

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL
PATENT APPLICATION THEORY AND PRACTICE - LAW 351
SYLLABUS - FALL 2009**

Professors: Edward J. Kessler (ekessler@skgf.com)
Tel: (202) 772-8550
Glenn J. Perry (gjerry@skgf.com)
Tel: (202) 772-8703
Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
Fax: (202) 371-2540

- I. Introduction (**August 25**)
 - A. Invention Disclosure/Inventor Interview
 - B. Order of a Patent Application

- II. How to Prepare a Utility Patent Application (**September 1**)
 - A. Independent Claim Drafting Lecture (Apparatus, Method, System, Business Method, Computer Program Product, Product-by-Process)
 - B. Independent Claim Drafting assignment (Assignment #1)

- III. How to Prepare a Utility Patent Application, Continued (**September 8**)
 - A. Collect Independent Claim Drafting Assignment (Assignment #1)
 - B. Discuss Dependent and Method Claim Drafting
 - C. Dependent Claim Drafting Assignment (Assignment #2)

- IV. How to Prepare a Utility Patent Application, Continued (**September 15**)
 - A. Collect Dependent Claim Drafting Assignment (Assignment #2)
 - B. Critique Independent Claims (Assignment #1) and assign re-write

- V. How to Prepare a Utility Patent Application, Continued (**September 22**)
 - A. Critique Dependent Claims (Assignment #2) and assign re-write
 - B. Discuss Inventorship
 - C. Assign Inventorship Problem (Assignment #3)

- VI. How to Prepare a Utility Patent Application, Continued (**September 29**)
 - A. Collect Inventorship Assignment (Assignment #3)
 - B. Discuss Drawings
 - C. Discuss Brief Description of the Drawings

- VII. How to Prepare a Utility Patent Application, Continued (**October 6**)
 - A. Critique Inventorship Problem (Assignment #3)
 - B. Discuss Parts List
 - C. Discuss Background of the Invention (Assignment #4)

Fall Break (**October 13**)

- VIII. How to Prepare a Utility Patent Application, Continued (**October 20**)
 - A. Collect Background Assignment (Assignment #4)
 - B. Discuss Detailed Description (Assignment #5)

- IX. How to Prepare a Utility Patent Application, Continued (**October 27**)
 - A. Collect Detailed Description Assignments (Assignment # 5)
 - B. Critique Background (Assignment #4)
 - C. Discuss Abstract and Title
 - D. Discuss Summary of the Invention

- X. Applications Continued (**November 3**)
 - A. Critique Detailed Description (Assignment #5)
 - B. Discuss Claim sets and claim assignment (Assignment #6)

- XI. Applications Continued (**November 10**)
 - A. Review of Patent Application Writing
 - B. Collect Claim sets (Assignment #6)
 - C. Conduct Inventor Interview
 - C. Assign Entire Patent Application (Assignment #7)

- XII. Biotechnology Lecture (**November 17**)
 - Biotech/Chemical Patent Applications

- XIII. Applications Continued (**November 24**)
 - A. Critique Claim Sets (Assignment #6)
 - B. Discuss Altering Claim Scope (Reissue, Reexamination)
 - C. Discuss Continuation Applications (Technology Modifications)
 - D. Discuss Design Arounds
 - E. Collect Patent Application (Assignment #7)

- XIV. How to Prepare a Utility Patent Application, Continued (**December 1**)
 - Critique Entire Patent Application (Assignment #7)