Competences - *knowing and doing*

- Core competences for DL 318 and DL 320 need to reflect:
  - the *knowledge* necessary to recognise *why* someone might wish to do a patent information search or draft a patent application ie the essential background, and
  - the *knowledge and skills* necessary to carry out that task ie *how* to do it
Upon successful completion of this course, students will acquire the following **core competencies**:

- recognise the *essential background* to patent information searching, including
  - the breadth, depth and variety of information – technical, legal and commercial – available in the 70 million patent documents published worldwide
  - the value of different aspects of patent information to different users and different sectors, including inventors, researchers, scientists, engineers, attorneys, universities, industry, business and government
  - the risks – legal and financial – of not carrying out patent information searches
DL 318 – doing

- carry out patent information searches with optimum accuracy and efficiency by
  - selecting the *type* of search to be carried out in accordance with the question to be addressed, e.g., state of the art search, freedom to operate search
  - determining what to search for and selecting appropriate specialised search engines and databases
  - *applying the full range of search skills and techniques available to find the most relevant information*
  - analyzing and reporting on the results
DL 318 – knowing and doing

- Recognise the essential background to climate change and the benefits of moving towards a greener economy; and carry out patent information searches relating to green technology.
Upon successful completion of this course, students will acquire the following core competencies:

- recognise the essential background to patent drafting, including
  - the fundamentals of the patent system worldwide
  - the reasons patent protection can be crucial to business success
- the basics of applying for and obtaining a patent
- the structure of a patent document, in particular the claims and the description
DL 320 – doing (and knowing)

- draft a patent application which provides effective and enforceable protection by
  - determining where to apply for a patent
  - recognizing the key role played by the claims in determining the extent of protection that the patent gives, and hence the value of the patent
  - recognizing the common legal requirements for claims worldwide, whilst being aware of technical fields where requirements may vary between jurisdictions, e.g. computer software, medical treatments
  - **drafting claims worded so as to provide the best protection available against potential infringers**
  - drafting the description and other parts of the patent application in accordance with legal and technical requirements
Learning outcomes – example from DL 318, Module 5 (I)

- On successful completion of this module, students will be:
  - aware of the main factors to take into account when approaching a patent search, particularly those affecting the cost
  - aware of the risks of not carrying out a patent search
  - able to address language barriers that exist in patent information searching by using:
    - classification systems
    - patent family data
    - automatic translation
Learning outcomes - example from DL 318, Module 5 (II)

and able to implement the comprehensive range of tips for efficient and effective searching set out in this module, including:

- preparing for the search and deciding what to search for
- taking account of the advantages and disadvantages of searching using words and using classifications
- approaching unfamiliar technology
- handling thousands of hits
- learning and adjusting as the search proceeds
- knowing when to call a halt
- being aware of potential errors – yours and the database host’s
- using RSS for automatic updating
- being aware of factors that affect the overall results
Learning outcomes – example from DL 320, Module 3 (I)

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to describe:

- the purpose and key role of claims
- the common legal requirements for claims around the world
- the different categories of claims, and the importance of claiming an invention from different aspects
- how to word claims and use different claim formats
- how to overcome prior art by amending the claims; and the need to provide support for such amendments
- technical fields that might be excluded or partly excluded from being patentable in some jurisdictions
- the concept of unity of invention
Learning outcomes - example from DL 320, Module 3 (I)

- and able to draft claims for a patent application by:
  - reading a description of an invention and drafting a claim covering the essential technical features of that invention.
  - carefully analysing the draft claim to ensure that non-essential features are removed and that the terminology chosen is sufficiently general.
  - being aware when drafting the claim of ways in which potential infringers might attempt to avoid infringement.
  - if required, drafting more than one independent claim (e.g., one to a product and another to a process) to protect different aspects of the invention.
  - drafting a number of dependent claims.
  - considering alternative technical features (e.g., alternative materials to use, alternative uses of the invention) to be covered by the claims and included in the description.
Slide Title

Slide Text

- Bullet Point
- Bullet Point