# PLS 61 Course Outline as of Spring 2020

## **CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: PLS 61 Title: INTELLECTUAL PRPTY LAW

Full Title: Intellectual Property Law

Last Reviewed: 5/8/2023

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	<b>Course Hours Total</b>	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00 Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

#### **Catalog Description:**

This course presents an overview of the principal types of intellectual property, such as trade secrets, patents, copyrights, and trademarks.

# **Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

Course Completion or Concurrent Enrollment in PLS 50

#### **Recommended Preparation:**

#### **Limits on Enrollment:**

#### **Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: This course presents an overview of the principal types of intellectual property,

such as trade secrets, patents, copyrights, and trademarks. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Course Completion or Concurrent Enrollment in PLS 50

Recommended:

Limits on Enrollment: Transfer Credit: CSU;

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

AS Degree: Area Effective: Inactive: CSU GE: Transfer Area Effective: Inactive:

**IGETC:** Transfer Area Effective: Inactive:

**CSU Transfer:** Transferable Effective: Fall 2010 Inactive:

**UC Transfer:** Effective: Inactive:

CID:

### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

### **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

- 1. Describe the major forms of intellectual property.
- 2. Recognize the requirements for protection under intellectual property law.
- 3. Identify the importance of preserving traditional intellectual property rights in a world of emerging technology.

## **Objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. Identify information that may be protected by intellectual property law and evaluate the best means of securing protection for such information.
- 2. Perform a basic trademark search.
- 3. Draft a simple compulsory license agreement.
- 4. Recognize infringement situations.
- 5. Draft an application for a trademark.

# **Topics and Scope:**

- 1. Overview of Intellectual Property Law
  - a. Types of intellectual property
  - b. Public policy
  - c. Intellectual property terminology
  - d. Internet domain names, publicity and social media
- 2. Foundations of Trademark Law
  - a. Purpose and function
  - b. Types of trademarks
  - c. Acquisition of trademark rights
  - d. Common law, federal registration, and state trademark rights
  - e. Trade names and business names
  - f. Protectable matter
  - g. Exclusions
  - h. USPTO (United States Patent and Trademark Office)

- i. Trademark selection and searching
- j. The trademark application
- k. Trademark calendaring
- 1. Post-registration procedures
- m. Infringement and dilution
- n. New and international developments in trademark law
- 3. Foundations of Copyright Law
  - a. Common law rights and rights under 1976 Copyright Act
  - b. The U. S. Copyright Office
  - c. Copyrightable material
  - d. Works of authorship
  - e. Exclusions
  - f. Compilations, collections, and derivative works
  - g. Rights afforded by copyright law
  - h. Limitations on exclusive rights
  - i. Compulsory licenses
  - j. Ownership, transfer, and duration
  - k. Works made for hire
  - 1. Termination of transfers of copyright
  - m. Copyright registration
  - n. Searching copyright records
  - o. Infringement elements
  - p. Defenses and remedies
  - q. New and international developments in copyright law
- 4. Foundations of Patent Law
  - a. Rights under federal law
  - b. Patentability
  - c. Patent searching
  - d. The patent application
  - e. Prosecuting the patent
  - f. Patent ownership and transfer
  - g. Inventions made by employees and independent contractors
  - h. Infringement, defenses, and remedies
  - i. New and international developments in patent law
- 5. Trade Secrets
  - a. Determination of trade secret status
  - b. Liability for misappropriation of trade secrets
  - c. Protection available
  - d. New developments in trade secrets law
  - e. Employer-employee relationships
  - f. Defenses and remedies to misappropriation
  - g. Litigation
  - h. New and international developments in trade secret law
  - i. Traditional intellectual property rights in a world of emerging technology
- 6. Unfair Competition
  - a. Misappropriation
  - b. Publicity
  - c. False advertising
  - d. Disparagement and dilution
  - e. Infringement of trade dress
  - f. International protection
- 7. Intellectual Property Audits and Due Diligence Reviews

- a. Practical aspects
- b. Conducting the audit
- c. Post audit activities
- d. Causation
- e. Consciousness of harm
- f. Peace officer's privilege of arrest
- g. Private citizen's privilege of arrest

### **Assignment:**

- 1. Read textbook and outside sources of approximately 40 pages per week.
- 2. Written homework assignments based on lecture and readings.
- 3. Drafting (written) legal documents.
- 4. Participation in weekly discussions.
- 5. Group work and group presentations on intellectial property scenarios.
- 6. Legal terminology homework.
- 7. Midterm and final.

#### Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Drafting (written) legal documents.

Writing 10 - 15%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Legal terminology homework, group work on intellectial property scenarios

Problem solving 30 - 40%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations 0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Midtern and final exam

Exams 30 - 35%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance and participation; group presentation on intellectial property scenarios; weekly discussions

Other Category 15 - 25%

# Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Intellectual Property: The Law of Trademarks, Copyrights, Patents, and Trade Secrets for the Paralegal, by Deborah Bouchoux, Delmar Cengage Learning, 4th edition, 2013.