

Modular IP Education Framework (MIPEF)

Course I Entry level: Create – Protect – Innovate: Bringing ideas to market

Autumn and spring term 2026/2027

Format - Self-paced modules, quizzes, live sessions, tutored forums, final exam

Link - [MIPEF video](#)

Organised by

European Patent Academy
European Patent Office
Bob-van-Bentham-Platz 1
80469 Munich
Germany



Course calendar

Autumn term

2026

Activity	Entry level
Course registration starts	Mon 21 Sep 2026
Course registration deadline	Wed 14 Oct 2026
Course room opens	Fri 16 Oct 2026
Masterclass 1	Mon 26 Oct 2026 or Wed 28 Oct 2026
Masterclass 2	Mon 09 Nov 2026 or Wed 11 Nov 2026
Masterclass 3	Mon 23 Nov 2026 or Wed 25 Nov 2026
Masterclass 4	Mon 30 Nov 2026 or Wed 02 Dec 2026
Final exam published	Mon 14 Dec 2026
Final exam submission deadline	Mon 21 Dec 2026
Grades published	Mon 11 Jan 2027
Course room closes	Sun 31 Jan 2027

Course calendar

Spring term

2027

Activity	Entry level
Course registration starts	Mon 22 Feb 2027
Course registration deadline	Wed 17 Mar 2027
Course room opens	Fri 19 Mar 2027
Masterclass 1	Mon 05 Apr 2027 or Wed 07 Apr 2027
Masterclass 2	Mon 19 Apr 2027 or Wed 21 Apr 2027
Masterclass 3	Mon 26 Apr 2027 or Wed 28 Apr 2027
Masterclass 4	Mon 10 May 2027 or Wed 12 May 2027
Final exam published	Mon 24 May 2027
Final exam submission deadline	Mon 31 May 2027
Grades published	Mon 14 Jun 2027
Course room closes	Wed 30 Jun 2027

Description

The entry level course “Create – Protect – Innovate: Bringing ideas to market” developed by the European Patent Office is aimed at bachelor’s (final year), master’s and PhD students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). It will teach you how to protect inventions, bring them to market and provide you with valuable insights into the world of innovation. It contains five self-paced modules.

Why join?

MIPEF courses equip you with essential IP knowledge and skills that are increasingly relevant in today’s innovation-driven world, offering you a high-quality and practice-oriented content.

What you will gain

- How to turn inventions into groundbreaking innovations.
- Learn how to protect, manage and commercialise (IP).
- Insights from real inventors and innovation journey (through inspiring case studies).
- Build IP skills that can shape your career or research profile.
- Get an EPO certificate and academic recognition.

How you will learn

- Self-paced learning – study anytime, anywhere.
- Real inventor stories and patent journeys.
- A suggested learning plan to guide you.
- Test your knowledge with exercises and quizzes.
- Join live sessions and tutored forums with IP experts and peers.

Five core modules

At the heart of the course

MODULE 1

Introduction to IP

An overview of IPRs, designed as a first introduction to the field.

15 hrs

MODULE 2

Patent basics

What a patent is and the conditions that must be met to obtain one.

20 hrs

MODULE 3

Introduction to patent information

An introduction to patent information, its key features, and how to access it.

10 hrs

MODULE 4

Patent information in practice

An introduction to Espacenet, with practical examples and exercises.

15 hrs

MODULE 5

Developing an IP strategy

How ideas can be commercially exploited through an effective IP strategy.

15 hrs

FAQ

How do I register?

Register using your full name, surname(s), and university email address.

What happens after I register?

You should receive a confirmation email. If it does not arrive, contact academy@epo.org. Then create an EPO account on the European Patent Academy learning platform using the same email address.

Do I need to attend the masterclasses?

No. Masterclasses are **optional** live sessions that support your learning. However, they are **not recorded**.

What do I need to know about the exam?

The exam is open-book and covers the course content. To take it, you must complete all five modules and score at least 80/100 in each end-of-module quiz. The performance in the end-of-module quiz does not influence the final grade.

Will I receive a certificate?

Yes. If you pass with at least 70/100, you will receive an EPO certificate. Download it before the course closes (usually a month after the grades are published).

Can I receive ECTS?

Some universities may award ECTS for successful completion. The EPO shares results, but each university makes the final decision.

Who can I contact?

General enquiries: mipef@epo.org

Technical support and registration help:
academy@epo.org