INTRODUCTION TO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

LAW 091:286
Spring 2013
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SYLLABUS

Course Synopsis
This course will introduce the concept of intellectual property, survey decisions in patent, trademark and unfair competition, copyright, trade secret, and related areas of law, and discuss issues pertaining to the intersection of those areas. This course is directed to students who have an interest in intellectual property generally, and who are looking for a comprehensive understanding of intellectual property law. No technical background is expected.

Required Text
The text required for this course is Merges, Menell, & Lemley, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY IN THE NEW TECHNOLOGICAL AGE, Sixth Edition (2012). A statutory supplement is available free of charge through the ICON course management system.

Grading
Grading in this class will be based on a final exam. The exam will be given during the scheduled examination period. Students will be permitted to bring their textbook, statutory supplement, a dictionary, and a printout of their own personally-prepared outlines to the exam.

Students may choose to write their final exams on laptop computers. Those choosing to do so must supply their own computers and use software available from the ISBA Bookstore.

Information on computer specifications and on the software may be found at www.law.uiowa.edu/students/exams-laptops.php. Any questions relating to computers and the software should be directed to Student Computer Services in room 130 of the Library.

In addition, note that by taking this course you agree that any work product you submit in connection with the course may be reproduced by me for teaching purposes. This means, for example, that I may distribute all or part of your exam or other written assignments as a model answer without seeking further permission. If you wish to negotiate this provision, you may, but must do so prior to the end of the first week of classes.

Recording Policy
The policy is that students may request that the class be recorded but must request permission before the recording may be viewed. Permission will only be given for absences due to reasons specified in the Curriculum Policy Committee Guidelines on recording, available at

Syllabus last updated 1/7/2013
Viewing a recording does not count for purposes of class attendance.

Please do not bring personal devices to class for audio or visual recording purposes.

**Course Schedule and Office Hours**

This course meets on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in BLB Room 245. There are no set office hours, but I am available most times without an appointment. If you wish to make an appointment, please email me. Although I will respond to questions via email, in general I find it more useful and efficient to discuss the material in person. I may also periodically post questions and answers on the ICON course website.

**Class Attendance and Participation**

Come to class on time every day. If you miss more than five classes, I will drop you from the course. When you come to class, be prepared to discuss the readings and make intelligent contributions to the discussion. If exceptional circumstances cause you to be unprepared, and you let me know before the start of class, I will defer calling on you until the next class.

**Assigned Readings**

The readings for this course will be assigned in separate blocks following the progression of the textbook. Students are expected to come to class having read the indicated materials and outlined their answers to the assigned problems. Materials should be read in the order listed for each assignment.

Note that the sections entitled “COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS” should be considered supplemental reading. You will not be tested on material in the “COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS” sections unless it is covered in class.

The first block of reading assignments is provided below. Page numbers refer to the casebook unless otherwise indicated.

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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assigned Reading</th>
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<td><strong>I. An Introduction to Intellectual Property Law and Policy</strong></td>
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<td>Class 1: Introduction</td>
<td>1-31; Problems 1-1, 1-2, and 1-3</td>
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<td>Class 2: The tort of misappropriation</td>
<td>1005-1020; Problem 6-1</td>
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<td><strong>II. Trade Secret Protection</strong></td>
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<td>Class 3: Defining trade secrets</td>
<td>33-48; Problems 2-1 to 2-5</td>
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<td>Class 4: The contours of secrecy and disclosure</td>
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| Class 6: Issues around employee mobility | 83-106; Problems 2-14, 2-15 |
| Class 7: Licenses and remedies | 106-122; Problem 2-12 |

| III. Patent Law |
| IV. Copyright Law |
| V. Trademark Law |