



## FALL 2026 COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Number: Law 580-002

Course Title: Patent Drafting with AI

Credit Hours: 3

Grading Mode: Letter grade

Meeting Day(s)/Time(s): TUE, 1:00–3:55 p.m.

Meeting Mode: In Person

Exam Day(s)/Time(s): TBD

Final Exam Mode: Take-home

Prerequisite(s): LAW 284 or LAW 338

Corequisite(s): LAW 284 or LAW 338

Instructor(s): Wen Xie

Contact Information: TBA

Office Hours: By request, Zoom meeting

### Course Overview

The course is focused on the practical use of generative artificial intelligence (“GenAI”) in modern patent drafting. The course is designed primarily as a hands-on skills workshop in which students learn how to draft patent applications using attorney-guided AI-assistance across a varied range of technologies,

Students will alternate between in-class sessions dedicated to receiving and discussing a new invention disclosure, followed by a next session dedicated to reviewing and critiquing draft claims and drawings based on the previous weeks’ invention disclosure. Each will involve a different technological field, ranging from software and AI systems, mechanical inventions, chemical technologies, and enterprise-level AI platforms, to expose students to the practical differences in drafting approaches across technologies. Students will develop patent drafting skills through guided exercises involving claim drafting, preparing formal drawings, instructing draftsmen, specification drafting, enablement analysis, and developing structured approaches to AI-assisted workflows.

## Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will have developed practical drafting experience and increased familiarity with integrating AI effectively to patent drafting workflows.

### Reading(s) & Supplement(s):

- USPTO Inventorship Guidance for AI-Assisted Invention (original 2024 version and 2025 revised version)
- Guidance on Use of Artificial Intelligence-Based Tools in Practice Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office
- USPTO Subject Matter Eligibility Guidance, 2024 AI Examples 47 through 49

## Grading Policies

Participation & Preparation %:

35%

Drafting Assignment Revisions %:

35%

Midterm %:

10%

Final %:

20%

## Additional Information:

### Classroom Policies

**Attendance:** Per AR 3-1.4, “maintenance of matriculation requires regular class preparation, participation and attendance, registration in the course of study required for the student’s program (full-time or part-time), successive registration for each fall and spring term of each academic year until study is completed, and compliance with all other relevant requirements.”

**Absences:** Per AR 4-1.1, “if a student is absent for any reason for more than 20 percent of the sessions of a course, the student is not eligible for credit in that course. A student who is not present for at least 75 percent of a session of the course is absent from that session.”

**Use of Technology & AI:** **Students are required to get at least one of consumer level (free tier plan) ChatGPT, Gemini and Claude. All other models or plans are not permitted.**

### Use of Electronic Text Books During Exams:

Students are permitted one laptop computer for exam taking purposes. Additional laptop computers or any other electronic data storage devices are not allowed in an exam room, unless permitted by the course instructor’s written exam instructions. Electronic text books (e-books) may be used during exams that are designated as open book by the instructor, and the instructor allows text books to be used during the exam and allows access to a student’s computer files during the exam (open exam). E-books may not be used in exams where the instructor does not allow students to access their computer files during the exam (secure exam) even if the instructor permits access to text books. If the instructor has blocked access to the internet or computer files, you must bring a hard copy of the allowed text book(s) you wish to consult. Students will need to borrow or otherwise locate a hard copy of the e-book or print resources needed from the e-book to take into the exam room. The instructor determines the length of the examination and whether or not it is secure or open and what, if any, study materials are permitted during the exam. Students are responsible for adhering to the instructor’s standards for all examinations, which are included in the examination materials.

## Course Schedule & Assignments

### Class 1:

Date: August 18

Topic: Introduction to AI Use in Patent Practice; USPTO Guidance and Regulatory Frameworks

Assignment(s): Read

- USPTO Inventorship Guidance for AI-Assisted Invention (original 2024 version and 2025 revised version)
- Guidance on Use of Artificial Intelligence-Based Tools in Practice Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office
- USPTO Subject Matter Eligibility Guidance, 2024 AI Examples 47 through 49

### Class 2:

Date: August 25

Topic: AI-on-Device Invention Disclosure Workshop

- In-class invention disclosure review and drafting discussion

Assignment(s): draft claims and prepare drawings and instructions for draftsman

Date: September 1 – NO CLASS - MAKE UP CLASS SCHEDULED

### Class 3:

Date: September 8

Topic: Review Session — AI-on-Device Drafting Assignment

Assignment(s): Revise AI-on-device claims and figures based on class discussion.

### Class 4:

Date: September 15

Topic: Mechanical Invention Disclosure Workshop

- In-class invention disclosure review and drafting discussion

Assignment(s): draft claims and prepare drawings and instructions for draftsman

Class 5:

Date: September 22

Topic: Review Session — Mechanical Drafting Assignment

Assignment(s): Revise mechanical claims and figures based on class discussion.

Class 6:

Date: September 29

Topic: Chemical Invention Disclosure Workshop

- In-class invention disclosure review and drafting discussion

Assignment(s): draft claims and prepare drawings and instructions for draftsman

Class 7:

Date: October 3 – MAKE UP CLASS FOR SEPT. 1

Topic: Review Session — Chemical Drafting Assignment

Assignment(s): Revise chemical claims and figures based on class discussion.

Class 8:

Date: October 6

Topic: SaaS/Enterprise AI Invention Disclosure Workshop

- In-class invention disclosure review and drafting discussion

Assignment(s): draft claims and prepare drawings and instructions for draftsman

Class 9:

Date: October 13

Topic: Review Session — SaaS/Enterprise AI Drafting Assignment

Assignment(s): Revise SAAS claims and figures based on class discussion

Class 10:

Date: October 20

Topic: Midterm Examination (In-Class). Draft claims and prepare drawings based on assigned invention disclosure.

Assignment(s): None

Class 11:

Date: October 27

Topic: Full Patent Draft Workshop I

Assignment(s): Prepare first complete draft package based on assigned invention disclosure.

Class 12:

Date: November 10

Topic: Full Patent Draft Workshop II - Review Session

Assignment(s): Revise complete application draft based on discussion.

Class 13:

Date: November 17

Topic: Final Course Discussion

- Law firm and in-house AI implementation strategies (Guest speaker)
- Discuss final take-home exam

Assignment(s): None

## **Student Resources**

[Antonin Scalia Law School Academic Regulations](#)

[GMU Common Course Policies Addendum](#)

[Mason Square Services](#)

[Mason Square Police](#)

Van Metre Hall, Room 110

Emergency - Dial 911

Escort Services - 703-993-8070

Dispatch – 703-993-2810

[Student Support and Advocacy Center \(SSAC\)](#)

Mason Square Sexual Assault Services:

Van Metre Hall, Room 222D

703-993-8186

Notice of Mandatory Reporting of Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, Interpersonal Violence, and Stalking:

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Non-Confidential Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, sexual harassment, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If a student wishes to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. Students may also seek assistance or support measures from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing [titleix@gmu.edu](mailto:titleix@gmu.edu).

[Mason Square Clinic](#)

Van Metre Hall, Room B102

703-993-2831

[Counseling and Psychological Services](#)

[Student Health Services](#)

[Student Disability Services](#)

[University Life](#)