Course Objective:

1. This course is aimed at familiarizing researchers with the nuances of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) so as to help them integrate the IPR process in their research activities.
2. IPR internalisation process to help the researchers to set targeted objectives in their research project and also to design and implement their research to clearly differentiate their work vis-a-vis the existing state of knowledge/ prior art.
3. To give the PhD Students “hands-on -training” in literature, including patent search and documentation of research activities that would aid an IPR expert to draft, apply and prosecute IPR applications.
4. To make the PhD students familiar with basics of IPR and their implications in Research, development and commercialization.
5. Facilitate the students to explore career options in IPR.

Prerequisites of the Course:

Registered PhD students from any department of the University. Students are expected to have experience in presentation, group discussion etc.

Course outline:

Unit 1. Concept of Intellectual Property Rights

Protection of human innovations by IPR such as Patents, Trademarks, Copyright, Industrial Designs Registrations, Geographical Indications, Trade Secrets etc. Territoriality of IPR; Role of WTO and WIPO; Balancing Rights and Responsibilities.

Unit 2. Patents

Benchmarks for patentability of inventions; Understanding the Patent system in India; Filing patents outside of India. Searching patents databases for designing research objectives; online patents search patent search strategy; Debates surrounding patent protection in fields like biotechnology, computer sciences, etc.

Unit 3. IP transactions; Enforcement of IP, Commercialisation

Implications of Intellectual Property Rights in promoting innovations and their commercialization; technology transfer, Due diligence in patent transactions. Working of patents in India Compulsory licence and its implications; Enforcement of Patents against infringer.

Unit 4. Industrial Designs Registrations

Classification,Protection and Enforcement of Industrial Designs in Indian,Registration and protection of design in India and abroad.
Unit 5. Copyright

Concept and procedures of obtaining rights and ownership for creative works in India. Copyright in computer programs, engineering drawings, databases, films, media, broadcasting; performers; publishing industry etc. Licensing of copyright; Infringement of copyright. Role of copyright societies. Exploiting concept of Fair Use, especially in academics and research.

Unit 6. Geographical Indications

Concept of Geographical Indications and GI registration in India; Global scenario of GI. Protection of Traditional Knowledge and development of balanced benefit sharing models; management of GI to enhance the economic returns from GIs. Enforcement of GI. GI registration of Muga Silk in Assam and exploring other GIs in Assam.

Unit 7. Trade Secrets

What are trade secrets; how trade secrets are to be maintained; how trade secrets are used in trade and businesses.

Unit 8. Protection of Plant Varieties

Discussion on the system in India for protection of new plant varieties in India and comparison with the system followed under the Union of Protection of Plant Varieties (UPOV).

Text Books


References

1. Inventing the Future: An introduction to Patents for small and medium sized Enterprises; WIPO publication No. 917. URL: www.wipo.int/ebookshop
2. Looking Good : An Introduction to Industrial Designs for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises; WIPO publication No.498. URL: www.wipo.int/ebookshop
3. Creative Expression: An Introduction to Copyright and Related Rights for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises; WIPO publication No. 918. URL: www.wipo.int/ebookshop
4. Making a Mark: An Introduction to Trademarks for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises; WIPO publication No. 900. URL: www.wipo.int/ebookshop