



School of Pharmaceutical Sciences & Technology

Curriculum for Fellowship Program in **Intellectual Property Rights**



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Course Title: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Course Type: FELLOWSHIP

Duration: 360 Hours (can be structured as 24 Credits)

Mode: Lectures, Practicals/Hands-on, Project

Overview

The Fellowship in Intellectual Property Rights is a specialized program designed to provide comprehensive knowledge and practical skills in the protection, management, and enforcement of intellectual property. The program integrates concepts of patent law, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets to support modern pharmaceutical and technological innovation. Delivered over 360 hours (24 credits) through interactive lectures, hands-on practicals, and a project, the fellowship equips participants with industry-relevant skills for careers in IP management, patent analytics, regulatory affairs, and legal consultancy.

Objectives:

Upon completion of the course, the fellow shall be able to:

- To provide fundamental and advanced knowledge of intellectual property rights and their role in global innovation and economic growth.
- To develop practical skills in using patent databases, search tools, and software for IP landscape analysis.
- To train participants in drafting patent applications, filing procedures, and response to office actions.
- To enhance understanding of international treaties, litigation strategies, and regulatory frameworks governing IP.
- To foster analytical thinking and professional readiness through mock trials, patent drafting workshops, and project work.

Course Outcome:

- **CO1:** Explain the principles and legal frameworks of various intellectual property rights including patents, trademarks, and copyrights.
- **CO2:** Apply specialized tools to conduct prior art searches, freedom-to-operate (FTO) analyses, and patent mapping.
- **CO3:** Perform IP-related technical tasks such as drafting claims, preparing trademark applications, and documenting trade secrets.
- **CO4:** Interpret case laws, international treaties (TRIPS, PCT), and regulatory data protection standards.
- **CO5:** Design and execute a project addressing real-world IP challenges, such as developing an IP strategy for a startup or analyzing a patent infringement case.

Teaching & Learning Methods:

Teaching and learning methods include interactive lectures for conceptual clarity, hands-on practical sessions using patent search engines, live demonstrations of filing portals,



project-based learning for real-world application, and collaborative activities like moot courts to enhance legal reasoning and problem-solving skills.

Syllabus

Theory - 10 Credits (150 Lecture Hours)

Module 1: Foundations of Intellectual Property (30 hours)

- Introduction: Scope, history, and the economic importance of IP
- Legal Frameworks: Overview of Indian Patent Act 1970, Trademarks Act 1999, and Copyright Act 1957
- International Treaties: Paris Convention, Berne Convention, TRIPS Agreement, and the PCT system.
- Unconventional IP: Protection of traditional knowledge, plant varieties, and geographical indications.

Module 2: Patent Law and Practice (30 hours)

- Patentability Criteria: Novelty, inventive step (non-obviousness), and industrial application.
- Drafting & Filing: Provisional vs. complete specifications, drafting claims, and filing procedures (Form 1, 2, 3, and 18).
- Search Techniques: Keywords, IPC/CPC classification, and prior art search strategies.

Module 3: Trademark, Copyright, and Design Informatics (30 hours)

- Trademarks: Selection of marks, registration process, infringement, and passing off.
- Copyrights: Protection of literary, artistic, and software works; fair use doctrine and digital rights management.
- Industrial Designs: Registration requirements, term of protection, and design piracy.
- Trade Secrets: Legal protection of confidential information and non-disclosure agreements (NDAs).

Module 4: IP Strategy and Management (30 hours)

- IP Valuation: Methods of valuing IP assets for mergers, acquisitions, and licensing.
- Commercialization: Technology transfer, licensing agreements (exclusive vs. non-exclusive), and franchising.
- IP Audit: Conducting internal IP audits and managing corporate IP portfolios.
- Enforcement: Litigation procedures, injunctions, damages, and alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

Module 5: Emerging Trends and Ethics in IP (30 hours)

- Pharma & Biotech IP: Evergreen practices, Bolar provisions, and compulsory licensing.



- Digital & AI IP: IP issues in artificial intelligence, blockchain, and open-source software.
- Ethics & Policy: Data privacy, ethical considerations in patenting life forms, and IP rights in public health.

Practical/Hands-on Component: 8 Credits (120 Lab Hours)

1. Patent Searching and Analytics Lab (30 hours)

- Database Mining: Navigating InPASS (Indian Patent Office), USPTO, Espacenet, and WIPO PATENTSCOPE.
- Prior Art Search: Conducting "Freedom to Operate" (FTO) and patentability searches for specific technologies.
- Patent Mapping: Visualizing technology landscapes and identifying "white spaces" for innovation. Tool Focus: Google Patents, Lens.org.

2. Practical Training in IP Drafting (30 hours)

- Drafting Specifications: Preparing mock provisional and complete patent specifications for a simple mechanical or chemical invention.
- Claim Construction: Writing independent and dependent claims to maximize protection.
- Application Filing: Mock session for filling and submitting online forms on the IP India portal.

3. Trademark and Design Registration Lab (20 hours)

- Trademark Search: Using the Vienna Classification to search for existing logos and marks.
- Filing Mock Applications: Preparing trademark and industrial design applications.
- Copyright Documentation: Drafting licensing agreements and copyright registration forms for software/literary works.

4. IP Case Study and Moot Court (20 hours)

- Infringement Analysis: Analyzing landmark IP cases (e.g., Novartis v. Union of India).
- Moot Court: Participating in a simulated trial involving patent or trademark infringement.
- Response Drafting: Preparing replies to examination reports and office actions.

5. IP Management and AI Tools (20 hours)

- Portfolio Management: Using mock software to track renewal dates and IP status.
- AI in IP: Utilizing AI-based tools for automated patent summarization and similarity checks.
- Tools: Clarivate/Orbit (Demo), AI-powered search bots, and Excel-based IP trackers.

Project: 6 Credits (90 Self Study/Research Hours)

A mandatory Project (6 credits) provides practical application. Projects typically involve conducting a comprehensive patent landscape analysis for a specific therapeutic area, drafting a full patent application for a novel idea, developing an IP commercialization strategy for a startup, or analyzing the impact of international IP treaties on domestic innovation.



References:

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