**Course Abbreviation & Number:**
X New Undergraduate Course: LIB-301
.. New Honors Course:
.. New Graduate Course:

**Effective Term:** 01/2011

**Catalog Title:** Introduction to Patent Searching

**Transcript Title:** Patent Searching

**Fixed Credit Course:** 1 (1,0)

**Variable Credit Course:** (-, -)

**Method of Instruction**
- Lecture Only
- B-Lab (w/fee)
- D-Seminar
- E-Independent Study
- F-Tutorial (w/fee)
- G-Study
- H-Field course
- I-Study Abroad
- L-Lab (no fee)
- N/L-Lecture/Lab (w/fee)
- N/L-Lecture/Lab (no fee)

**Course Modifier**
- Pass/Fail Only
- X Graded
- Variable Title
- Creative Inquiry
- Repeatable
- Maximum credits:

**General Education Designation**
- English Composition
- Oral Communication
- Mathematics
- Natural Science w/Lab
- Math or Science
- A&H (Literature)
- Social Science
- A&H (Non-Literature)
- CCA
- STS

**Catalog Description:** Introduction to patents with an emphasis on how patents fit into the research process. Students will develop skills in creating effective patent search strategies, and evaluating and presenting their search results.

**Prerequisite(s):**

**Projected Enrollment:**
Year 1 - 12 Year 2 - 20 Year 3 - 20 Year 4 - 20

**Required Course for Students:**

**Statement of need and justification based on assessment results of student learning outcomes:**
Upper level undergraduate students frequently express surprise/consternation that they have not yet been exposed to patents. They often say "I wish I would have known about this before my XYZ class." Rather than trying to add another course to the already jam packed curriculum in engineering, The Libraries will offer this elective, to prevent increasing the teaching load of engineering faculty.


**Learning Objectives:** From the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association (ALA):

- The information literate student:
  1. determines the nature and extent of the information needed
  2. acquires needed information effectively and efficiently
  3. critically evaluates the procured information and its sources, and, as a result, decides whether or not to modify the initial query and/or seek additional sources and whether to develop a new research process
  4. understands the economic, ethical, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information and its technologies and either as an individual or as a member of a group, uses information effectively, ethically, and legally to accomplish a specific purpose
  5. understands that information literacy is an ongoing process and an important component of lifelong learning and recognizes the need to keep current regarding new developments in his or her field

**Topical Outline:**
1. Intellectual Property Basics
2. In-depth study of patents (using a case study)
3. Patent coverage in research databases
4. How to do a literature review (including RefWorks)
5. Basic Patent Searching
7. Specialized Patent Searching (international patents, classification searching)
8. Historic patents; alternatives to patent protection
9. Use of patents in Competitive Intelligence
10. Patent Process at Clemson University (with Intellectual Property Committee)
11. Review of course content/preparation for presentation
12. Class Presentations (1 Powerpoint slide summarizing what they've learned)

**Evaluation:**
- Brief Reflection Papers 50 points
- Homework Assignments 40 points
- Class Presentation 10 points

**Form Originator:** COMFORJ, Janice Comfort
**Date Form Created:** 7/26/2010
**Form Last Updated by:** , Date Form Last Updated: 8/31/2010

**Form Number:** 3227

**Approval:**

Chair, Department Curriculum Committee: Date
Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee: Date

Department Chair: Date
Chair, Graduate Curriculum Committee: Date
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<tr>
<td>Chief, College Curriculum Committee</td>
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<td>College Dean</td>
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In 2007, the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee approved a LIB rubric, enabling The Library to participate in Clemson Connect. As you well know, Clemson Connect is “a series of activities and programs to help (students) make academic and social connections,” including Library 100, a pass/fail zero-credit course that all new Clemson students are required to take.

In addition to LIB 100, Library faculty have worked with credit-bearing library Creative Inquiry teams, including a current project exploring the Library of the Future. A prior Creative Inquiry team studied intellectual property, with an emphasis on patents and trademarks.

This year, the Library would like to expand its offerings by teaching an Introduction to Patent Searching. The 1 hour, 7 week course has been designed to address a need expressed by engineering students and faculty to understand the role of patents in the research process, and to develop skills in patent searching. The course will complement courses offered in the engineering disciplines to introduce students to patents in preparation for Senior Design courses. But it is not limited to engineering - any student with an interest in Intellectual Property (such as pre-law students) would benefit from the class.

The attached form outlines the new Library course for Introductory Patent Searching. The R.M. Cooper Library was designated by the United States Patent and Trademark Office as a Patent and Trademark Depository Library in 1992. Since that time, I have been the Library’s representative to the program, and I have received extensive training in patent and trademark searching. Because the LIB rubric is relatively new, and because we do not have our own constituent students, I hope you will share this information with members of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee as a point of information for their department and college curriculum meetings.

Please let me know if you need any further information.

Best Regards,

Jan

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