

TECH 583: Patent Research for Scientists and Engineers

A significant amount of scientific information is available in a patent that is not available in any other publication. Therefore, in every stage of research, knowledge of patent data is essential to developing a clear understanding of the state-of-the-art. Designed for scientists, engineers, and researchers, this course teaches students where to find patent data, how they are organized, and what strategies are required to conduct high-quality patent research. An overview of leading patent databases is provided, while students will also receive training and free access to a number of top-tier subscription-based databases for the semester. Databases required for biology and chemistry research are also covered. Students will be exposed to the basic legal framework underlying patent research required at key points of the innovation lifecycle along with strategies for developing state-of-the-art reviews, patentability and invalidity assessments, freedom to operate analysis, and competitive intelligence through patent analytics. This course is an elective for Advanced Studies in Technology Transfer.

Learning Objectives

- Gain the know-how to develop the search strategy required to make informed research decisions and the ability to select the best resources to conduct patent research in diverse technology areas
- Understand what information is found in patents, and how patent research is leveraged to inform research-related decisions throughout the innovation lifecycle
- Develop an understanding of the basic strategies and legal requirements for common patent research goals required in research

Sample syllabus is subject to change.

Credits: 2

Class Type: Graduate Course

Program: Technology Transfer, Business, and Industry