

Intellectual Property JD Curriculum at Washington University Law Spring 2014

Washington University offers an extensive list of courses in intellectual property (IP) and related fields. As presented below, the list is divided into four categories: Introductory Courses; Core, Upper-Level Courses; Clinics & Externships; and Affiliated Courses. No student, regardless of his or her commitment to IP, will come close to taking all of these courses during the 2L and 3L years.

All courses will not necessarily be offered each year. The courses marked with an asterisk are courses that, in recent history, have not been offered on a yearly basis. (The Affiliated Courses are not marked to convey this information.) If you are particularly interested in courses marked with an asterisk and they are offered in your 2L year, you should strongly consider taking them at that time.

1. Introductory Intellectual Property Courses:

- **Copyright and Related Rights:** Copyright provides IP protection for artists' creative expressions such as music, literature, and movies.
- **Trademarks and Unfair Competition:** Trademark provides IP protection for indicia used by companies to indicate the source of goods in commerce. Apple (as applied to computer products) and Nike (as applied to sporting goods) are trademarks.
- **Patent Law:** Patent provides IP protection for inventors' technological innovations.
- *** International Intellectual Property:** IP is granted and protected on a national, country-by-country basis. This course focuses primarily on the international treaty obligations that shape IP protection in each country.
- *** Survey of Intellectual Property:** This course provides an overview of IP issues, condensing copyright, trademark, and patent law into a single semester and introducing some related IP doctrines as well. This course is designed for two types of students. First, it is an excellent course for students who do not plan to specialize in IP law, as IP is becoming a more important facet of general litigation and corporate work. Second, it offers an opportunity for students who are particularly interested in one form of IP to get a broader understanding of the field. Students who have already taken (or who plan to take) any two of the introductory courses in copyright, trademark, and patent law should consider taking the third introductory course rather than the survey to avoid redundancy. This course is NOT a gateway course; it is NOT necessary to take this course before taking the other introductory courses.

NOTE ON THE PATENT LAW CURRICULUM: A degree in a scientific or technological field is extremely helpful, although not absolutely mandated, for a career in patent law. For rising 2Ls who think they may be interested in patent law, it is important to take the introductory Patent Law course in the fall of the 2L year. This course is a gateway course. It is a prerequisite for a number of upper-level courses in patent law, and it is valuable to have on your transcript if you are interested in doing work related to patent law during the summer after your 2L year. The core, minimum set of upper-level classes for students who continue to be interested in patent law after the introductory course includes patent drafting, IP licensing, and advanced patent law. In addition to introductory courses in other areas of IP law (including international IP), students interested in patent law also commonly enroll in one or more of the following: IP litigation, patent law moot court, IP seminar (if a patent-related topic is available), and patent law field placement.

2. Core, Upper-Level Intellectual Property Courses (includes podium classes, skills classes & seminars):

General IP courses:

- **Entertainment Law: Planning, Drafting and Negotiation**
- *** Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship**
- **Intellectual Property Litigation and Dispute Resolution**
- **Intellectual Property Moot Court Team**
 - Patents & Copyrights
 - Trademarks & Unfair Competition
- *** Intellectual Property Protection of Computer Software**
- *** Intellectual Property Seminar** (rotating topics)
- **Law and Business of IP Licensing and Technology Transfer**

Patent Courses:

- *** Advanced Patent Law**
- **Patent Drafting**
- *** The Business of Patents**

Trademark Courses:

- **Trademark Practice**

3. Intellectual Property Clinics & Externships: These courses are usually taken in the 3L year.

- **Intellectual Property and Nonprofit Organizations Legal Clinic**
- *** Patent Law Field Placement**
- **Semester in Practice Externship**

4. Information Law and Privacy

- Information Privacy Law
- Civil Liberties in Cyberspace
- Speech, Press & the Constitution
- Law and Policy of Electronic Information
- Censorship and Free Expression: A Practitioner's Guide
- Media Litigation

5. Medical Technology and Health Law:

- Bioethics and Law
- * Genetics Ethics, Law and Policy Seminar
- * Regulating Drugs and Other Medical Technologies
- Health Law
- * Legal Advocacy in Health Law and Policy Seminar
- * Organization and Regulation of the Healthcare Enterprise

6. Selected Affiliated Courses:

- Administrative Law
- Antitrust
- Antitrust in the World Economy
- Law and Economics