A highly dynamic field. One of the nation’s most highly regarded programs.

In a world where people can send infinite copies of digital assets around the globe, instantly and at no cost, clients demand competent counsel to protect their substantial interests in intellectual property. Few schools will better prepare you for this challenge than BU Law. Each year, we invite a select group of lawyers to seize the future through advanced training in this all-important field.

IS IT FOR YOU?

Our LLM in Intellectual Property Law Program attracts domestic and foreign-trained lawyers who seek specialized training in the constantly evolving field of intellectual property law. Ideal foreign candidates have extensive backgrounds in intellectual property studies and practice, as well as a solid command of English. Ideal domestic candidates have strong academic and professional backgrounds with no significant academic exposure to US intellectual property law studies.

Because of its exclusive focus on intellectual property law topics, the program is not designed to qualify foreign-trained lawyers to take a US bar exam. (The LLM in American Law Program, with its concentration in intellectual property law, is a more suitable option.)

OUR CURRICULUM

The LLM in Intellectual Property Law Program is a one-year, full-time, 24-credit program. You’ll take at least three of four core courses—Intellectual Property (survey); Copyright; Patents; and Trademark & Unfair Competition. (Foreign-trained lawyers must also take Introduction to American Law and a Legal Research & Writing seminar.) In the spring, you’ll participate in an Intellectual Property Workshop seminar, reacting to and commenting on invited scholars’ works-in-progress. For the remainder of your program, you’ll choose from a broad range of electives, such as Trade Secrets and Patent Litigation, to name a few. Selecting courses offered through the school’s JD curriculum, you’ll work one-on-one with the program director to develop a study plan that’s best for you.

A FACULTY OF RENOWNED IP SCHOLARS

Our full-time IP faculty is acclaimed not just for its teaching excellence, but for its scholarly impact on cutting-edge issues. Professors Michael Meurer (Patents), Wendy Gordon (Copyright), and Stacey Dogan (Trademark) are each recognized nationally and internationally for their insights on the novel questions that emerge on a near-daily basis in their respective fields.

With a faculty of such depth and breadth, you’ll also find valuable opportunities for cross-disciplinary, multidimensional learning. Seminars such as “The Economics of Intellectual Property,” taught by renowned antitrust expert Professor Keith Hylton, co-author of the book Laws of Creation: Property Rights in the World of Ideas, take you beyond fundamental doctrine and into an exploration of the economic underpinnings of intellectual property protection schemes.

OUTSIDE OF CLASS: IP SPEAKER SERIES AND MORE

You’ll learn outside the classroom, too, by attending myriad IP-related workshops, brown-bag lunches, and conferences. In addition to participating in the required Spring Semester Intellectual Property Workshop seminar, you’ll attend BU Law’s IP Speaker Series, which brings IP law thought leaders to campus to interact with students and faculty in small group settings. Recent visitors have included Ruth Okediji, a visiting professor at Harvard Law School and former member of
My professional goal was to develop further expertise in the field of Intellectual Property Law. I wanted to gain a US perspective in Patent and Trademark Law and develop a sub-specialty in Copyright Law. The exceptional Intellectual Property Law faculty at BU assured that these goals were achieved.

—Vibhav Mithal
Associate (Litigation) at Anand and Anand
LLM in Intellectual Property Law, 2017
BA, LLB (Honors), 2013, West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata

PERSONAL ATTENTION AND SUPPORT
The program is small and highly selective, generally enrolling no more than 10 students each year. This means you’ll receive personalized counsel from the program director and assistant director on your academic plans and nonacademic concerns; and you’ll enjoy the dedicated support of the full-time associate director for LLM professional development, charged with supporting all aspects of your job search and career planning interests, whether in the US or internationally.

You’ll find this support and more at the Graduate & International Programs Office, your “home away from home,” dedicated to nurturing a close-knit community of BU Law LLM students—a remarkably diverse network of lawyers from over 54 nations, many with backgrounds in technology, engineering, biotechnology, publishing, the arts, and entertainment. You’ll be an integral part of the dozens of LLM and school-wide social and extracurricular events, further fueling your professional and personal growth.

SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT
Each year, BU Law’s LLM Scholars Program recognizes a small number of LLM applicants who have demonstrated outstanding academic and professional achievements with a scholarship award and designation as an LLM Scholar. These merit-based awards come in the form of partial tuition waivers. All applicants for admission to our residential program are automatically considered; no additional application is required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
To learn more about the LLM in Intellectual Property Law Program, visit www.bu.edu/law.
You can also contact the Graduate & International Programs Office at:

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