

Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	Master of Science (MSc)
Name of Interim Award(s)	Master of Science (MSc)
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	9 Months
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	M3U4/M3U5
QAA Benchmark Group	N/A
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	CIPA/ITMA/IPReg
Date Programme Specification Approved	Sept 2015
Responsible School / Institute	Centre for Commercial Law Studies

Schools which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme

Centre for Commercial Law Studies

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

N/A

Programme Outline

The MSc course is aimed primarily at non-law graduates from specifically, but not exclusively, scientific and technical backgrounds seeking to translate that expertise into commercial intellectual property practice. Graduates from all disciplines are accepted onto the programme. Graduates from the course are sought as technical intellectual professionals for industry, commerce and in those professions concerned with intellectual property law. The course is designed (through its content and assessment, where students completing the appropriation aspects of the course are able to take special exemption papers) to exempt students from the foundation papers for the professional examinations for patent and trade mark attorneys. As such, the syllabus and assessment is monitored by the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA) and the Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys (ITMA). The Programme Director is Professor Guido Westkamp. Members of CCLS senior academic team sit on the Education Committee of CIPA and advise and direct programme directors with regard to professional developments within the field of IP. This additional level of quality assurance is a significant mark of the quality and commercial significance of the programme.

It is a one year academic course (two years if undertaken part time) offering concentration on many of the practical aspects of patents, designs and trade marks and the involvement of patent and trade mark practitioners to complement the academic treatment of the subject matter.

Aims of the Programme

Students undertake one of two programme streams, either the professional (which offers an additional professional exemption qualification) or the business stream (which is aimed at those who wish to attain a general knowledge, but not specific exempting qualification). Students complete modules in Patent Law, Trade Mark Law and Copyright and Design Law towards attaining specific exemptions from the foundation papers for the professional examinations for patent and trade mark attorneys (Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys and Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys). These modules are compulsory if students wish to go on to train as patent and trade mark attorneys. In addition, all students must complete a course in Basic Legal Principles.

The Programme aims to:

- Provide students with a sound understanding of the essential principles of law providing a foundation and context for intellectual property law and practice;
- Equip students with the skills of legal analysis essential for practice as an intellectual property professional;
- Provide students with a detailed understanding of the laws and procedures (UK and Community) relating to the protection of industrial design through registered and unregistered design laws and copyright;
- Provide students with a detailed understanding of the laws and procedures relating to the protection of trade marks (domestic, international and comparative);
- Provide students with a detailed understanding of the laws and procedures relating to the protection of patents (domestic, international and comparative).

Each Stream offers specific compulsory/core modules as follows:

Core Module for Both Streams: IPLM027 - Study Project; IPLM028 - Basic Principles of English Law, Evidence and Practice

Professional Stream Compulsory Modules: IPLM041 Patent Law; IPLM044 Trade Mark Law; IPLM033 Copyright Law, plus one free choice 22.5 credit module. Students are advised if not selecting the IPLM031 Competition Law Module, they should at least attend this for knowledge and understanding. In addition to the above modules professional stream students undertake the additional IPLM008 - Trade Marks ITMA and IPLM009 Patents CIPA exemption examinations. On successfully completing these additional examinations and the MSc students are awarded the additional certificate in Intellectual Property Law Pathway B (M3EZ) qualification. Part time students undertaking modules in the following order: Yr 1 - IPLM028/IPLM041/IPLM044/IPLM008/IPLM009; Yr 2 - IPLM027/IPLM033/plus free choice module and if not selecting are advised to attend IPLM031 for knowledge understanding.

Business Stream Candidates Modules: Free choice of IPLM coded modules up to the value of 135 credits. Business stream part time students undertake modules in the following order: Yr 1 - IPLM028/plus 90 credits of IPLM coded modules; Yr 2 - IPLM027 plus 45 credits of IPLM coded modules.

What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes in the following areas.

Each module is be organised and convened by a subject expert from within the Centre for Commercial Law Studies at Queen Mary and also includes a number of classes run by experienced practitioners in the relevant field. Such practitioners include patent attorneys, barristers, and solicitors. The contribution of such practitioners is an important element of this professional programme. CCLS is uniquely well-placed to deliver a programme integrating professional expertise in this way as a result of the extensive contacts that it has built up with senior intellectual property practitioners over the years (both through the MSc in Management of Intellectual Property and other programmes and through its research activities).

Each component module requires a student to undertake approved studies to the value of either 22.5 (half module) or 45 (full module) credits, with the exception of Basic Principles of English Law, Practice & Evidence, which is a two-week pre-sessional study only module.

Assessment and Award:

A candidate's classification for the programme as a whole is determined on the basis of marks in assessed modules and

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candidates must also achieve a pass mark in Basic Principles of English Law, Evidence and Practice. The examinations are taken during the QMUL Summer Examination Period which runs between late April and early to mid June annually, with resit attempts undertaken during the Late Summer Resit Period during 2 weeks in August annually.

Assessment on a pass/fail basis for the pre-sessional study only module in the Basic Principles of English Law, Practice & Evidence is by multiple choice question examination of 1 hour duration at the end of the two-week pre-sessional course.

Candidates initially failing to reach the required standard in the first Basic Principles of English Law, Practice & Evidence examination are permitted to proceed to the modules in the Programme carrying credit value and then undertake re-sit examinations in Basic Principles of English Law, Practice & Evidence as second and subsequent attempts as they continue with the academic Programme as a whole during the academic year.

An assessment of method based on unseen examination for professional stream compulsory papers has been chosen in order to ensure a rigorous assessment of the students' knowledge and skills in each of the subjects. This is an assessment method that has traditionally been employed on the Professional Exemption Law Programmes offered by Queen Mary and is particularly attractive to the professional bodies accrediting the programme for the purpose of professional qualification. Students on the Programme are provided with suitable preparation for assessment by this method.

Matters of final assessment, student progression and the making of the award for the programme fall within the responsibility of the Subject Examination Board ("SEB"). The SEB is chaired by a senior member of staff at the CCLS In addition to the Chair, the Programme Director, each of the Leaders for the Programme's modules and the programme's one to two external examiners will be members of the SEB. The decisions of the SEB will be taken in accordance with the relevant academic regulations.

Assessment is by written examination in each component module to which credits are attached, and by multiple choice examination for the study only module in Basic Principles of English Law, Practice & Evidence. The examinations take place early Summer (between late April and early to mid June) With Late Summer Resits taking place in the same academic year (over 2 weeks in August)

The programme outcomes are referenced to the relevant QAA benchmark statement(s) (see above) and the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (2008), and relate to the typical student. Additionally, the SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Further and Higher Education 2003 and Queen Mary Statement of Graduate Attributes have been used as a guiding framework for curriculum design.

Academic Content:	
A 1	Demonstrate knowledge of a substantial range of major concepts, values, principles and rules of domestic and international legal environment within intellectual property
A 2	Explain the practical and legal aspects (laws and procedures) with reference to intellectual property
A 3	Explain aspects of legal systems, rules and concepts that provide a foundation and context for intellectual property law and practice;
A 4	Knowledge and understanding of the laws and procedures relating to the protection of patents and trade marks (domestic, international and comparative);
A 5	General knowledge and understanding of copyright and competition law (particularly those areas of law with relevance to the exercise of intellectual property rights).

Disciplinary Skills - able to:	
B 1	conduct a legal argument in written form;

B2	compare legal rules from different jurisdictions.
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Attributes:	
C1	Be able to conduct a legal argument in written form;
C2	Knowledge and understanding to compare legal rules from different jurisdictions.
C3	Ability to read legal writing (statutes, cases and commentary) effectively.

How Will You Learn?

Each module is organised and convened by a subject expert from within the Centre for Commercial Law Studies at Queen Mary and also includes a number of classes run by experienced practitioners in the relevant field. Such practitioners include patent attorneys, barristers, and solicitors. The contribution of such practitioners is an important element of this professional programme. CCLS is uniquely well-placed to deliver a programme integrating professional expertise in this way as a result of the extensive contacts that it has built up with senior intellectual property practitioners over the years (both through the MSc in Management of Intellectual Property and other programmes and through its research activities).

Each component module requires a student to undertake approved studies to the value of either 22.5 (half module) or 45 (full module) credits, with the exception of Basic Principles of English Law, Practice & Evidence, which is a two-week pre-sessional study only module.

How Will You Be Assessed?

Assessment is primarily by written examination in each component module to which credits are attached, and by multiple choice examination for the study only module in Basic Principles of English Law, Practice & Evidence. The examinations take place early Summer (between late April and early to mid June) With Late Summer Resits taking place in the same academic year (over 2 weeks in August).

Some free choice modules have essay assessment, mainly IPLM047 - IP in Food, Biotech and Agriculture.

The IPLM027 study project is a practitioner led module and consists of both group and individual projects.

How is the Programme Structured?

Students attend from the 12th September or first Monday following this date. Students attend an initial intensive first week (daily between 09.00 - 18.00 daily) and then undertake their first examination at the end of week 2. This is then followed by the main semester 1 module teaching. Semester 2 usually commences on the Monday of the first full week in January.

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Each component module requires a student to undertake approved studies to the value of either 22.5 (half module) or 45 (full module) credits, with the exception of Basic Principles of English Law, Practice & Evidence, which is a two-week pre-sessional pass/fail only module. No academic credit is associated with this module but students must pass the examination component to pass the programme.

The list below is not an exhaustive list of modules. Students can undertake any IPLM coded modules associated with the MSc in IP programme.

Academic Year of Study 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Study Project	IPLM027	45	7	Compulsory		Semesters 1 & 2
Basic Principles of English Law, Evidence and Practice	IPLM028	0	7	Study only	1	Semester 1
The Law of Patents I & II	IPLM041	45	7	Elective	1	Semesters 1 & 2
The Law of Patents I	IPLM040	22.5	7	Elective		Semester 1
The Law of Trade Marks I & II	IPLM044	45	7	Elective	1	Semesters 1 & 2
The Law of Competition I	IPLM031	22.5	7	Elective		Semester 1
The Law of Copyright I	IPLM033	22.5	7	Elective		Semester 1
IP in Food, Biotech and Agriculture	IPLM047	22.5	7	Elective		Semester 2
IP in the US	IPLM048	22.5	7	Elective		Semester 2
Intellectual Property Transactions	IPLM036	45	7	Elective		Semesters 1 & 2
Information Technology Law	IPLM035	45	7	Elective		Semesters 1 & 2
Interactive Entertainment Law	IPLM157	45	7	Elective		Semesters 1 & 2
Media Law	IPLM039	22.5	7	Elective		Semester 1

What Are the Entry Requirements?

Upper second class undergraduate degree from any discipline.

How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

The IP Specific Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides an informal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year.

Each school/institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the school/institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

All modules are assessed through student feedback prior to exams, assessed through paper-based confidential forms handed out and completed in the class room. Students also have the opportunity to provide feedback through on-line forms and through informal mechanisms to the Programme Director and Programme Administrator.

In addition to the Queen Mary and CCLS mechanisms for feedback and quality assurance, the special nature of the professional relationship with CIPA and ITMA has led to special information-gathering sessions with the profession (including occasional evening meetings and roundtable meetings) at which developments for the programme are discussed and proposed. Further, the Senior CCLS IP Academics sit as members of the CIPA and ITMA Education Committee and the Blue Skies Sub-Committee where developments for the future are discussed and examined. Additional feedback and guidance is sourced from discussions and meetings with IPReg.

Academic Support

The Programme Director and Academics are available on a weekly basis during term time to answer any questions or queries. Academics are also available remotely to assist and advise students.

In addition to this IP Administrative support staff are available to offer additional help and assistance on a daily basis.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

Professional stream students must pass both the MSc and specialist IPLM008 and IPLM009 examinations to pass the professional exemption qualification (M3EZ - PG Cert in IP Law - Pathway B).

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Specific Support for Disabled Students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
- Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum.

Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

One of the most notable features of the CCLS is its extremely close relationship with the legal profession and the commercial world. It has an advisory council that includes several senior members of the judiciary and legal profession and persons occupying senior roles in the IP and wider commercial world. Currently, senior members of the legal and intellectual property professions play important roles on the examination board for the CIPL and the MSc in Management of Intellectual Property. Almost all graduates from the Programme are employed within the profession following their studies.

All programmes within CCLS have the benefit of prizes for achievement supported by commercial organisations (eg GlaxoSmithKline for the MSc IP Programme).

Graduates of the programme are in a position to use their qualification(s) across several fields both directly and indirectly associated with the IP Field.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification

Miss Sharon Watson

Person responsible for management of programme

Professor Guido Westkamp

Date Programme Specification produced/amended by School Learning and Teaching Committee

TBC

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board

Sept 2015