



PATENT RESEARCH & STRATEGY

Law W74-623P (Fall Semester 2018)

WHERE: Washington University School of Law, Anheuser Busch Hall Room 401

WHEN: Monday 4:00pm - 7:00pm, from October 1 to November 26, 2018

Skilled patent strategists must understand the legal advances impacting patent law and strategically counsel their clients to maximize their competitive position. Attorneys, corporate managers, and scientists in R&D departments must therefore synthesize legal, business and technological demands. To achieve this end, these individuals must rely on high-quality patent research in order to design a valuable intellectual property portfolio. This research drives internal legal and business decisions, including patent protection, licensing, enforcement, due diligence, and litigation strategies.

This practical course introduces students to methods of conducting patent research in a variety of technical areas, and analyzing the research results from legal and market-competition perspectives. Students will be exposed to advanced patent research techniques and several leading patent research platforms in order to evaluate and critically analyze the quality of patent research results. Students will perform exercises such as patentability assessments, freedom to operate analyses, and invalidity examinations. Other topics will include patent landscape analysis, portfolio assessment, patent valuation and competitive intelligence insights from patent data. The course will also include guest lecturers to provide perspectives on the strategic use of patent information. Assessments will include assignments and two examinations (midterm and final).

NO PREREQUISITE OR TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REQUIRED

IDEAL CANDIDATES

Law students (JD or LLM)

Business students

Life science / Engineering students (graduate or postgraduate)

Technology transfer professionals