



GeorgiaState
University | COLLEGE
OF LAW

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

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Discover

In the last few decades, many industries, once the backbone of the U.S. economy, have moved elsewhere. Yet, for the most part, the U.S. economy has grown instead of stagnating. Perhaps the most significant explanation for this is the shift from being predominantly a manufacturing-based economy to being one increasingly reliant on information and knowledge. Intellectual property has made that possible.

The rise in prominence of intellectual property has, in turn, been marked by a growing demand for intellectual property lawyers in almost every legal setting. You cannot start a business without having a basic knowledge of trademark law. Artistic works, written works, and computer software are protected by copyright. The increasing importance of patents is evident in the number of device companies suing each other for millions of dollars in case after case. The importance of IP is also evident in the increasing number of IP cases taken by the U.S. Supreme Court and the number of IP laws passed by Congress.

Students interested concentrating their studies in IP law or in pursuing a career in IP law should consider enrolling in the [intellectual property law certificate program](#). One of the advantages of enrolling in the intellectual property certificate program is the opportunity to have an intellectual property faculty member assigned as your faculty advisor for advice and counsel throughout your IP law course of studies as you consider summer jobs, fellowships, and career options. Students may also explore intellectual property law without enrolling in the certificate program, and this curriculum guide provides an introduction to intellectual property offerings at the College of Law.

Please note that the Intellectual Property Survey course is intended to give students a general overview of the three main areas of IP law and is not recommended for students who expect to practice in the IP field. Rather, IP Survey is recommended for students who have a budding interest in intellectual property law and want to learn more or students who know that they are not interested in pursuing a career in intellectual property but would still like to have a general understanding of the field. Accordingly, IP Survey may not be counted as one of the three elective courses required for satisfying the requirements of the IP Certificate.



Learn

Foundational Courses <i>These courses provide a good introduction to the intellectual property field.</i>	Advanced Courses <i>These elective courses are relevant for students interested in a particular area of the intellectual property field.</i>	Writing Courses <i>To hone your writing skills and to qualify for the College of Law's writing requirement, see information below.</i>
Law 7158 - Copyrights Law 7417 - Patent Law Law 7478 – Trademarks and Unfair Competition Law Law 7270 – Intellectual Property Survey <i>Note: the following courses are from the general JD curriculum and are recommended as foundational courses for anyone interested in the intellectual property field:</i> Law 7010 - Administrative Law Law 7101 – Corporations	Law 7065 - Antitrust Law Law 7079 - Arts and Entertainment Law Law 7098 - Biotechnology Law, Policy and Ethics Law 7137 - Cyberlaw Law 7234 - Food and Drug Law Law 7269 - Licensing of Intellectual Property Law 7271 - Advanced Intellectual Property Seminar Law 7390 - Mass Communications Law Law 7516 - Patent Drafting and Prosecution Law 7473 - Sports Law Law 7268 - International Intellectual Property Law	You should consult with an IP faculty member to learn how to propose a substantial writing project on an intellectual property law topic, as part of one of the foregoing electives or as independent research supervised by an IP faculty member.

Experiential Courses

Clinics <i>Students who participate in a clinic are exposed to a practice area through the representation of actual clients under faculty supervision.</i>	Externships <i>Externships place students in a wide variety of placements where they work directly under the supervision of a practicing attorney. Sample placements in intellectual property law include:</i>	Additional E-Courses
There are no IP clinics at this time.	Any Federal District Court Judge Georgia Lawyers for the Arts Georgia State University Office of Technology Licensing and Commercialization Summer Program in IP in Washington, DC	



All course descriptions are available online through the [COL Bulletin](#).

Networking

Students should seek out connections with practitioners and other students, both within Georgia State and throughout the legal community. Adjunct professors can be an excellent resource both for guidance and employment opportunities. Professional Bar associations, such as the IP Section of the Atlanta Bar Association, also welcome student participation and may offer reduced membership rates for students. Some bar sections and committees look for students to provide research or other assistance.

Students interested in intellectual property are encouraged to join the IP Law Society (IPLS). Members of IPLS benefit from a variety of networking opportunities and may also sign up to the IP Mentorship Program, the IP Mock Interviews Program, and more.

Professional Organizations

[The State Bar of Georgia, IP Section](#)

[The Atlanta Bar Association, IP Section](#)

[The Atlanta IP Inn of Court \(by invitation only\)](#)

Student Organizations

Intellectual Property Law Society (IPLS)

Sports and Entertainment Law Society

Student Competitions in IP Law

The AIPLA annual IP Writing Competition: <https://www.aipla.org/resources/programs-awards/robert-c.-watson-award>.

The Berkeley Technology Law Journal Writing Competition: <http://btlj.org/2019/01/berkeley-technology-law-journal-2019-writing-competition/>.

The Giles Sutherland Rich Memorial Moot Court Competition, which is run by the American IP Law Association (AIPLA) and which focuses on patent law (<https://www.aipla.org/resources/programs-awards/moot-court-competition>).

The International Patent Drafting Competition (<https://www.internationalipclinic.com/annual-drafting-competition/>).

The Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition, which is organized by the International Trademark Association (INTA) and which focuses on trademark law (<https://www.inta.org/academics/pages/saullefkowitzcompetition.aspx>).

The Cardozo BMI Entertainment and Communication Law Moot Court Competition (<https://cardozo.yu.edu/faculty-intellectual-life/journals/moot-court-honor-society/bmi-moot-court-competition-0>).