

Programme Title: MSc Management of Intellectual Property



Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and programme title:	MSc Management of Intellectual Property
Name of interim award(s):	PG Diploma PG Certificate
Duration of study / period of registration:	1 academic year full time, 2 years part time.
QMUL programme code(s):	
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	Intellectual Property Regulatory Board (IPReg), Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA) and the Chartered Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys (CITMA)
Date Programme Specification approved:	6 Apr 2022
Responsible School / Institute:	Centre for Commercial Law Studies

Schools / Institutes which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

Programme outline

The MSc course is aimed at non-law graduates from specifically, but not exclusively, scientific and technical backgrounds seeking to translate that expertise into commercial intellectual property practice. Graduates from all disciplines are accepted onto the programme. Graduates from the course are sought as technical intellectual professionals for industry, commerce and in those professions concerned with intellectual property law. The course is designed (through its content and assessment, where students completing the appropriation aspects of the course are able to take special exemption papers) to exempt students from the foundation papers for the professional examinations for patent and trade mark attorneys. As such, the syllabus and assessment is monitored and accredited by IPReg. The Programme Director is Professor Guido Westkamp.

It is a one academic year course (two years if undertaken part time) offering concentration on many of the practical aspects of patents, designs, copyright and trade marks. The involvement of patent and trade mark practitioners to complement the academic treatment of the subject matter adds to the quality of the programme.

Aims of the programme

Students complete modules in Patent Law, Trade Mark Law, Copyright and Design Law and US IP Law towards attaining specific exemptions from the foundation papers for the professional examinations for patent and trade mark attorneys. These modules are compulsory if students wish to go on to train as patent and trade mark attorneys. In addition, all students must complete a course in Basic Legal Principles (Fundamentals of Law and Professional Ethics).

The Programme aims to:

- Provide students with a sound understanding of the essential principles of law providing a foundation and context for intellectual property law and practice;
- Equip students with the skills of legal analysis essential for practice as an intellectual property professional;
- Provide students with a detailed understanding of the laws and procedures (UK and EU) relating to the protection of industrial design through registered and unregistered design laws and copyright;
- Provide students with a detailed understanding of the laws and procedures relating to the protection of trade marks (domestic, international and comparative);
- Provide students with a detailed understanding of the laws and procedures relating to the protection of patents (domestic, international and comparative).
- Enhance the professional legal analytic and other skills of students who wish to pursue a career in intellectual property law.
- Enhance the students' learning experience through regular interaction with lecturers, practitioners, visiting academics and fellow students
- Enable students to pursue independent legal research.

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What will you be expected to achieve?

Students who successfully complete the programme will be able to:

- Understand key legal principles and practical aspects of intellectual property law for potential patent and trade mark professionals.
- Be capable of researching and analysing legal issues within the specific field and wider legal field.
- Understand the academic and practical aspects of law within the specific field.
- Be capable of applying legal rules and principles to complex factual scenarios within the field of IP
- Be capable of identifying and distinguishing relevant factual information

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Academic Content:	
A 1	Students will acquire a thorough understanding of legal principles as applied across different areas of IP law.
A 2	Students will understand the features of legal systems across major jurisdictions and of international legal systems as applicable to their chosen modules and will be able to apply legal rules and principles to factual situations.
A 3	Students will understand whether and how their chosen areas of law intersect with other legal frameworks.
A 4	Students will Acquire relevant knowldege and understanding permitting students to understand the diverse principles and rationales underlying different protection regimes as regards the economic and social dimensions of IP protection and the interaction with international and transnational laws and conventions in the field.
A 5	Students will demonstrate critical awareness of current issues concerning IP law
A 6	Students will gain comprehensive understanding of legal methodology and interpretation in the IP field

Disciplinary Skills - able to:	
B 1	Students will develop the ability to assimilate and evaluate a range of primary and secondary legal materials, including legislation, regulations and administrative guidance and the academic and professional literature.
B 2	Students will be able to analyse critically a variety of sources including legislative, judicial and academic texts
B 3	Students will be able to state and argue a position orally and in writing.
B 4	Students will be able to systematically understand key aspects of complex disputes

Attributes:	
C 1	Understand key legal principles and practical aspects of intellectual property law for potential patent and trade mark professionals.
C 2	Acquire a global perspective
C 3	Distinguish essential from non-essential information
C 4	engage critically with different positions

How will you learn?

Students will learn through direct interaction with lecturers using a variety of teaching, learning and assessment strategies, including traditional and interactive lectures, seminar sessions, tutorials and e-learning. Students will also be expected to invest a significant amount of time in independent learning, including reading materials in advance of lectures/seminars, preparing class presentations, completing assignments and preparing for examinations.

In addition, students will need to carry out extensive research to complete the dissertation. Students will be provided with a variety of legal resources and receive training on how to use them.

Each module is organised and convened by a subject expert from within the Centre for Commercial Law Studies at Queen Mary and also includes a number of classes run by experienced practitioners in the relevant field. Such practitioners include patent attorneys, barristers, and solicitors. The contribution of such practitioners is an important element of this professional programme. CCLS is uniquely well-placed to deliver a programme integrating professional expertise in this way as a result of the extensive contacts that it has built up with senior intellectual property practitioners over the years (both through the MSc in Management of Intellectual Property and other programmes and through its research activities).

How will you be assessed?

Assessment is by examination, oral presentation, take home assessment, essays and/or coursework for taught modules and by specialist dissertation.

How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

- Students on the MSc have to complete 180 credits.
- Student must take all modules.
- Students must take the non-credit bearing compulsory module IPLM131 Competition Law Overview.
- Students who take and successfully pass the foundational papers in Trade Mark and Patent law will gain exemption from the foundation exams of professional courses provided they pass the MSc.
- Part-time students must take IPLC134, IPLM200 and IPLM204 in their first year and the remaining modules in year 2:
Year 1, sem 1: IPLC134; IPLM200;
Year 1, sem 2: IPLM 204; IPLM131 (non credit bearing)
Year 2, Sem 1 IPLM202
Year 2, sem 2: IPLM148; IPLM201; IPLM203;
Year 2, sem 2-3: IPLM205

Modules:

IPLM131 Competition Law Overview
 IPLC134 Fundamentals of Law and Professional Ethics
 IPLM200 Trade Mark Law: Registration and Filing Strategy
 IPLM201 Trade Mark Law: Trade Mark Office Proceedings and Litigation
 IPLM202 Patent Law: British and European Patent Law
 IPLM203 Patents: Practice and Procedure
 IPLM204 Designs and Copyright
 IPLM205 Study Project
 IPLM148 Intellectual Property in the US

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Fundamentals of Law and Professional Ethics	IPLC134	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Competition Law Overview	IPLM131	0	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Trade Mark Law: Registration and Filing Strategy	IPLM200	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Trade Mark Law: Trade Mark Office Proceedings and Litigation	IPLM201	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Patent Law: British and European Patent Law	IPLM202	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Patents: Practice and Procedure	IPLM203	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Designs and Copyright Law	IPLM204	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Intellectual Property in the United States	IPLM148	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Study Project	IPLM205	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1-3

What are the entry requirements?

2:2 degree from any discipline.

How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides an informal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year.

Each school/institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the school/institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

All modules are assessed through student feedback prior to exams, assessed through paper-based confidential forms handed out and completed in the class room. Students also have the opportunity to provide feedback through on-line forms and through informal mechanisms to the Programme Director and Programme Administrator.

In addition to the Queen Mary and CCLS mechanisms for feedback and quality assurance, the special nature of the professional relationship with CIPA and ITMA has led to special information-gathering sessions with the profession (including occasional evening meetings and roundtable meetings) at which developments for the programme are discussed and proposed. Further, the Senior CCLS IP Academics sit as members of the CIPA and ITMA Education Committee and the Blue Skies Sub-Committee where developments for the future are discussed and examined. Additional feedback and guidance is sourced from discussions and meetings with IPReg.

What academic support is available?

Students will receive a comprehensive induction. Students will be assisted with the preliminary stages of selecting a research topic, drafting a research proposal, considering their methodology and developing the skills needed to identify and use relevant

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materials. Lecturers on taught modules shall be available to discuss any concerns students might have with regard to the particular module or its content.

Programme-specific rules and facts

Standard regulations <https://arcs.qmul.ac.uk/policy/> - on condoned failure apply except that a student must achieve a minimum mark of 45.0 (rather than the usual 40.0) to be considered for condoned failure.

Specific support for disabled students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

One of the most notable features of the CCLS is its extremely close relationship with the legal profession and the commercial world. It has an advisory council that includes several senior members of the judiciary and legal profession and persons occupying senior roles in the IP and wider commercial world. Currently, senior members of the legal and intellectual property professions play important roles on the examination board for the CIPL and the MSc in Management of Intellectual Property. Almost all graduates from the Programme are employed within the profession following their studies.

GlaxoSmithKline sponsor an academic prize for this programme.

Students may apply for a one year internship programme with either the EUIPO or the EPO under the Pan-European SEAL programme.

Graduates of the programme are in a position to use their qualification(s) across several fields both directly and indirectly associated with the IP Field.

There is also a mentoring programme that matches students with available mentors from the profession. An embedded Careers and professional development team provide guidance in identifying and obtaining relevant internships, valuable employment-related skills and other work-related opportunities. There is a programme of co-curricular activities designed to foster professional development and related skills.

Programme Specification Approval

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Person completing Programme Specification:

Jack Osborne

Person responsible for management of programme:

Guido Westkamp

Date Programme Specification produced / amended by School / Institute Learning and Teaching Committee:

22 Mar 2022

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board:

6 Apr 2022