



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2007/2008

GRA 3153 Legal framework for IPR

Program

Master in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Specialization Course

Responsible for the course

Tore Bråthen, Monica Viken

Department

Accounting - Auditing and Law

Term

According to study plan

ECTS Credits

6

Language of instruction

English

Objective

The aim of this course is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the legal aspects and framework used in the business community and entrepreneurship. An understanding of the legal framework is important to understand Norwegian business. The course will give a basic introduction to the law of intellectual property rights, conclusions of contract and general corporate law. The students are to gain an understanding of the main aspects in legal framework for IPR.

Prerequisites

A bachelor degree qualifying for entrance to the master program in innovation and entrepreneurship.

Compulsory literature

Books:

Bråthen, Tore. 2006. Selskapsrett. 2. utg. Oslo: Focus Forlag
Hov, Jo. 2002. Avtaleslutning og ugyldighet: Kontraktsrett I. 3. utg. Oslo: Papinian
Lassen, Birger Stuevold. "Åndsretten" fra Knophs oversikt over Norges rett. Siste utgave. Oslo: Universitetsforlaget
Stenvik, Are. 2006. Patentrett. 2. utg. Oslo: Cappelen

Recommended literature

Course outline

Section 1: Conclusion of contract and breach of contract

The students are to gain an understanding of the contract conclusion process, based on the contract act and methods for concluding contracts that are not directly regulated by the contract act. They will also learn about the consequences of non-fulfillment of the contract.

Course outline

- Conclusion of contracts according to the contract act system
- Conclusion of contracts by other models
- Power and representation
- Interpretation and completion of contracts
- Nullity and modification

There will be given a total of 9 hours of lectures. The lectures will include solving of practical cases based on legal method. Students are required to purchase and bring with them the required study aids to the lectures and to acquaint themselves with these through the study of various topics. In particular, knowledge relating to legal rules dealt with in the textbooks or discussed in lectures is required. Parts of the syllabus will have to be studied independently.

Section 2: General corporate law

The students shall be introduced to the various forms of ownership and given an in-depth knowledge of the laws on limited companies (private and public limited companies) and partnerships (general partnerships and apportioned liability partnerships). The course discusses legal issues related to setting up business, the owners' role, the running of the company, the company's equity and company restructuring. The students are to gain an understanding of the rules on joint stock companies, public joint stock companies, partnerships and apportioned liability partnerships.

Course outline

- Types of ownership
- Various types of limited companies
- Commercial ventures of limited companies
- Overview of the main features of company reorganization and restructuring
- Establishing partnerships (general partnerships and apportioned liability partnerships)
- Commercial ventures of partnerships
- Reorganization and restructuring
- Choice of ownership type

There will be given a total of 12 hours of lectures. The lectures will include solving of practical cases based on legal method. The students are expected to participate in discussions and do assignments through the course. Students are required to purchase and bring with them the required study aids to the lectures and to acquaint themselves with these through the study of various topics. In particular, knowledge relating to legal rules dealt with in the textbooks or discussed in lectures is required. Parts of the syllabus will have to be studied independently.

Section 3: Intellectual property rights (IPR)

The students are to gain an understanding of the main structure in the field of intellectual property rights. Property rights arrangements are an important issue to control access and use of valuable resources. The students will be given an introduction to the trademark law and industrial design law.

Course outline

- An introduction to the intellectual property rights
- Trademark law
- Patent law
- Law of industrial designs
- Intellectual property conventions

There will be given a total of 15 hours of lectures. The lectures will include solving of practical cases based on legal method. The students are expected to participate in discussions and do assignments through the course. Students are required to purchase and bring with them the required study aids to the lectures and to acquaint themselves with these through the study of various topics. In particular, knowledge relating to legal rules dealt with in the textbooks or discussed in lectures is required. Parts of the syllabus will have to be studied independently.

Computer-based tools

Standard, Blackboard/homepage

Course structure

36 hours divided into regular lectures and workshops including paper presentations.

Specific information regarding any aspect of student evaluation will be provided in class. Please note that whilst attendance is not compulsory, it is the students responsibility to obtain any information provided in class that is not included on the course homepage/Blackboard or text book.

Evaluation

Exam: 5 hours written exam

Evaluation code(s)

GRA31531 accounts for 100 % of the final grade in the course GRA3153.

Aids at the examination

The Norwegian code of laws, relevant regulations and drafts of new legislation.

Support materials at written examinations are explained under exam information in our web-based student handbook. Please note use of calculator. <http://www.bi.no/studenthandbook>.

Makeup exam

Re-takes are only possible at the next time a course will be held. When course evaluation consists of class participation or process elements, the whole course must be re-evaluated when a student wants to retake an exam. Retake examinations entail an extra examination fee.

Honor Code

Academic honesty and trust are important to all of us as individuals, and represent values that are encouraged and promoted by the honor code system. This is a most significant university tradition. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the ideals of the honor code system, to which the faculty are also deeply committed.

Any violation of the honor code will be dealt with in accordance with BI's procedures for cheating. These issues are a serious matter to everyone associated with the programs at BI and are at the heart of the honor code and academic integrity. If you have any questions about your responsibilities under the honor code, please ask.