

Create – Protect – Innovate
Bringing ideas to market
Part II



Module I: Grant of patents

Course info

Course code	TBA	Study mode	Self-paced
Category / Level	Advanced level	Duration	20 hours
Course type	E-Learning	Required materials	-
Language of instruction	English	Assessment	Test consisting of multiple-choice questions
Fee	No	Certificate	Yes, EPO Certificate

Module overview

This module provides an overview of the patent grant procedure. The patentability requirements are explained with special emphasis on "novelty" and "inventive step". Case studies deal with the assessment of novelty and the "problem-solution approach".

Format

Learners can complete Module I independently online at their own pace. The module consists of high-quality videos, podcasts and interactive educational elements. These explain the theory behind new concepts and provide exercises and case studies to help learners consolidate their knowledge. There are also interactive activities based on real-life cases, quizzes and a multiple-choice exam at the end of the module. In addition, a wide variety of resources are included for further study. To access the module, simply create an account with the e-learning centre of the EPO's European Patent Academy at e-courses.epo.org.

Target audience

Master's and PhD students.

Requirements

There are no formal requirements for participating in this course. Previous experience of e-learning is helpful, but not required.

Topics covered

- End-to-end patent grant procedure
- Patentability requirements at the EPO
- Patentable subject-matter
- Patent application requirements
- Invention requirements
- Amendments
- Understanding claims and drafting

Module II: Enforcement of patents

Course info

Course code	TBA	Study mode	Self-paced
Category / Level	Advanced level	Duration	15 hours
Course type	E-Learning	Required materials	-
Language of instruction	English	Assessment	Test consisting of multiple-choice questions
Fee	No	Certificate	Yes, EPO Certificate

Module overview

A key aspect of patent protection is the understanding that it will be enforced in the event of infringement or the threat of infringement. This module provides an overview of the different means of enforcing patents and what a litigation procedure could look like. In addition, this module illustrates the possible alternatives that can be pursued if a less costly and less time-consuming solution is sought.

Format

Learners can complete Module II independently online at their own pace. The module consists of high-quality videos, podcasts and interactive educational elements. These explain the theory behind new concepts and provide exercises and case studies to help learners consolidate their knowledge. There are also interactive activities based on real-life cases, quizzes and a multiple-choice exam at the end of the module. In addition, a wide variety of resources are included for further study. To access the module, simply create an account with the e-learning centre of the EPO's European Patent Academy at e-courses.epo.org.

Target audience

Master's and PhD students.

Requirements

There are no formal requirements for participating in this course. Previous experience of e-learning is helpful, but not required.

Topics covered

- Patents and their role in business
- What a patent protects ("scope" of a patent)
- Introduction to the various types of patent infringement
- Fundamental aspects of infringement proceedings
- Validity of a patent as prerequisite for enforcement
- Licensing
- Alternatives to patent infringement proceedings

Module III: Scouting and assessment of technology

Course info

Course code	TBA	Study mode	Self-paced
Category / Level	Advanced level	Duration	10 hours
Course type	E-Learning	Required materials	-
Language of instruction	English	Assessment	Test consisting of multiple-choice questions
Fee	No	Certificate	Yes, EPO Certificate

Module overview

This module aims to teach students how to identify new and competing technologies that could affect their own inventions and business cases. Using current and past trends, it involves monitoring and predicting emerging technologies and identifying the technologies most likely to be disruptive in the future. It also covers technology transfer and the role of a Technology Transfer Office.

Format

Learners can complete Module III independently online at their own pace. The module consists of high-quality videos, podcasts and interactive educational elements. These explain the theory behind new concepts and provide exercises and case studies to help learners consolidate their knowledge. There are also interactive activities based on real-life cases, quizzes and a multiple-choice exam at the end of the module. In addition, a wide variety of resources are included for further study. To access the module, simply create an account with the e-learning centre of the EPO's European Patent Academy at e-courses.epo.org.

Target audience

Master's and PhD students.

Requirements

There are no formal requirements for participating in this course. Previous experience of e-learning is helpful, but not required.

Topics covered

- What technology transfer is and how it works within a university/research laboratory setting
- The role of a Technology Transfer Office
- Assessment of who owns the rights to an invention
- How to perform a technology search and why someone would want to

Module IV: IP commercialisation

Course info

Course code	TBA	Study mode	Self-paced
Category / Level	Advanced level	Duration	20 hours
Course type	E-Learning	Required materials	-
Language of instruction	English	Assessment	Test consisting of multiple-choice questions
Fee	No	Certificate	Yes, EPO Certificate

Module overview

As an intangible asset, IP can be sold, leased, licensed, assigned or used as a security for investors and lenders. These are all examples of IP commercialisation, the process of bringing IP assets to the marketplace to be exploited for profit and business growth. This module explores mechanisms through which value can be extracted from IP and the considerations that should be taken into account when choosing how to commercialise IP.

Format

Learners can complete Module IV independently online at their own pace. The module consists of high-quality videos, podcasts and interactive educational elements. These explain the theory behind new concepts and provide exercises and case studies to help learners consolidate their knowledge. There are also interactive activities based on real-life cases, quizzes and a multiple-choice exam at the end of the module. In addition, a wide variety of resources are included for further study. To access the module, simply create an account with the e-learning centre of the EPO's European Patent Academy at e-courses.epo.org.

Target audience

Master's and PhD students.

Requirements

There are no formal requirements for participating in this course. Previous experience of e-learning is helpful, but not required.

Topics covered

- How IP can be commercialised
- How to choose the right types of IP commercialisation
- What it takes to come to a licence deal
- How raising capital for a technology start-up is leveraged by patents; how it is a form of IP commercialisation and consequently important the business success in general
- Basics of valuing IP assets

Module V: Use of IPRs

Course info

Course code	TBA	Study mode	Self-paced
Category / Level	Advanced level	Duration	10 hours
Course type	E-Learning	Required materials	-
Language of instruction	English	Assessment	Test consisting of multiple-choice questions
Fee	No	Certificate	Yes, EPO Certificate

Module overview

IP covers a range of different technical fields, each with their own particularities. This module enables students to deepen their knowledge of IP and IP commercialisation based on a variety of case studies in a particular technical field.

Format

Learners can complete Module V independently online at their own pace. The module consists of high-quality videos, podcasts and interactive educational elements presenting real cases of IP strategies implemented by various companies and inventors. These explain the theory behind new concepts and provide exercises and case studies to help learners consolidate their knowledge. There are also interactive activities based on real-life cases, quizzes and a multiple-choice exam at the end of the module. In addition, a wide variety of resources are included for further study. To access the module, simply create an account with the e-learning centre of the EPO's European Patent Academy at e-courses.epo.org.

Target audience

Master's and PhD students.

Requirements

There are no formal requirements for participating in this course. Previous experience of e-learning is helpful, but not required.

Topics covered

- Rationale for protecting inventions
- Deciding on the appropriate IP strategy
- Examples of successfully patented inventions from different technical fields, including the benefits and challenges of patenting
- The role of IP in business strategy and the commercialisation process
- Funding strategies
- Knowledge transfer
- Public-Private partnership