

Research, transfer and entrepreneurship courses in Introduction to Patents and Intellectual Property Protection

ONLINE, ANYTIME

Online Research, transfer and entrepreneurship courses in Introduction to Patents and Intellectual Property Protection

Date 18 Feb 2026	Online 100%	2 Credits
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Enrolment: October 28, 2025

Language: English

Price: 300 €

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Presentation

The UOC offers four research, transfer and entrepreneurship courses in english, for **students, researchers and faculty** to promote research in the academic, scientific and business fields.

Introduction to patents and intellectual property provides a general understanding of intellectual property-related issues. The aim of this course is to ensure researchers understand the mechanisms available to them to protect the results of their research, as well as to guarantee the ethical use of the creations of others.

Programme of study

Objectives

The goal of this course is to provide an overview of intellectual and industrial properties to understand the main mechanisms for protecting knowledge itself, as well as to foster ethical behaviour with regard to the use of third-party work.

Additionally, it has a series of specific goals, such as:

- To understand the concept of copyright as a system for protecting intellectual creations in general and software in particular.
- To appreciate the limitations of industrial protection of the results of the exploitation of research.
- To know how to analyse the licences of results and understand the main legal rules applicable, especially with regard to software licences.
- To understand the most common uses, restrictions and prohibitions in an ownership transfer and exploitation licence.
- To identify the most common free software and content licences (GPL, Creative Commons, etc.)
- To learn how to contemplate Copyleft as a system for developing, protecting and distributing results and for incentivizing innovation.
- To develop analysis and guidance tools for cases associated with professional environments.

Competencies

During the course, participants will develop a raft of competencies, both interdisciplinary and specific, of use to their research activities and professional careers.

Interdisciplinary competencies:

- Analysing and summarizing information.
- Working in a team and in multidisciplinary environments.
- Interpreting academic texts and documents and conveying their content to others.
- Behaving ethically and responsibly in professional practice.
- The capacity to apply information and communication technologies to the relevant field.

Specific competencies:

- Identifying the legal framework governing the protection and exploitation of research results.
- Recognizing which research results can be legally protected.
- Knowing how to use the available tools permitting the protection of research results, be this via intellectual or industrial property or both.
- Identifying both the rights of authors inherent in research activities and the rights of the other players involved in it: universities, businesses and other partners.
- Managing the most important legal aspects of an R&I project.
- Monitoring and negotiating the most important aspects of a transfer agreement or exploitation licence.
- Distinguishing between the suitability of an open licence or a more proprietary model.

Methodology

The course's content comprises materials in audiovisual format. Students must watch the videos of the master classes and complete the associated practical exercises.

They will also be provided with a virtual classroom where a consultant, an expert in the entrepreneurial spirit, will guide them through their learning process. Once they have viewed each chapter, students will be encouraged to ask any questions they may have and discuss the issues dealt with in the materials with their classmates.

Students must complete continuous assessment activities around a product that needs to be protected (it can be a product in which they are interested or a fictitious one, if there is no real-world requirement). They must also be involved in debates steered or participated in by the instructor.

Prior knowledge

Although no prior knowledge associated with the content of this programme is required, having a B2-equivalent (CEFR) level of English is recommended.

Content

This course will be given over one semester, with an academic workload of 2 ECTS credits.

Index of contents

1. Intellectual or industrial property?
2. The legal framework for intellectual property
 - 2.1. Copyright
3. The legal framework for industrial property
 - 3.1. Patents
 - 3.2. Utility models
 - 3.3. Designs
 - 3.4. Trademarks
4. The concept of the author
 - 4.1. Co-authorship and co-ownership
 - 4.2. University ownership and business ownership
5. Open access: advantages and obligations
6. Technology transfer
 - 6.1. Ownership exploitation licences
 - 6.2. Free licences
7. Managing intellectual property within a research project

Academic team

Programme director

David Masip Rodó

PhD in Computer Engineering (UAB). He teaches courses on artificial intelligence, infographic, computer vision and business intelligence. He is currently the director of the UOC Doctoral School. His research focuses on the study of computer vision algorithms dedicated to the analysis of human behaviour, facial perception and object and scene recognition.

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Enrolment and fees

Fees and enrolment

Methods of payment

You can pay for Research, transfer and entrepreneurship courses with a credit or debit card.

1. VPoS: payment using a credit or debit card via the VPoS (virtual point of sale) provided by «la Caixa».

Enrolment withdrawal

300 € Price of this course

The fees for this programme will be those applicable when enrolment is completed. Subject to annual revisions.

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Consult the UOC educational offer uoc.edu/en/studies
