Master of Intellectual Property Law (LW53)

Year offered: 2010
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 067376C
Course duration (full-time): 1 Year
Course duration (part-time): 2 Years
Domestic fees (indicative): 2010: Full fee tuition $7,250 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2010: $10,750 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: February only
International Entry: February only
Course coordinator: Professor Kamal Puri
Campus: Gardens Point

Overview
This course is offered in collaboration with WIPO Worldwide Academy and is designed to build on the skills and knowledge of professionals working in fields related to and allied with intellectual property law by providing:

• a deep and thorough knowledge of IP law, policy and practice relevant to IP professionals as applicable in the global environment, particularly in the Asia/Pacific region;
• competent research, written and oral skills underpinned by strong practical knowledge of IP law;
• the ability to apply relevant IP law, policy and principles in diverse national and international contexts.

A diversity of teaching methods will be used from intensive classroom delivery and interaction to online contact. However, course content principally will be delivered through face-to-face lectures, tutorials, seminars and workshops. Particularly for WIPO taught units, students will be supported through email and chat room contact with lecturers and tutors. Each unit will be supported by a web site enabling students to access study materials and other information relating to the unit at any time of day or night.

Entry Requirements
Students require a four year Bachelor degree from QUT or from another equivalent institution. Students with a three year degree require professional experience in the field of intellectual property or a related area deemed to be equivalent to one year of tertiary education, as approved by the Program Director in consultation with the Director Graduate Programs.

Application Closing Date
The final closing date for applications for this course for 2011 is 21 January 2011 (no late applications will be accepted).

Offer Acceptance
The Faculty of Law would like to advise that if an offer is made to you for this course, that it is necessary for you to accept your offer as a matter of priority. The first unit in this course, LWN401 General Introduction to Intellectual Property Law, commences on 28 February, 2011. Therefore to ensure that you are not disadvantaged in relation to fees, visa requirements or other administrative matters, we advise that you are required to accept your offer into this course as early as possible.

Advanced Standing
Advanced Standing may be awarded to a maximum of 48 credit points where appropriate and as approved by the Program Director.

Early Exit Option
Students who successfully complete four units of the course may apply to exit early with LW61 Graduate Certificate in Intellectual Property Law. Students cannot enter the Graduate Certificate directly.

Course Structure
Course completion requires satisfactory completion of eight core units or equivalent as determined by the Program Director. This course is normally offered in the full-time mode. Part-time study is available after consultation with the Program Director.

Course Core – 96 credit points comprising:

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<th>Year 1, Semester 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>LWN401 General Introduction To Intellectual Property Law</td>
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<td>LWN402 Patents and Biotechnological Inventions</td>
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<td>LWN403 Copyright and Related Rights</td>
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<td>LWN404 Trade Marks, Domain Names and Geographical Indications</td>
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<th>Year 1, Semester 2</th>
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<td>LWN405 Industrial Designs and Plant Variety Protection</td>
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<td>LWN406 Traditional Knowledge and other emerging issues; Interface between Antitrust and IP Rights</td>
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<td>LWN407 Intellectual Property Management</td>
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<td>LWN408 Research Project</td>
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Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 5TP2

LWN402 PATENTS AND BIOTECHNOLOGICAL INVENTIONS
In the modern world, commercial entities are increasingly faced with issues concerning the exploitation of and access to innovative products relating to information technology and biotechnology. This specialised area is of growing importance to government, industry and society more generally. This unit apprises IP experts of the workings of the patent system in a fast-changing, dynamic global environment in the light of current economic, political and strategic innovations.
Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 26  Campus: Gardens Point  

LWN403 COPYRIGHT AND RELATED RIGHTS
In the last decade, the traditional copyright regime has been debated on two fronts. First by the growth of technological developments that makes unauthorised copying even easier. Second by concerns voiced by developing nations, consumers, library associations, open source advocates, NGOs, internet service providers, digital manufacturers and others who have advocated for more balanced copyright protection. Legislators around the world have responded to these challenges with major reform to copyright law at both the national and international levels. Given the increasingly complex nature of copyright law in the digital age, it is necessary not only to be familiar with the current copyright law but also to understand both the international and policy context driving the reform agenda.
Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 26  Campus: Gardens Point  

LWN404 TRADE MARKS, DOMAIN NAMES AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS
Knowledge of trade mark law is integral to the understanding of, and practice in, the area of intellectual property law. In order to gain a sound understanding of trademark law, it is important to learn the statutory requirements and the associated procedures relating to registration of trade marks, domain names and geographical indications. This unit will also examine issues relating to infringements and the principles of law applicable here.
Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 26  Campus: 

UNIT SYNOPSES

LWN401 GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW
Intellectual property law is of fundamental significance to the knowledge economy. It provides the legal framework for managing the creation, transfer and commercial transactions in intangible works. It has become a vital component of legal practice, but also has importance in the development of policy and practices internationally. This unit provides an overview of the key areas of intellectual property law, in order to demonstrate the scope of the law, and some of the key issues affecting the operation of the law in today's society.
Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 26  Campus: 

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LWN405 INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS AND PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION
This Unit comprises two discrete branches of intellectual property law, viz., industrial designs law and law relating to protection of new plant varieties. However, the selection relating to industrial designs will be the major focus whereas plant varieties protection law will be covered at an introductory level.
Industrial designs are everywhere around us. They cover every industrial sector, ranging from textiles to furniture, packaging to jewellery, household goods to toys. This unit explores issues concerning the protection and exploitation of industrial designs facing lawyers today.

New plant varieties are of fundamental significance for production of sufficient and high quality food in the agricultural and horticultural fields. Sustainable agriculture and food security are dependent on provision of adequate legal protection of plant breeder’s rights.

Credit points: 12    Contact hours: 26    Campus: Gardens Point    Teaching period: 2010 6TP4

LWN406 TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND OTHER EMERGING ISSUES; INTERFACE BETWEEN ANTITRUST AND IP RIGHTS

Intellectual property rights are being continuously reshaped to adapt to dramatic changes and are facing unprecedented challenges. In the knowledge and information technology age where knowledge and IP-based assets have become key factors in global competition and economic growth, intellectual property law has become a crucial crossover for several economical, scientific and political decisions and the awareness of the ethical implications connected to Intellectual Property law is constantly growing.

Credit points: 12    Contact hours: 26    Campus: Gardens Point    Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2

LWN407 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

It is of fundamental significance that the creation of new intellectual property and necessary registration (where appropriate), leads to production of new products or services for introduction into the marketplace. This usually occurs through the process of commercialisation. This unit investigates the key issues dealing with commercialisation of intellectual property in order to apply strategies that need to be put in place to transform the IP into new and useful products and services.

Credit points: 12    Contact hours: 26    Campus: Gardens Point    Teaching period: 2010 6TP4

LWN408 RESEARCH PROJECT

This unit is the vehicle for you to undertake a structured, individual research project under supervision. The course requires that you are capable of using your initiative to manage a major research project to satisfy completion. The project is to be a substantial piece of work relevant to the course carried out on an individual basis, investigating and analysing the legal aspects of a real world intellectual property problem.

Credit points: 12    Campus: Gardens Point    Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2