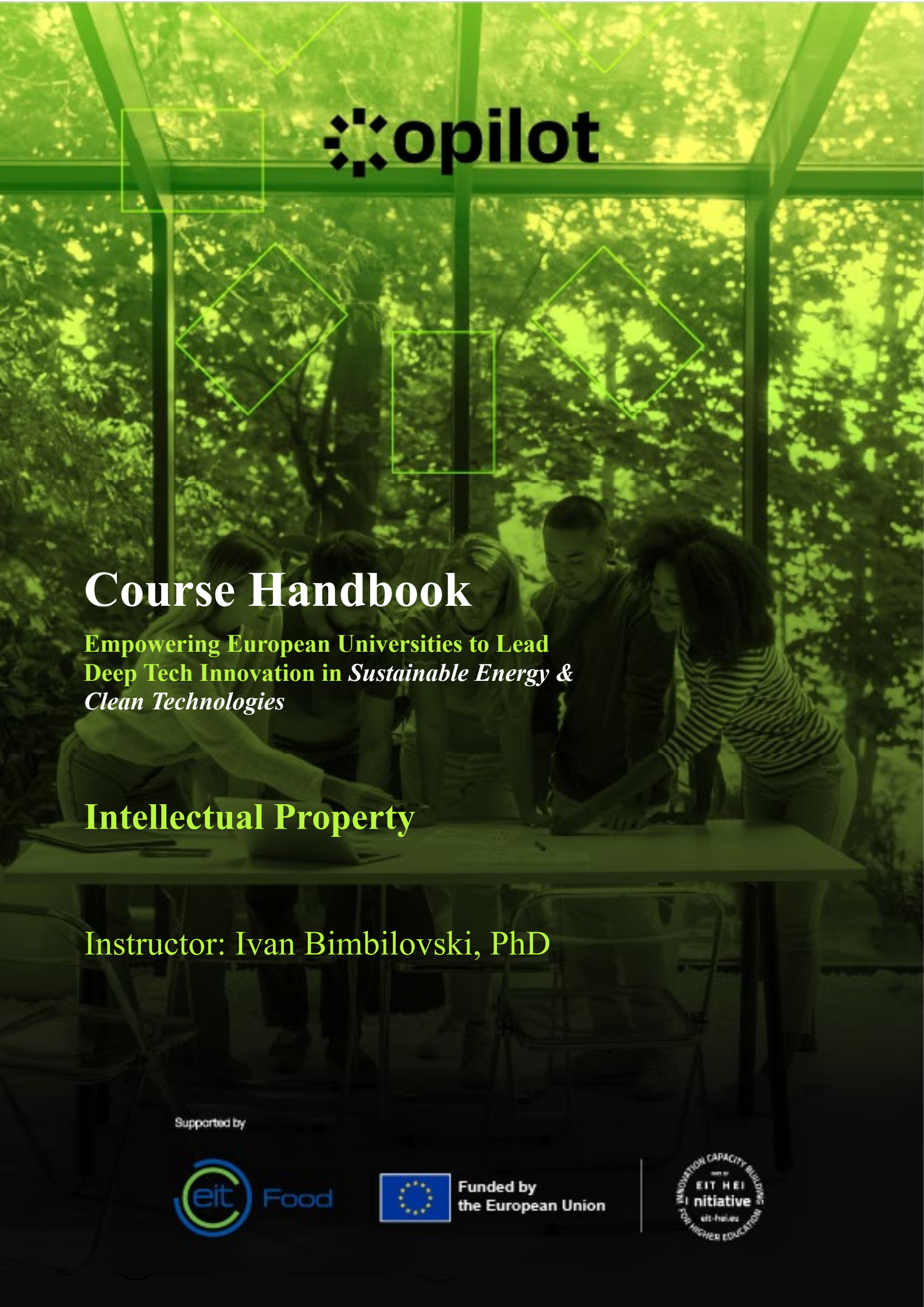


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Course Handbook

Empowering European Universities to Lead Deep Tech Innovation in *Sustainable Energy & Clean Technologies*

Intellectual Property

Instructor: Ivan Bimbilovski, PhD

Supported by

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Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education

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Course Information

Title: ***Intellectual Property***

Instructor: Ivan Bimbilovski, PhD

ECTS credits: 2

Course structure: *5 sessions, 2 lectures + 2 tutorials per session (intensive format)*

Mode of delivery: *online*

Course Summary

This course offers a comprehensive introduction to intellectual property (IP) law in the context of modern creative, technological, and digital environments—including artificial intelligence (AI). Students examine the full spectrum of IP rights, from copyright, designs, trademarks, and patents to confidentiality and online protections. Through lectures, case studies, and practical problem-solving, the course explores how IP frameworks safeguard authorship, ownership, and innovation while addressing infringement, defences, and legal remedies.

Special emphasis is placed on emerging IP challenges in digital technologies, computer software, the Internet, and AI-generated content. Students investigate how traditional IP principles apply to data, algorithms, machine-learning outputs, automated decision-making systems, and generative AI tools.

Students will gain skills in:

- Determining when copyright subsists and understanding authorship, ownership, and moral rights.
- Identifying copyright, patent, and trademark infringement, and evaluating remedies and defences.
- Assessing patentability, entitlement, and ownership for technological and AI-driven innovations.
- Applying design law and trademark registrability principles.
- Recognizing passing off and assessing brand protection strategies.
- Addressing IP issues in software, online platforms, AI systems, and digital content.

By the end of the course, learners will be able to apply IP law to real-world creative, technological, and AI-related scenarios, evaluate legal risks, and develop effective protection strategies for innovation and digital assets.

Course Participants

This course is designed for a broad audience of students, researchers, professionals, and innovators interested in the role of intellectual property in sustainable energy systems. It is suitable for individuals working in engineering, energy technology, environmental science, business, and legal studies who wish to understand how IP frameworks support innovation and commercialization in the clean energy sector. The course welcomes both academic and non-academic participants, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration between universities, industry, startups, and policy institutions.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the principles of copyright subsistence and apply authorship, ownership, and moral rights to traditional, digital, and AI-generated works.
- Assess copyright infringement and evaluate appropriate remedies and available legal defences.
- Analyze confidentiality as a tool for protecting technical information and trade secrets.
- Determine patentability, entitlement, and ownership—including issues arising in AI-assisted inventions.
- Evaluate patent infringement claims and identify applicable defences and remedies.
- Apply design law to assess the protectability of visual and functional product features.
- Assess trademark registrability and apply the legal tests for trademark infringement and passing off.
- Identify and analyze IP challenges related to software, digital content, Internet platforms, and AI systems.

Assessment

For each participant to complete successfully the course and be awarded the corresponding ECTS credits, they must pass the course assessment. The outcome of the assessment can be either Pass or Fail. For passing there the participant should achieve 51%. The following distribution maintains a balanced emphasis between conceptual understanding (quiz), practical modeling (assignment), and integrative project-based learning (capstone, report, presentation).

Assessment methods

- Short quiz – 10%
- Report of practical assignment – 20%
- Capstone project implementation – 30%
- Final project report – 25%
- Oral presentation – 15%

The link between learning objectives and assessment criteria can be seen below.

Learning outcomes	Assessment examples
• Basic comprehension of IP principles, including copyright subsistence, authorship, ownership, moral rights, basic patentability criteria, and trademark concepts.	Short quiz
• Apply these principles to specific scenarios involving infringement analysis, confidentiality, IP protection strategies, and issues arising in digital and AI contexts.	Practical assignment
• developing an integrated IP strategy for a creative, technological, or AI-related innovation. This includes evaluating patentability, analyzing trademark registrability, determining ownership, and identifying infringement risks and corresponding remedies or defences.	Capstone project implementation Project presentation
• Analytical skills and ability to justify their strategic decisions in complex IP environments, including those involving software, online content, AI-generated works, and emerging digital technologies.	Final project report
• Ability to clearly and confidently explain their IP analysis, defend their reasoning, and demonstrate practical understanding of how copyright, patents, designs, trademarks, passing off, and digital/AI IP issues intersect in real-world innovation.	Oral presentation

Mentoring

In the context of this course, participants will receive personalized mentoring and guidance throughout the learning process. Mentoring will be provided through a combination of one-to-one consultations, small group sessions, and supervised project work.

Bibliography

1. *David Kline & David Kappos.* ***Introduction to Intellectual Property.*** *OpenStax (2024)*
2. *Jason Rantanen.* ***Introduction to Intellectual Property Law.*** *University of Iowa College of Law (2024)*
3. *James Boyle, Jennifer Jenkins.* ***Intellectual Property: Law & the Information Society - Cases & Materials: An Open Casebook: 6th Edition*** *(2024)* https://web.law.duke.edu/cspd/pdf/ipcasebook2024_6th_ed.pdf

Other Important Information

Course evaluation: Upon successful completion of the course, participants are required to fill in the course evaluation questionnaire.

Certificate: Upon successful completion of the course, participants will be issued a certificate of achievement provided by The University of Information Science and Technology "St. Paul the Apostle" Ohrid and EIT Climate KIC.

Plagiarism: UIST has explicit rules concerning academic dishonesty, including plagiarism. Course participants are reminded that all work submitted as part of the requirements for any examination (including coursework) of UIST must be expressed in their own words and incorporated in their own ideas and judgements.

Course Timetable

Session	Date and Time	Instructor	Venue
1st	02.04.2026 / 17:00	Ivan Bimbilovski, PhD	online
2nd	16.04.2026 / 17:00	Ivan Bimbilovski, PhD	online
3rd	23.04.2026 / 17:00	Ivan Bimbilovski, PhD	online
4th	30.04.2026 / 17:00	Ivan Bimbilovski, PhD	online
5th	07.05.2026 / 17:00	Ivan Bimbilovski, PhD	online

Contact Details of Instructor(s)

Name	Email
Ivan Bimbilovski, PhD	ivan.bimbilovski@uist.edu.mk

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