Students will first be provided with an overview of what the various intellectual property (IP) rights in Singapore are. Thereafter, this module will launch into the specifics of the main IP rights including copyright, patents and trade marks. For each of these IP rights, selected issues relating to their subsistence (how does it arise; is registration needed; what are the registration criteria) and infringement (what exclusive rights the IP owner has; what defences are available) will be examined very closely. Students will also be encouraged to explore the inter-relationship between these IP rights on specific issues.

Students will meet three times (2 hours per class) each week in this module.

The topics are:

**SEMINAR 1: OVERVIEW**
- What is “intellectual property”?
- Justifications for IP protection
- International dimensions of IP protection

**SEMINARS 2–13: COPYRIGHT**
- Historical origins of copyright
- Subsistence of copyright
- Duration
- Ownership
- Exclusive rights
- Defences

**SEMINARS 14–25: TRADE MARKS**
- The common law action for passing off
- Trade Marks Act: registration criteria
- Trade Marks Act: exclusive rights
- Trade Marks Act: defences
- Trade Marks Act: revocation

**SEMINARS 26–36: CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION & PATENTS**
- The common law action for breach of confidence
- Patents Act: registration criteria
- Patents Act: exclusive rights
- Patents Act: defences