Department of Law

Stockholm University

Syllabus

for course at first level

Introduction to Intellectual Property Rights in Agriculture
Introduktion till immaterialrättsskydd inom jordbruk

3.5 Higher Education Credits
3.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	JU268F
Valid from:	Summer 2023
Date of approval:	2023-02-22
Department	Department of Law
Main field:	Legal Science
Specialisation:	GXX - First cycle, in-depth level of the course cannot be classified

Decision

Approved by the Education Committee of the Faculty of Law 09 February 2023.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

The course is intended for foreign students enrolled in an exchange programme at the Department of Law or in the Stockholm Business School Summer programme at Stockholm University.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
MOM1	Introduction to Intellectual Property Rights in Agriculture	3.5

Course content

This summer course will cover Intellectual Property (IP) protection of agricultural innovation, mainly focusing on Plant Breeders' Rights (PBRs), but also dealing with plant and biotech patents, Geographical Indications (GIs), and other common Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and strategies to protect IP in agriculture. The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) and the European (or Community) Plant Variety Rights system will be explained, with some references to the Swedish Plant Breeder's Right Act. Rudiments of agronomy and plant sciences will be provided. Biosafety issues in relation to GM crops, New Genomic Technologies (NGTs), or Organic Farming, among other related topics, will be also introduced.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding
Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:
- understand the relevance of innovation in agriculture, and
- understand what IP in the field of agriculture means, with a special focus on the most typical forms of IP in that field.

Skills and abilities
Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:
- analyze the framework in which innovation in agriculture takes place,
- discern legal issues from technical/scientific, business or societal issues,
- critically reflect on contemporary challenges in the scope of the course, like climate change, food safety and food security, and other related topics.

Judgement and approach
Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:
- propose reasonable solutions to different problem scenarios related to the subject of the course, with the help of theoretical concepts, both orally and in writing, independently and in groups.

Education

Instruction comprises 2 weeks of full-time studies and consists of lectures and seminars. During seminars, students will critically discuss course materials and / or answer problem questions.

A more detailed description of the course content is available in the course description and course schedule. The language of instruction is English.

Forms of examination

Examination is conducted through:
- Active participation at all teaching and
- A take-home assignment or another type of examination such as an open book exam max 2 hours/moot court.

Active attendance is mandatory at all teaching. Active attendance refers to students having prepared the assignments, if any, and being ready to participate in discussions about them. The language of examination is English.

Assessment criteria applicable to grading of the take-home assignment (only applicable if this is the chosen method of examination):
– problem formulation;
– structure and presentation;
– insight into the topic, as well as materials and knowledge;
– investigation and analysis;
– argumentation and conclusions;
– critical thinking;
– language, formal requirements;
– ability to carry out the work within the given time frames and word count.

Failure to hand in the take-home exam within the given timeframe will automatically result in a failing grade.

All of the course's learning outcomes must be met and all activities passed in order to pass the course.

Students who fail the regular examination are given the opportunity for re-examination. Students who have passed are not entitled to undergo re-examination for higher grades. Students who are failed twice by the same examiner have the right to demand a different examiner when doing additional re-examinations. This does not however apply if there are specific reasons for not appointing a different examiner.

The grading scale for the course is as follows: Pass (G) or Fail (U).

A student with a certificate of special pedagogical support issued by Stockholm University has the right to alternative/accommodated forms of examination in accordance with the certificate.

Misc

Completed course requirements are valid for two years. This also applies to students who de-register from the course through early withdrawal.

The course requirements in effect at the time of the student's first registration on the course may be completed within two years. After two years, the course requirements included in the most recently revised syllabus will apply.

Entry into force
These provisions will apply as of 01 March 2023.

Required reading

The course literature is approved by the head of department. Please refer to the course website and the course description for information about the required reading. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.