

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
Intellectual Property (IP) Strategy Boot Camp – 2021 SYLLABUS

Overview

The IP Strategy Boot Camp was developed in collaboration between Western’s Faculty of Law and WORLDDiscoveries to provide participants with an in-depth understanding of how to protect and manage their intangible assets. The IP Strategy Boot Camp is an intensive course divided into six 90-minute weekly sessions that cover various topics related to the management and commercialization of IP rights. Participants receive a certificate of completion at the end of the six-week program.

This program is best suited for authors, artists, inventors, entrepreneurs, and startup founders aiming to protect and commercialize their intangible assets through patents, trademarks, industrial design, copyright, and other types of intellectual property rights. This program is also ideal for students, staff, and faculty who are interested in learning about how to develop an IP strategy for their projects.

Questions related to the IP Strategy Boot Camp should be directed to:

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Course Delivery

Dates and Times: 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. each Friday from October 8 to November 12, 2021.

NOTE: To receive the certificate of completion, participants must attend all six sessions.

Format: The IP Strategy Boot Camp will be delivered entirely online (using Zoom). Participants will be given access to the weekly Zoom link and passcode.

Course Content

Session 1 (October 8, 2021)

Introduction to Intellectual Property Rights in a Data-Driven Economy

This session will discuss the role of intangible assets in the data-driven economy and introduce the various types of intellectual property rights. Participants will learn about the requirements for patent, copyright, trademarks and industrial design protection, and ways to protect their confidential information or trade secrets. The session will expose participants to practical examples on how different forms of IP rights intersect and overlap.

Session 2 (October 15, 2021)

Why and How to Develop an IP Strategy

This session will introduce participants to the freedom to operate concept and the rationale for adopting an IP strategy. Participants will learn about the structure of an IP strategy and its internal/external elements, including considerations for deciding between different forms of IP protection. The session will conclude with discussing the best practices in developing an IP strategy.

Session 3 (October 22, 2021)

IP Audit and Valuation of IP Rights

This session will first outline the various elements of an IP audit used to determine the potential IP assets owned, used or acquired. The process of conducting a due diligence review of intangible assets will be described with practical examples. This session will also cover the various methods for extracting economic value from intangible assets and the different factors that influence IP valuation.

Session 4 (October 29, 2021)

Commercialization of IP Rights – Assignment and Licensing Agreements

This session will explore how individuals can transform ideas into commercially viable products and services. Various commercialization pathways will be covered, including selling the technology, joint ventures and partnering, public-private partnerships, assignment, and licensing. The session will specifically break down the assignment and licensing processes to provide practical considerations on how to pursue these methods of commercializing IP assets.

Session 5 (November 5, 2021)

IP Protection: Patent Filing, Trademark Registration, and International Protection

This session will explain the patent filing process and trademark registration requirements using hands-on activities. For each form of IP rights, considerations for pursuing transnational protection will be discussed as well as the associated costs and procedures.

Session 6 (November 12, 2021)

Leveraging IP Rights on Digital Platforms: Online IP Management

This session will explore the challenges and impact of e-commerce on IP rights. The session will identify the common IP challenges related to the ownership and protection of digital platforms. The session will also explore ways to resolve potential conflicts between trademarks and domain names when several trademark owners want to acquire the same domain name, as well as the registration of domain names in bad faith.