Certificate in Intellectual Property Law

Introduction

The Intellectual Property Law certificate program fosters the knowledge, skills, and values that the contemporary intellectual property lawyer needs in the rapidly changing and challenging environment of intellectual property. Using the intellectual property law field as a lens, you will learn how to apply foundational legal concepts in diverse intellectual property settings, including litigation, transactional work, and prosecution. This program will expose you to the foundations of intellectual property law and ensure familiarity with key concepts, laws, policies, institutions, skills and values in the intellectual property field.

This brief guide is designed to provide you with an overview of the certificate requirements. For additional information, please visit the Intellectual Property Certificate Program webpage at law.gsu.edu/IPCertificate.

Core competencies in intellectual property law

The intellectual property certificate program builds core competencies in three key domains: (1) knowledge (including the key concepts, theories, doctrines, laws, policies, systems, and institutions in the intellectual property field); (2) lawyering skills (including cognitive, analytical, problem-solving, collaboration, and communication skills); and (3) professional values and ethics (including developing a mindset that promotes the responsible, civil, and ethical practice of law). These three domains reflect what competent lawyers should know, what they should be able to do, and how they should act as professionals. The core knowledge, skills, and values competencies are addressed in the certificate requirements.

Eligibility

You must be a student in good academic standing based on the successful completion of the first full year of law study (30 hours), and you must remain in good standing to continue participation in the certificate program.

Application process

To apply, submit the Declaration of Interest form (see below) to the program administrator, Jackie Stephenson. You may apply for the program as early as the spring semester of the first year of the full-time program or spring semester of the second year of the part-time program, or anytime thereafter so long as enough time remains to complete the program requirements, but no later than the end of the fourth (4th) week of your last semester prior to graduation. Formal participation in the program counting toward the requirements for the certificate will not begin until the second full year of law study.

The Declaration of Interest form is not binding. You may change your mind and decline to pursue the certificate at any time.

Advisement

After you have formally declared an interest in pursuing a certificate intellectual property, you will be assigned a faculty advisor.

You are required to meet with your faculty advisor at least once each academic year to discuss your progress and goals. You are encouraged to take advantage of faculty advisement to make course selections and discuss potential career paths.
Requirements to earn a certificate in intellectual property law

For the certificate, you must complete 18 - 21 credit hours, depending on the mix of two- and three-credit hour elective courses as detailed below. You should discuss your course selections and scheduling with your faculty advisor.

Course work

You must take the following courses to earn a certificate in intellectual property. There is no mandatory sequence for taking the courses, although you are encouraged to take them as early as possible after your first year.

- Law 7010 - Administrative Law (3 credits) or Law 7101 - Corporations (3 credits)
- Law 7158 - Copyrights (3 credits)
- Law 7417 - Patent Law (3 credits)
- Law 7478 – Trademarks and Unfair Competition Law (3 credits)
- Choice of three courses or 9 credit hours from the elective course list:
  - Law 7053 - Advanced Patent Law
  - Law 7065 - Antitrust Law
  - Law 7079 - Arts and Entertainment Law
  - Law 7098 - Biotechnology Law, Policy and Ethics
  - Law 7137 - Cyberlaw
  - Law 7178 - Different and Unusual Forms of Intellectual Property
  - Law 7234 - Food and Drug Law
  - Law 7268 - International Intellectual Property
  - Law 7269 - Licensing of Intellectual Property
  - Law 7271 - Advanced Intellectual Property Seminar
  - Law 7390 - Mass Communications
  - Law 7416 - Patent Drafting and Prosecution
  - Law 7473 - Sports Law
  - Law 8006 - Summer IP Program in DC (IP Field Placement & Concurrent Seminar)

Please note that the course Intellectual Property Survey (LAW 7270) would not count towards the certificate’s electives requirement.

Extracurricular Activities

You must complete the College’s Intellectual Property Student Mentoring Program. Registration to the mentoring program is done through the College’s IP Law Society.

Grades and honors

Grades

You must have a minimum average GPA of 3.0 in all courses taken in satisfaction of the certificate requirements. If you take more than the minimum number of elective courses needed to fulfill the certificate requirements, you can utilize the highest grades in other intellectual property courses taken when computing the required average 3.0 GPA for the certificate.

If you do not pass a course required for the certificate (Copyrights; Patent Law; Trademarks & Unfair Competition; Corporations or Administrative Law) you must take this course again in order to complete the certificate. Both the failing grade from the first attempt and the passing grade from the second attempt will
be calculated in the GPA for the certificate and the minimum GPA of 3.0 must still be met. If you do not pass an elective toward the certificate, you may take a different course that meets this requirement instead and the higher grade will be counted toward the GPA.

Honors
You will be awarded honors in the certificate program if you earn an average GPA of 3.6 or higher in all intellectual property courses taken in satisfaction of the certificate program requirements.

Verification before graduation
You must submit a Verification for Certificate in Intellectual Property Law form (see below) confirming your satisfaction of certificate requirements no later than the end of the fourth (4th) week of your last semester prior to graduation to the program administrator, Jackie Stephenson. Your intellectual property faculty advisor must sign your verification form before you submit the verification form to the program administrator. The program administrator will verify your grades after graduation, when available from the Registrar’s Office.

All effort should be made to submit your Verification for Certificate in Intellectual Property Law form in a timely manner. The program administrator at her discretion, may choose not to accept late, incomplete or unsigned forms.

Contact

For more information and to download forms, visit the Intellectual Property Certificate Program website:

law.gsu.edu/IPCertificate

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the program administrator:

Jackie Stephenson
Phone: 404-413-9035
Email: jstephenson7@gsu.edu
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

Mailing Address: ______________________________________________________

Student E-mail: ___________________________ Other Email: _______________________

Student ID#: ___________________________________________________________

Anticipated Graduation Date (Semester/Year): ___________________________ Full or Part-Time? ____________

I am interested in pursuing the Certificate Program in Intellectual Property Law at the Georgia State University College of Law. I understand that, in summary, the requirements are:

1. **Course Work:** Choice of Administrative Law or Corporations; Copyrights; Patent Law; Trademarks and Unfair Competition Law; Choice of three courses or 9 credit hours of the following electives:

2. **Electives:** Students are required to take three (3) graduate level elective courses (minimum six (6) credit hours) in the College of Law or another department of Georgia State University that focus on or pertain to intellectual property. Such courses may include externships in IP and attending the Summer IP Program in DC.

3. **Extracurricular Activities:** Students are required to participate in and successfully complete the Intellectual Property Law Society (IPLS) IP Student Mentorship Program.

4. **Faculty Advisement:** Students pursuing a Certificate in Intellectual Property Law will be assigned a faculty member associated with the Center for Intellectual Property Law. Students are required to meet with their faculty advisor at least once a year to discuss progress and goals. Please submit a copy of your resume with this application to facilitate this process.

5. **Grades:** Minimum average GPA of 3.0 in the required courses.

6. **Application deadline:** Submission of a filled Verification for Certificate in Intellectual Property Law form to the Administrator of Certificate in Intellectual Property Law Program no later than the end of the fourth (4th) week of your last semester prior to graduation.
Please describe your reasons for wanting to pursue the certificate program and your career interests:

Please indicate if you have a preference for particular faculty advisor; give reason for preference.

Please indicate any focus areas in intellectual property law in which you are most interested in (select as many as applicable):

- Copyright Law
- Patent Law
- Licensing Law
- Technology Law (any specific area of technology?)
- Other:

Are you also a dual-degree student? Yes/No  If yes, please specify: JD/

Please advise us if there is anything else we should know about your goals and interests:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge that I have reviewed the Certificate Website for full details and information and that I understand all of the requirements for earning a Certificate in Intellectual Property Law. I understand that by enrolling in the certificate program, I am not required to complete it; I may change my mind at any time. I will periodically consult with my faculty advisor about course selection and my progress toward completing the certificate requirements by the deadlines.

Student Name (Print)

Student Signature  Date

Accepted by:

Administrator, Intellectual Property Certificate Program  Date
**VERIFICATION FOR CERTIFICATE IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW**

**Deadline:** This form must be filled out, with your faculty advisor’s approval, and submitted to the IP Certificate Program Administrator, Jackie Stephenson, before the drop/add deadline of your last semester before you graduate. Once final grades have been entered and provided by the Registrar’s Office, the Program Administrator will verify that you have met the requirements.

**Student Name:** ___________________________  **Graduation Date (Semester/Year):** ____________

**Current Status:** Full or Part-Time? ________

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<th>Required IP Electives (choose best grades for honors GPA calculation)</th>
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<th>Year of Participation in IP Student Mentorship Program</th>
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<th>Faculty Advisor</th>
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CERTIFICATION: I certify that the above information is true and accurate and that I have completed all of the requirements for the Intellectual Property Certificate.

Student Name (Print)

______________________________

Student Signature

Date

Approved by:

______________________________

Intellectual Property Faculty Advisor Signature

Date

This box for administrative use only.

Grades and requirements verified by:

______________________________

Print name

______________________________

Director, Center for Intellectual Property Signature

Date

Graduation Date (Semester/Year): ________________________________

GPA for Required Certificate Courses: __________________________ 3.0 or Greater? Yes No

Certificate Earned? Yes No

Honors Earned? Yes No

Notes: