Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

PLAW 420
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is designed to assist the student in gaining a broad understanding of intellectual property law and relevant legal terms. In addition to studying general principles and rules, the student will also study copyright, patents, trademarks, and trade secrets.

RATIONALE
Intellectual property law is an interesting and important area of law. It secures and promotes progress by incentivizing creativity and ingenuity. In fact, failing to adequately secure, protect, and defend intellectual property can devastate an enterprise. A professional with a proper understanding and knowledge of intellectual property law can avoid this, however. This course thus explores common forms of intellectual property protection including copyright, patent, trademark, and trade secret law.

I. PREREQUISITE
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Word
   (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Demonstrate mastery of key intellectual property terminology and related cases.
B. Evaluate legal rulings and documents related to intellectual property.
C. Discuss the current state of intellectual property law in the areas of copyright law, patent law, and trademark law.
D. Analyze intellectual property issues in a variety of factual situations and provide a legal assessment.

E. Apply Christian worldview principles to intellectual property cases, decisions, and proceedings.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (5) (Outcomes: A, B, C, D, E)

The student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 300 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. Each thread must incorporate at least 3 scholarly, academic citations. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 200 words. Each reply must incorporate at least 1 scholarly citation in current Bluebook format.

D. Trademark Searching and Registration Assignment (Outcomes: A, B, C, D)

The student will complete a trademark search using the United States Patent and Trademark Office electronic resources. The student will then answer questions relating to his/her search in a 4-part formal paper. Some of the questions may be short essay questions; thus, when appropriate, use current Bluebook style for scholarly references. Some of the questions may be short essay questions; thus, when appropriate, use current Bluebook style for scholarly references.

E. Copyright Searching and Registration Assignment (Outcomes: A, B, C, D)

The student will complete a copyright search using the U.S. Copyright Office's electronic resources. The student will then answer questions relating to his/her search in a 4-part formal paper. Some of the questions may be short essay questions; thus, when appropriate, use current Bluebook style for scholarly references.

F. Cease and Desist Letter Assignment (Outcomes: A, C, D)

The student will write a cease and desist letter relating to a copyright infringement issue. The letter will be formatted as if it were to be submitted to an attorney for review. The student will conduct research regarding (i) the law surrounding the intellectual property issues in the situation and (ii) the form and substance of a cease and desist letter. The assignment will be based on a hypothetical fact situation that an intellectual property paralegal will be likely to encounter. Some of the questions may be short essay questions; thus, when appropriate, use current Bluebook style for scholarly references.

G. Patent Search Assignment (Outcomes: A, B, C, D)
The student will complete a patent search using the United States Patent and Trademark Office electronic resources. The student will then answer questions relating to his/her search in a 3-part formal paper. Some of the questions may be short essay questions; thus, when appropriate, use current Bluebook style for scholarly references.

H. Tests (4) (Outcomes: A, D)

Each test will cover the Reading & Study material for the module/week in which it is assigned as well as the preceding module/week. Each test will be open-book/open-notes, contain 25 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and have a 1-hour and 30-minute time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

- Course Requirements Checklist: 10
- Discussion Board Forums (5 at 50 pts ea): 250
- Trademark Searching and Registration Assignment: 100
- Copyright Searching and Registration Assignment: 100
- Cease and Desist Letter Assignment: 50
- Patent Search Assignment: 100
- Test 1 (Modules 1–2): 100
- Test 2 (Modules 3–4): 100
- Test 3 (Modules 5–6): 100
- Test 4 (Modules 7–8): 100

Total: 1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010  B = 800–899  C = 700–799  D = 600–699  F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.

2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.

3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.

4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.
D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
# Course Schedule

## PLAW 420


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</table>
| 1           | Bouchoux: chs. 1–3 2 presentations | Course Requirements Checklist  
Class Introductions  
DB Forum 1 | 10  0  50 |
| 2           | Bouchoux: chs. 4–6 1 presentation | Trademark Searching and Registration Assignment  
Test 1 | 100  100 |
| 3           | Bouchoux: chs. 9–10 2 presentations | DB Forum 2 | 50 |
| 4           | Bouchoux: chs. 11–12 1 presentation | DB Forum 3  
Test 2 | 50  100 |
| 5           | Bouchoux: chs. 13–14 1 presentation | Copyright Searching and Registration Assignment  
Cease and Desist Letter Assignment | 100  50 |
| 6           | Bouchoux: chs. 17–18 1 presentation | DB Forum 4  
Test 3 | 50  100 |
| 7           | Bouchoux: chs. 19–20 1 presentation | Patent Search Assignment | 100 |
| 8           | Bouchoux: chs. 22–23 1 presentation 1 website | DB Forum 5  
Test 4 | 50  100 |

**TOTAL** 1010

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.