



UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND School of Law™

UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND SCHOOL OF LAW INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INSTITUTE

Certificate in Intellectual Property for J.D. Students

The Intellectual Property Institute offers Richmond Law students the opportunity to obtain a Certificate in Intellectual Property (“IP”) in the course of earning the J.D. degree.

Earning the IP Certificate is similar to completing a major as an undergraduate student. A student must (1) take the Intellectual Property Fundamentals course and a certain number of additional credits from a designated group of other IP-related courses, (2) write their upper-level writing requirement on an IP-related subject, and (3) achieve a minimum grade point average in “Core” Certificate courses. Students who satisfy the requirements receive the IP Certificate at graduation, plus an indication on their transcript that they completed the Certificate program.

The four specific Certificate requirements are as follows:

Required Course: Intellectual Property Fundamentals. This three-credit course will serve as an introduction to the core subject matters within the field of IP and therefore must be taken in order to earn the Certificate.

Fifteen Total IP Credits. Each Certificate student must take a total of fifteen credits from the IP curriculum. These credits can come from three sources. First, as already discussed, three of the credits must come from the Intellectual Property Fundamentals course. Second, each student must take at least eight credits from the following “Core” IP courses (and may count more than eight credits from “Core” courses if they wish).

Core Intellectual Property Courses

Copyright Law	Intellectual Property Law & Policy
Cyber Crime	National Security & New Technologies
CyberLaw	Patent Law
Entertainment Law	Start-Up Accelerator Practicum (a.k.a. Advising the Entrepreneur)
Information Privacy Law	Technology Law
Intellectual Property & Transactional Law Clinic	Trademark and Unfair Competition

Finally, up to four credits from other sources may be counted toward the total of fifteen. This includes credits from the following “Satellite” courses.

Satellite Intellectual Property Courses

Administrative Law	Legal Business Design Challenge
AI in Legal Practice	Legal Business Design Practicum
Antitrust	Legal Project & Process Management
Commercial Transactions & Emerging Tech	National Security & New Technologies
Cultural Property: Arch/Eth/Law	Reading Group: Comics & the Law
Expert Evidence	Remedies
How to Run A Small/Solo Firm	Sports and the Law
Law and Economics	Starting a Small / Solo Practice

The four credits from other sources can also include credits from Independent Studies, Research Assistance, clinical placements, and courses taught outside of the University of Richmond School of Law—but all such credits must be approved as sufficiently IP-related by the Director of the IP Institute, in consultation with the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Upper-Level Writing Requirement. Each Certificate student must satisfy their upper-level writing requirement by writing on an IP-related topic. “IP-related” means that the paper either was written for a Core course within the IP curriculum or has been approved as IP-related by the Director of the IP Institute and the instructor. Students should seek such approval as early as possible in the paper-writing process. Students should also keep in mind that the paper must not only be IP-related, but must also meet the generally applicable standards for the upper-level writing requirement.

Grade Point Average. Certificates will be awarded only to those students who achieve a grade point average of at least 3.0 in all Core courses (including Intellectual Property Fundamentals) that they have taken. Students whose average is 3.5 or higher in those courses will earn the certificate “with distinction.”