

Module I

Innovation and Intellectual Property Protection: Foundations and Challenges

Root number: 446638

ECTS: 3

Lecturers: Thomas Cottier, Jayashree Watal, Matthias Käch, Kamran Houshang Pour, Erik Thevenod-Mottet, Martin Girsberger, Julie Poupinet and Kathrin Rüeeggsegger.

Course Description:

Intellectual property rights play an increasing role in international trade and the process of globalization and regionalization. Global value chains and division of labour strongly depends upon intellectual property protection which in turn also influences trade flows. The module expounds the fundamental principles of IP protection in the multilateral trading system of the WTO and preferential trade agreements. It offers an introduction to different forms of rights, scope of rights, and students are exposed to leading WTO case law. The module particularly focuses in a case study on the implications of patents on public health and pharmaceuticals in the developing world. The module offers an introduction into trademarks and geographical indications and explains the different modes of registration of intellectual property rights and research tools for patent and trademark landscaping. The introduction is taught by academics, former trade negotiators and experienced practitioners.