UMKC SCHOOL OF LAW ELECTIVE COURSE INFORMATION SPRING 2014

COURSE NAME: Patent Law

COURSE NUMBER: Law 882

PROFESSOR: Holman

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITES: None

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITES: Intellectual Property Law


MAJOR LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THIS COURSE:
To understand fundamental concepts of procurement and enforcement of patents.
You understand the fundamental role of patent claims, and how to correctly interpret a patent claim.
To understand the role of patents in incentivizing innovation, creativity and productive investment.
To understand the practical limitations of patents, such as lack of adequate remedy.
To leave the class with a working understanding of patent law, which will enable the student to
 counsel clients on basic issues of patent law, to identify and issues facing a client, and to interact
 intelligently with patent attorneys.
To leave the class well prepared to take more advanced patent-related courses, such as IP Licensing
 or IP Litigation.

METHOD OF GRADING & APPRAISAL OF STUDENT FOR GRADE:
Final exam and participation in class discussions and exercises

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:
This course will focus primarily on substantive U.S. patent law, including the laws governing the
patentability of particular inventions, the patent procurement process, the rights granted by a patent
(including limitations on these rights, such as antitrust law), and patent enforcement and litigation.
As time permits, the course will explore policy issues raised by the current patent system, discuss
proposals for reform and international harmonization, and consider alternatives to patent protection
such as trade secret and regulatory exclusivity.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES:
The course is particularly relevant for students interested in careers as intellectual property attorneys,
particularly in the areas of patent litigation and patent prosecution. Beyond this core group, and in
view of the growing commercial importance of patents,
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