

Curriculum

Contemporary Issues in International Copyright Law (1 cr.) (Mary Wong)

Current Anglo–American copyright law traces its development to rules first adopted in England in the eighteenth century. Since then, copyright principles have proven both flexible and applicable to challenges posed by rapidly–developing technology and increasingly complex commercial demands. International trade and globalization have also ensured that the adaptation, adoption and further evolution of copyright laws are sensitive to circumstances and factors beyond domestic borders. In recent years, the rapid growth of the Internet and related technology has only highlighted the important role which copyright law plays in determining the flow of and access to information and media globally.

This course will introduce students to the fundamental principles governing international copyright law, with a view toward enabling students to examine critically contemporary legal and policy issues such as database protection; digital rights (including questions of technological circumvention, fair use and peer–to–peer networking); computer software licensing (including the "open source" movement); and other selected topics.

Contemporary Issues in Internet Law (1 cr.) (Dawn Nunziato)

This course will focus on issues of international and domestic jurisdiction (including choice of law, personal jurisdiction, and enforcement of judgements); trademark and domain name disputes (under the Lanham Act and ICANN's UDRP); digital copyright and ISP liability (under DMCA and Grokster's standard of inducement liability); and content regulation (including regulation of harmful to minors speech under COPA and CIPA, software filtering, regulation of Internet intermediaries for defamation, and net neutrality).

Introduction to Chinese Intellectual Property Law & Institutions (1 cr.) (Bing Wang)

This course will cover the Chinese patent, copyright, trademark, unfair competition law, computer software protection, and technology transfer regulations. The course will introduce, briefly, the historical development of the intellectual property system in China over the past 25 years. Students will visit the State IP agencies, courts, the Zhongguancun High–Tech special Economic Zone, and the Tsinghua University Science Park.

Introduction to Chinese Law and Legal System (1 cr.) (Jie Cheng)

In history, the Chinese law was one of the four major law families in the world (the other three being Common law, Roman law, and Islamic law.) This course is a basic introduction to the Chinese law and legal system in contemporary forms. The contemporary Chinese law and legal system was established in the 1950s and has been under radical reform since the 1980s. All the major sources and categories of law will be briefed in this course. Important components of the Chinese legal system will be addressed. These include constitutional review (judicial review), criminal justice, administrative litigation, civil litigation, the court system and judicial independence, the public prosecution system, and the legal profession.

World Trade and World Intellectual Property Law & Institutions (1 cr.) (William Hennessey)

This course provides an introduction to some of the major international instruments and institutions regulating international trade and intellectual property, which a U.S. lawyer engaged in international commerce or a foreign lawyer with U.S. contacts is likely to encounter; primarily the agreements administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization [WIPO] and the World Trade Organization [WTO]. The vehicle for illustration of the process of world trade regulation is International Intellectual Property Law, focusing on the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights [TRIPS Agreement.]. Other areas of trade implicated by China's accession into the WTO will also be covered, as will the ongoing issues in US-China bilateral trade relations.