

Foundations of Intellectual Property Law

VMU Faculty of Law
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Syllabus

Text: *WIPO Intellectual Property Handbook* (WIPO Publication 489(E), 2008), available on the WIPO website (www.wipo.int) at:
http://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/intproperty/489/wipo_pub_489.pdf.

Course Information: The purpose of intellectual property law is to protect the rights of those who create original works. It encompasses everything from original plays and novels to inventions and product or service identifiers. The goal of intellectual property law is to encourage new technologies, artistic expressions, and inventions while promoting economic growth.

The objective of this course is to provide a general background in the major areas of intellectual property, including patents, copyrights, trademarks, geographical indications, and unfair competition. The concepts covered will include the nature of the different intellectual property rights, the scope of protection, exceptions to and limitations on the rights granted, enforcement, and the relationship between intellectual property and development. In addition, the course will examine some of the issues of current concern in intellectual property protection and the most significant treaties and agreements that attempt to regulate intellectual property on a global scale.

Topics/Assignments (subject to revision):

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| Monday (21 May): | pp. 3-7 pp. 17-40 | The Concept of Intellectual Property, WIPO and the WTO; Patents |
| Tuesday (22 May): | pp. 40-67 | Copyright |
| Wednesday (23 May): | pp. 67-112 | Trademarks |
| Thursday (24 May): | pp. 112-118 pp. 120-124 pp. 130-160 | Other Types of Intellectual Protection: Industrial Designs Geographical Indications; Unfair Competition |
| Friday (25 May): | pp. 172-195 | Licensing and Transfer of Technology |
| Monday (28 May): | pp. 207-213 pp. 220-230 pp. 241-259 | Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights Intellectual Property Litigation Paris Convention (and TRIPS) |
| Tuesday (29 May): | pp. 262-276 | Berne Convention; WIPO Copyright Treaty |
| Wednesday (30 May): | pp. 276-285 pp. 287-292 | Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Madrid Agreement and Protocol |