



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Law

Syllabus

Intellectual Property law

Course Code:	JPGA02
Course Title:	Intellectual Property law <i>Immaterialrätt</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G2F)

Major Field of Study:
RVA (Jurisprudence)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2019-09-12, and is valid from the Spring semester 2020 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

60 ECTS credits from semesters 1-2 and 30 ECTS credits from semesters 3-4 completed in the Law programme at Karlstad University, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- give an account of immaterial rights, primarily regarding trade mark and company registration, design registration, copyright, and patent rights,
- give an account of Swedish intellectual property law in relation to European intellectual property law, and
- demonstrate basic knowledge of international aspects on intellectual property law.

Competence and skills

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- determine how intellectual performance and characteristics can be protected by legislation on immaterial rights,
- assess when rights have been infringed upon,
- identify and analyse intellectual property rights problems, and
- argue for possible solutions to legal problems involving intellectual property that take into consideration the perspectives of different parties and actors in relation to the problem.

Judgement and approach

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- reflect upon the interplay of different intellectual property rights,
- reflect upon the economic and political importance of protection of intellectual performance and characteristics, and
- adopt a proactive perspective on law regarding immaterial rights issues.

Content

The course covers the following areas of intellectual property law: copyright, design registration, trade mark and company registration, and patent rights. The protection of intellectual property is related in different ways to the public sector wishing to promote for instance technological and economic development through granting different actors exclusive rights. In addition, the course introduces the relation of intellectual property law to marketing and competition law.

All areas of study are introduced by an in-depth look at the emergence of exclusive rights, that is the possibility to receive legal protection through registration or other legal measures. The import of intellectual property rights is also treated, as well as their termination. Extensive European harmonisation in the legal field explains why the course has a focus on strong connections to EU law. Interpretations of directives and ordinances by the European Court of Justice are treated throughout the course, and some further international perspectives are included. The course also covers the development and adaptation of immaterial rights law in relation to the modern market, for instance in relation to changes to the function of various rights. Developments are analysed in relation to Swedish and European legislation, legal practice, and legal opinion.

The course also treats intellectual property rights in relation to marketing law and competition law. These legal areas are closely related and sometimes overlapping, and the course aims to clarify the relations between them.

Instruction is in the form of lectures, exercises, and seminars.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on a written exam and a group proposal examined individually. Proposals are presented and discussed in mandatory group seminars. Students who are absent from a mandatory seminar will be asked to submit a make-up assignment.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to special pedagogical support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades AB (Pass with Distinction), BA (Pass with Some Distinction), B (Pass), or U (Fail) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.