strategy 2030, CBL Strategy and on the skills required to work in the field of intellectual property law.

The assessment is positioned to enable student centred and practice-led learning to achieve the learning outcomes. The subject of the 2500 word coursework will be directed at these learning outcomes and on topical, relevant and often controversial matters. Students will be expected to identify the relevant issues in the question, specify the relevant law (both legislation and case law) and critically analyse this law.

Formative assessment opportunities will be provided throughout the module during student-centred, practice-led workshops.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: 2500 word written coursework

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Written coursework essay (max 3000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Global Business and Finance Law [Frenchay] LLM 2024-25

Global Business and Finance Law [FTU] LLM 2024-25

Global Business and Finance Law [BIBM] LLM 2024-25

Global Business and Finance Law [Villa] LLM 2024-25