



Maastricht University

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Overview of the patent-related modules in the IPKM

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Tempus IP-Med Visit

Principles of International Intellectual and Industrial Property Law

5 ECTS

- Patent-related subjects:
 - Overview patent systems in the world
 - History and statistics
 - Paris Convention - Claiming priority
 - Strasbourg Convention
 - Unitary EU Patent
 - Patent Cooperation Treaty
 - Patent Law Treaty
 - European Patent Convention
 - Patenting routes

Principles of International Intellectual and Industrial Property Law

5 ECTS

- Patent-related aspects are taught by Cees Mulder
- Assessment method for whole Module:
 - 4 assignments
 - mock trial (brief or judgment, and oral presentation/argumentation), and
 - individual written exam (60% of final grade)

IP and Life Sciences



- This module covers the validation of knowledge and strategic use of patents in the life sciences
- Topics covered:
 - analysis of validity and infringement of patents covering pharmaceuticals or biotechnological inventions
 - introduction to ethical and practical considerations in respect of clinical trials and inventive activity in research institutions

IP and Life Sciences

2 ECTS

- Module taught by Prof. David Townend (UM - Department of Health, Ethics and Society)
- Assessment method:
 - two assignments

IP and Computer Science



- This module covers:
 - the functioning of the European Patent Office (EPO)
 - patent protection of Information Communication Technology, in particular software
- Module taught by the Director of Software Inventions at the EPO
- Assessment method:
 - two assignments

Patent Law I

- Common Core module covering:
 - the functioning of the patent system
 - the protection of trade secrets as a means of providing incentives for innovation, and
 - the creation of a market for solutions to technical problems



Patent Law I

5 ECTS

- Issues discussed in relation to the European Patent Convention and national patent systems:
 - patentability
 - scope of protection
 - infringement, and
 - defences to infringement and limitations
- Prime focus on:
 - substantive patent law (Arts. 52-57 EPC), and
 - introduction to patent litigation

Patent Law I

5 ECTS

- Module taught by Cees Mulder and other European patent attorneys
- Assessment method:
 - four assignments
 - individual written exam (60% of final grade)

Patent Law II

- Common Core module covering:
 - strategic use of patents, and
 - patent litigation practice in various EPC member states
- Issues covered:
 - equivalents,
 - counterclaims
 - global patent strategies, and
 - comparative issues in relation to patent drafting, claim interpretation and litigation



Patent Law II

3 ECTS

- Module taught by four IP-Experts including Anselm Kamperman Sanders and Cees Mulder
- Assessment method:
 - four assignments
 - mock trial
 - individual written exam (60% of final grade)

EPC Claim Interpretation

- Common Core module providing insight to the theory and practice of interpreting patent claims
- Subjects covered:
 - function of the claims
 - claim categories
 - disclosure of the invention
 - extent of protection, and
 - infringement



EPC Claim Interpretation

2 ECTS

- Module taught by Cees Mulder
- Assessment method:
 - Two assignments

EPC Claim Drafting



- MSc module providing insight to the theory and practice of drafting patent claims
- Subjects covered:
 - translation of an invention conceived by an inventor into the technical specifications in a patent application
 - tools to draft a patent application offering the best patent protection
- Framework:
 - European Patent Convention, and
 - preparation for the European Qualifying Exam

EPC Claim Drafting

4 ECTS

- Module taught by two experienced European patent attorneys (non-resident teachers)
- Assessment method:
 - Two assignments

EPC Procedure

- MSc module covering the procedural aspects of the European Patent Convention
- Acquisition of patent rights:
 - filing a European patent application
 - procedure up to grant of the European patent
 - entry of a PCT-application into the regional phase before the European Patent Office
 - post-grant proceedings including opposition and appeal
 - the rules of procedure in litigation before the EPO, and
 - the interface with national procedures

EPC Procedure

2 ECTS

- Module covers recent development of EU Unitary patent and the Unified Patent Court
- Module taught by Cees Mulder
- Assessment method:
 - Two assignments



EPC Opposition

- MSc module covering the technical and legal aspects of raising an opposition to a granted European patent before the European Patent Office
- Subject covered:
 - priority problems (effective date)
 - prior use
 - interpretation of prior art
 - the basics of attacking a patent claim by formulating reasoned attacks under novelty and inventive step
 - aspects of appeal proceedings

EPC Opposition

2 ECTS

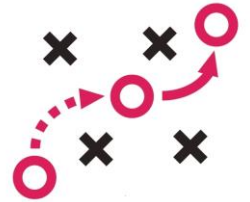
- Module taught by Cees Mulder and a European patent attorney experienced in opposition proceedings
- Assessment method:
 - Two assignments



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EQE Training at Maastricht University





EQE Training

- Since 2014, Maastricht University also provides teaching for the candidates preparing for the European Qualifying Examination (EQE) to become a European patent attorney
- The 3-day exam organized by the European Patent Office is tough with low passing rates (around 30%)
- We provide a methodology for sitting Exam Papers for the legal part (D Paper) and for drafting a notice of opposition (C Paper)

EQE Training

- The EQE courses are taught by Cees Mulder and Nyske Blokhuis who are European patent attorneys and renowned teachers for the EQE
- Mulder and Blokhuis have recently published two methodology book

