

Programme Specification for Postgraduate Programme Leading to: Postgraduate Certificate in Intellectual Property Law



Applicable for all postgraduate students starting on or after 1st September 2021

Version No.	Date	Notes – QA USE ONLY	QA
1	September 2021	New Programme Specification created for 2021/22	WEA

Postgraduate Taught Programme	
1. Awarding institution	Brunel University London
2. Teaching institution(s)	Brunel University London
3. Home college / department / division	College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences / Brunel Law School / Brunel Law School
4. Contributing college / department / division / associated institution	N/A
5. Programme accredited by	Intellectual Property Regulation Board (IPReg)
6. Final award(s) and FHEQ Level of Award	Postgraduate Certificate in Intellectual Property Law FHEQ Level 7
7. Programme title	Postgraduate Certificate in Intellectual Property Law
8. Programme type (Single honours/joint)	N/A
9. Normal length of programme (in months) for each mode of study	8 months part-time for September starters 12 months part-time for January starters
10. Maximum period of registration for each mode of study	Normal length of programme (as defined above in 9) + 2 years
11. Variation(s) to September start	January
12. Modes of study	Part-time
13. Modes of delivery	Standard
14. Intermediate awards and titles and FHEQ Level of Award	N/A
15. UCAS Code	N/A
16. HECoS Code	100689
17. Route Code	M200PINPRLAW
18. Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points used to inform programme design	<p>QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education which includes the English Framework for Higher Education Qualifications within Part A on Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards.</p> <p>Most Recent QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: there are currently no relevant subject benchmark statements.</p> <p>Brunel 2030 Brunel Placement Learning Policy, as published under the 'Placements' section of the 'Managing Higher Education Provision with Others' page.</p> <p>Examination and exemption requirements of the Patent Examination Board, the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents (CIPA) and IPReg.</p>
19. Admission Requirements	<p>For details of the admission requirements visit: http://www.brunel.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/intellectual-property-law-pgcert</p> <p>Further details of entry requirements are provided on the University's and College website.</p>

	Levels of English for non-native speakers are outlined on Brunel International's language requirements pages.
20. Other relevant information (e.g. study abroad, additional information on placements)	<p>Candidates passing all FOUR CORE modules (Patents Law and Practice, Trade Marks and Allied Rights, Copyrights, Design and Allied Rights and Managing Intellectual Property) CORE modules will gain exemption from the IPREG Patent Attorney FLQ</p> <p>Candidates passing all FOUR CORE modules (Managing IP, Trade Marks and Allied Rights, Copyrights, Design and Allied Rights and Comparative and International Trade Mark Law) CORE modules will gain exemption from the IPREG Trade Mark Attorney FLQ.¹</p> <p>Candidates passing only one of the modules may still be able to gain exemptions from <u>certain</u> foundation level papers. For further details see the regulations on the IPReg web site.</p>
21. Programme regulations not specified in Senate Regulation 3. Any departure from regulations specified in Senate Regulation 3 must be stated here and approved by Senate.	N/A
22. Further information about the programme is available from:	http://www.brunel.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/intellectual-property-law-pgcert

23. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

- Whilst Intellectual Property Law is a popular subject taken either as a core or optional module on most LL.B programmes, the discipline is less commonly the exclusive subject of postgraduate-level qualifications, either as a discrete programme or as a modular component of such a programme. Furthermore, a programme which combines the substantive elements of Intellectual Property Law with the practical operation of the law is a more innovative and attractive qualification.
- The programme takes cognizance of the fact that Intellectual property rights are now taking centre stage in determining the availability of biotechnology and medicines to developing societies, the growing popularity and availability of patenting of both software and business methods and the resolution of contractual disputes between the global corporations. This degree aims, therefore to give participants an overview of these crucial developments in the practice of intellectual property at both national and international levels and provide a thorough grounding in the institutions, rules and principles of intellectual property law in the twenty-first century.
- It will provide students with essential knowledge about the theoretical rationales and policy arguments for the recognition of intellectual property rights. It will explain the basic principles of Intellectual Property Law and the nature and scope of these rights, the procedures, both national and supranational, for the granting and recognition of the rights, and mechanisms for enforcement as well as defences against enforcement
- The programme will prepare students for the challenges they will face when they enter IP practice as it will cover all major practical knowledge needed in a competitive International IP industry. Students will learn to obtain protection for a variety of IP rights such as Patent (including community patents), Trademarks (including CTM and international registrations), Registered Designs (including Community and International Designs) etc. Students will explore the construction and granting of licensing agreements for various IP rights and develop knowledge strategies and options available when threatened with litigation, particularly when instigated on a supranational basis.

24. PROGRAMME AND INTERMEDIATE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding (K) cognitive (thinking) skills (C) and other skills and attributes (S) in the following areas:

FHEQ Level	Category (K = knowledge and understanding, C = cognitive	Learning Outcome	Masters Only	Associated Modular Blocks Code(s)
7				

¹ Available after a successful completion of the pending accreditation of the TM FLQ in 2020. First entry likely to be in January 2020.

	(thinking) skills, S = other skills and attributes)			
FHEQ Level 7				
7	K	The rationale underlying the protection of Intellectual Property rights at national and international level.	-	ALL MODULES
7	K	The concepts, principles, and rules of selected areas of law relevant to intellectual property.	-	ALL MODULES
7	K	The means to ascertain the law from legislation, case law and secondary literature.	-	ALL MODULES
7	K	The methods and techniques appropriate to undertaking research in Intellectual Property Law.	-	ALL MODULES
7	K	The key concepts relating to the practice of the legal discipline and the management of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).	-	ALL MODULES
7	C	Collate and integrate information from a variety of different sources, synthesise a variety of different legal materials in meaningful ways and evaluate, express, and solve problems in an appropriate manner.	-	ALL MODULES
7	C	Demonstrate skills of analysis and evaluation and other advanced thinking skills (e.g., reasoning, judgement etc.)	-	ALL MODULES
7	C	Analyse the relevant law and assess critically, where relevant, the policy underlying it.	-	ALL MODULES
7	C	Utilise skills in identifying, retrieving and applying to primary legal sources secondary assessments of same.	-	ALL MODULES
7	C	Apply knowledge of the main types of intellectual property rights to complex problem and essay questions.	-	ALL MODULES
7	S	Independently research issues on intellectual property law applying various research tools and the manage their learning.	-	ALL MODULES
7	S	Communicate effectively in writing with appropriate use of legal citation, and by the use of computer word processing; Communicate effectively through oral argument.	-	ALL MODULES

Learning/teaching strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be achieved, including formative assessments

The classes are taught via a combination of lectures, small group work, directed private study, office hours and online supported study as appropriate:

- Lectures are (generally) used to deliver core material.
- Small group work is (generally) used to apply acquired knowledge via exercises and/or to develop critical insight and reflect on material.
- Directed private study is used to (a) supplement and consolidate the points above and (b) broaden individual knowledge and understanding the subject matter.
- Office hours are used to clarify specific issues that have not been fully understood by participants
- online supported study (WebCT)

Summative assessment strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be demonstrated.

The assessment of the above learning outcomes is achieved via a combination of unseen and seen examinations, and coursework.

- 1 coursework, weighting 100% of LX5645 Managing Intellectual Property Law
- 1 coursework (pass/fail) for the English Legal System examined after the induction weeks of LX5645 Managing IP
- 1 coursework, weighting 100% for LX5662 Comparative and International Trade Mark Law
- 1 x 2 hour unseen examinations weighting 100% of LX5643 Patent Law and Practice
- 1 x 2hr examination, weighting 100% of LX5644 Trade Marks and Allied Rights
- 1 x 2hr examination, weighting 100% of LX5642 Copyright, Designs and Allied Rights

25. Programme Structure, progression and award requirements

Programme structures and features: levels, assessment blocks, credit and progression and award requirements

- **Compulsory block:** one which all students registered for the award are required to take as part of their programme of study. These will be listed in the left hand column;
- **Optional block:** one which students choose from an 'option range'. These will be listed in the right hand column;
- A **core assessment** is an assessment identified within an assessment block or modular block (either compulsory or optional) which must be passed (at grade C- or better) in order to be eligible to progress and to be eligible for the final award. All core assessments must be specified on the programme specification next to the appropriate assessment or modular block:

Where students are expected to pass the block at C- or better, but not necessarily all elements, then the block itself is core.

e.g. AB5500 Project (40)

Core: Block

Where only some elements of assessments are required to be passed at C- or better, these will be identified by listing each element that is core

e.g. ABXXX1 Title (XX credits)

Core: 1 & 4

Where students are expected to pass all assessments in a block then this will be identified. By setting the assessment this way, students are also required to pass the block by default. This will be identified thus:

e.g. ABXXXX Title (XX credits)

Core: All, Block

- A **non-core assessment** does not have to be passed at grade C- or better, but must D- or better in order to be eligible for the final award.

FHEQ Level 7

Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credit for candidates pursuing an IPREG qualification towards a Patent Attorney's exemption:

LX5642 Copyright, Design and Allied Rights (15 credits)

Core: All, Block (Spring Term)

LX5643 Patent Law and Practice (15 credits)

Core: All, Block (Autumn Term)

LX5644 Trade Marks and Allied Rights (15 credits)

Core: All, Block (Spring Term)

LX5645 Managing Intellectual Property (15 credits)

Core: All, Block (Autumn Term)

Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credit for candidates pursuing an IPREG qualification towards a Trade Mark Attorney's exemption:

LX5642 Copyright, Design and Allied Rights (15 credits)

Core: All, Block (Spring Term)

LX5645 Managaing Intellectual Property (15 credits)

Core: All, Block (Autumn Term)

LX5644 Trade Marks and Allied Rights (15 credits)

Core: All, Block (Spring Term)

LX5662 Comparative and International Trade Mark Law (15 credits)

Core: All, Block (Spring Term)

FHEQ Level 7 Progression and Award Requirements

As per [Senate Regulation 3](#)

Please note: this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods can be found in the modular block, assessment and study block outlines and other programme and block information. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University from time to time and whenever a modification occurs.