

Programme Title: MSc in Management of Intellectual Property



Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and programme title:	MSc in Management of Intellectual Property
Name of interim award(s):	PG Diploma PG Certificate
Duration of study / period of registration:	1academic year full time, 2 years part time.
QMUL programme code(s):	PMSF-QMCCLM1; PSMIP/PSMIPA
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	Intellectual Property Regulatory Board (IPReg), Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA) and the Chartered Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys (CITMA)
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	Centre for Commercial Law Studies

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

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Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

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Programme outline

The MSc course is aimed 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) to exempt students from the foundation papers for the professional examinations for patent and trade mark attorneys.

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

Aims of the programme

Students complete modules in Patent Law, Trade Mark Law, Copyright and Design Law and other related IP areas Law towards

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attaining specific exemptions from the foundation papers for the professional examinations for patent and trade mark attorneys (Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys and Chartered 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 (Foundations of Legal and Professional Ethics).

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 EU) 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).
- Enhance the professional legal analytic and other skills of students who wish to pursue a career in intellectual property law.
- Enhance the students' learning experience through regular interaction with lecturers, practitioners, visiting academics and fellow students
- Enable students to pursue independent legal research.

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What will you be expected to achieve?

Students who successfully complete the programme will be able to:

- Understand key legal principles and practical aspects of intellectual property law for potential patent and trade mark professionals.
- Be capable of researching and analysing legal issues within the specific field and wider legal field.
- Understand the academic and practical aspects of law within the specific field.
- Be capable of applying legal rules and principles to complex factual scenarios within the field of IP
- Be capable of identifying and distinguishing relevant factual information
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Academic Content:

A 1	Students will acquire a thorough understanding of legal principles as applied across different areas of IP law.
A 2	Students will understand the features of legal systems across major jurisdictions and of international legal systems as applicable to their chosen modules and will be able to apply legal rules and principles to factual situations.
A 3	Students will understand whether and how their chosen areas of law intersect with other legal frameworks.
A 4	Students will Acquire relevant knowledge and understanding permitting students to understand the diverse principles and rationales underlying different protection regimes as regards the economic and social dimensions of IP protection and the interaction with international and transnational laws and conventions in the field.
A 5	Students will demonstrate critical awareness of current issues concerning IP law
A 6	Students will gain comprehensive understanding of legal methodology and interpretation in the IP field

Disciplinary Skills - able to:	
B 1	Students will develop the ability to assimilate and evaluate a range of primary and secondary legal materials, including legislation, regulations and administrative guidance and the academic and professional literature.
B 2	Students will be able to analyse critically a variety of sources including legislative, judicial and academic texts
B 3	Students will be able to state and argue a position orally and in writing.
B 4	Students will be able to systematically understand key aspects of complex disputes

Attributes:	
C 1	Understand key legal principles and practical aspects of intellectual property law for potential patent and trade mark professionals.
C 2	Acquire a global perspective
C 3	Distinguish essential from non-essential information
C 4	engage critically with different positions

How will you learn?

This Programme is delivered via lectures and tutorials. Most teaching takes place in a whole-group setting. Teaching and learning methods vary from module to module. Lecturing is the primary means of instruction for some classes. In some sessions, teaching is conducted in interactive lecture format. In others, teaching is conducted through group discussion of pre-assigned questions and problems. Each module is supported by a detailed and clearly structured set of materials and reading list. These materials include guided learning exercises which the students are required to complete in advance of the teaching sessions.

Students will also be expected to invest a significant amount of time in independent learning, including reading materials in advance of lectures/tutorial, preparing class presentations, completing assignments and preparing for examinations. In addition, students will need to carry out extensive research to complete the Study Group Project. Students will be provided with a variety of legal resources and receive training on how to use them.

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).

How will you be assessed?

Assessment takes the form of an unseen examination in each of the 4 credit bearing modules. The duration of the unseen main examinations is 4 hours, except for the IPL134 Fundamentals of Law and Professional Ethics, for which candidates undertake a 2 hour MCQ exam paper and submit 3 essays. A candidate's classification for the programme as a whole is therefore determined on the basis of marks and successful completion in all assessed modules.

Assessment is by unseen examination, oral presentation, essays and/or coursework for taught modules.

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An assessment method based on unseen examination has been chosen in order to ensure a rigorous assessment of the students' knowledge and skills in each area of law covered by the programme. Students will be prepared for being examined under this method of assessment.

In response to university policies to move some exams on-line, CCLS decided to move all its course assessments on-line and introduce a 4 hours timed format for all its exams. Following this format students will get 4 hours to complete their exam, which is more than the usually allocated time for "in-person" exams. The 4 hours format also acknowledges the time zone issues students may face, issues with their Internet connections, as well as the requirements of any students with examination access arrangements, such as extra time.

It should be noted that students receive a student handbook which contains the syllabus, assessment type, profile, particulars such as word caps as well as the date of the exams. This information is also available on the QM+ induction page and was explained in details in a dedicated assessment/examination session during the induction week activities. This information is also emphasised during the revision session of each module.

How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

- Students on the MSc have to complete 180 credits. Student must take all modules.
- Students will sit IPLC134 in an intensive 2 week format before starting IPLM200 and IPLM202 in Semester 1. Students will then take IPLM200, IPLM202, IPLM 202 and IPLM 148 in Semester 2. Then this is followed by their research project in the second & third semesters (IPLM205).
- Students must also take the non-credit bearing compulsory module IPLM131 Competition Law Overview as part of their accreditation requirements.
- Students who take and successfully pass the foundational papers in Trade Mark and Patent law will gain exemption from the foundation exams of professional courses provided they pass the MSc.
- Part-time students must take IPLC134, IPLM148, IPLM200 and IPLM204 in their first year (90 credits) and IPLM201, IPLM202, IPLM203 and the study project IPLM205 in Year 2. (90 credits).

An Advanced Standing route is available for eligible students in which they receive 15-credits Accreditation of Prior Learning and are exempt from taking credit bearing module IPLC134. Instead will be registered for 0-credit module IPLC138 and as part of accreditation requirements, will complete the Professional Ethics Exam that forms part of the assessment in IPLC134.

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Fundamentals of Law and Professional Ethics	IPLC134	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Competition Law Overview	IPLM131	0	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Trade Mark Law: Registration and Filing Strategy	IPLM200	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Trade Mark Law: Trade Mark Office Proceedings and Litigation	IPLM201	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Patent Law: British and European Patent Law	IPLM202	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Patents: Practice and Procedure	IPLM203	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Designs and Copyright	IPLM204	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Intellectual Property in the United States	IPLM148	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Study Project	IPLM205	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1-3
Fundamentals of Law and Professional Ethics (Exemption Route)	IPLC138	0	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1

What are the entry requirements?

Minimum 2.2 honours degree from any discipline.

How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

At the beginning of their studies, students will be asked to select a programme representative. This is a vital process, as the programme representative will act as a key point of contact between students and the CCLS programme team. Students are also encouraged to contact the Programme Director directly at any time to communicate any issue of concern about their studies.

Input from external examiners, students and regular internal discussion are the main channels through which the programme's quality will be managed and enhanced.

CCLS welcomes feedback from students. This is usually collected through the IP specific Student Voice Committee (SVC), module experience surveys, the Postgraduate Taught Evaluation Survey (PTES), and formal and informal discussions with the teaching team throughout the academic year. Students are also encouraged to contact the Programme Director directly at any time to raise feedback or queries. On top of that, a senior academic will be conducting focus groups with the students.

The Student Voice Committee (SVC) provides a formal means of communication and discussion between CCLS and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from across CCLS, together with appropriate representation from CCLS staff. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Student Voice Committees (SVC) meet once per semester, and meeting dates will be confirmed at the start of each semester. Students will be given an opportunity to submit feedback, or items for discussion ahead of each meeting.

CCLS runs an end-of-term experience survey for each module. This allows both module convenors and the CCLS to collect important information and feedback from students, and to make any relevant adjustments promptly if necessary. CCLS also runs an additional feedback questionnaire which relates specifically to the performance of guest lecturers.

A Programme Management Group (PMG) oversees the delivery of this programme. It meets at the end of each academic year to consider: the curriculum, module evaluations, external examiner reports, student achievement data, and general student

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feedback. Feedback from the PMG is reported to the PG Law School Education Committee (SEC).

The PG Law SEC deals with all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes within CCLS, 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 this Committee's work in a number of ways, such as through reports from the SVC, and the consideration of module evaluation questionnaires.

CCLS operates a bi-annual Programme Review of their taught provision. The Programme Review is central to QMUL's assurance of the academic standards of its provision, with the aim of enhancing the student learning experience at its core. The Programme Review is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery.

External examiners have the opportunity to comment both on individual module content and assessment and on the broader provision. They are asked to monitor fairness and consistency in assessment procedures and to scrutinise the effectiveness and appropriateness of the assessment. External examiner reports are submitted annually, after the relevant Subject Examination Board. CCLS submit a formal response to each report, indicating how and feedback is going to be implemented, and / or reasons why changes are not going to be made. External examiner reports and responses are also shared with students via the Student Voice Committees.

What academic support is available?

Students will receive a comprehensive induction activities where they are assisted with the preliminary stages understanding of their taught courses and will later be given sessions to help them navigate their research topic (the study group), drafting a research proposal, considering their methodology and developing the skills needed to identify and use relevant materials.

The programme director offers help and assistance to students if required. Students are encouraged to communicate directly with the module leaders, programme director and programme coordinator with any queries. Students can also seek advice and support from the CCLS Taught Programme Office. Lecturers on taught modules shall be available to discuss any concerns students might have with regard to the particular module or its content. Students will have elected course representative to voice any concerns/issues during the their and their studies.

Students are able to access the support services offered centrally by QMUL. For more information please follow the link below: <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/newstudents/starting-your-life-as-a-student/central-qmul-support-services/>

Students can approach our assessments team for any questions pertaining to the administrative aspects of the examinations including exam timetables, delivery of exam results etc.

Programme-specific rules and facts

The programme meets the requirements set out in the IPReg Accreditation Handbook. Graduates of the programme fulfil IPReg's requirement of completing a postgraduate course accredited by IPReg during their first year of study towards qualifying as a Chartered Trade Mark Attorney or Chartered Patent Attorney.

Students can condone up to 30-credits with a mark of 40-49 subject to meeting all other requirements for condonement.

Students who pass IPLC134/IPLC138, IPLM200, IPLM201 IPLM202, IPLM203 and IPLM204 but fail to meet conditions of award by failing IPLM205 can still receive exemption from IPReg for the dual patent attorney and trade mark attorney FLQ.

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

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- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Exam Access 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)

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. Distinguished members of the legal profession play important roles on the examination board and as part of the external teaching staff.

GlaxoSmithKline sponsor an academic prize for this programme.

Students may apply for a one year internship programme with either the EUIPO or the EPO under the Pan-European SEAL 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.

There is also a mentoring programme that matches students with available mentors from the profession. An embedded Careers and professional development team provide guidance in identifying and obtaining relevant internships, valuable employment-related skills and other work-related opportunities. There is a programme of co-curricular activities designed to foster professional development and related skills.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Leonie Dos Santos

Person responsible for management of programme:

Jasem Tarawneh

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

December 2024

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board: