JUS277-2-A Introduction to Copyright Law (2011-2012)
University of Bergen

Prof. P. Bernt Hugenholtz

Copyright law protects the products of human creativity ('works of authorship') against unauthorised uses. Copyright plays an important role in fostering cultural development, and serves as an incentive for authors and the creative industries (film, music, publishing, software, games, etc.). The emerging information age poses great challenges to the system of copyright law. As the economic value of creative content increases, the possibilities of effectively enforcing copyright protection have diminished. This *Introduction to Copyright Law* introduces students without a background in the law of intellectual property to the main features of the copyright system. While the course will not focus on a single national law, the harmonised rules of European copyright law will serve as points of reference.

Schedule of Classes

The course will be taught in 4 classes of 2 hours each (total 8) hours, in the beginning of the second semester, following this schedule:

January 23, 2012:

Class # 1. Copyright basics

- Copyright in a nutshell
- Literary and artistic works
- Authorship and ownership

January 27, 2012:

Class # 2. Copyright basics (continued)

- Economic rights
- Moral rights
- Exceptions and limitations
- Neighbouring rights

February 13, 2012:

Class # 3. Purpose of copyright

- History of copyright
- Rationales of copyright
- Copyright v. author´s right

February 15, 2012:

Class # 4. Harmonization of copyright in the EU

- European legal framework
- Overview of harmonization directives
- EU Software Directive, Database Directive, InfoSoc Directive

Class Participation and Preparation

All students are expected to prepare in advance for class and to participate in class discussions. Homework assignments are posted on the course page on UiB Mi side (My space).

Required Readings for Exam

1. WIPO Brochure

World Intellectual Property Organization, 'Understanding Copyright and Related Rights', WIPO Publication No. 909(E), 22 pp.

{free – will be distributed during classes}

2. Compendium

{available from Studia bookstore}

3. Materials on Mi side

Further study

This course combines well with International Copyright Law (JUS277-2-B).

More Information

On course: http://www.uib.no/emne/JUS277-2-A

On lecturer: http://www.ivir.nl/staff/hugenholtz.html

Tilbake til sakslisten

JUS277-2-B International Copyright Law (2011-2012)
University of Bergen

Prof. P. Bernt Hugenholtz

Works of authorship, such as books, music, films and computer software, travel easily across national borders, giving copyright law an international dimension almost by definition. Indeed the oldest international copyright conventions already date back from the 19th century. The ongoing globalization of information markets and the advent of the Internet have accelerated this process of internationalization. Increasingly, national copyright norms are being established at the international level, either in the form of multilateral treaties or bilateral instruments.

This course on *International Copyright Law* explores past and recent developments in International and European copyright law. Particular attention will be paid to the following treaties: Berne Convention, TRIPs Agreement, WIPO 'Internet treaties' and bilateral treaties.

Requirements

This course is open only for students with a background in copyright or intellectual property law. Students should have taken one of the following classes: JUS277-2-A Introduction to Copyright Law, JUS260-2-B Intellectual Property Law, or similar introductory course in copyright or intellectual property law at a foreign university.

Schedule of Classes

The course will be taught in 7 classes of 2 hours each (total 14) hours during the second semester, following this schedule:

5 March 2012:

Class # 1 Berne Convention

- History of the Berne Convention
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- National treatment and territoriality
- Points of attachment
- Minimum standards

26 March 2012:

Class # 2 WIPO Copyright Treaty

- International copyright and the Internet
- WCT Minimum Standards
- Digital Rights Management
- Are international copyright treaties self-executing?

29 March 2012:

Class # 3 TRIPS Agreement

- World Trade Organization
- WTO Dispute Settlement Procedure
- Substantive copyright norms in TRIPs
- The 'three-step test'

23 April 2012:

Class # 4 Bilateral agreements

- US Free Trade Agreements
- EU Bilateral arrangements
- Concerns of developing nations

26 April 2012:

Class # 5 International enforcement

- Litigating in foreign countries
- Jurisdiction, conflicts of law
- The Madonna (Frozen) plagiarism case

30 April 2012:

Class # 6 Copyright and Unauthorized File Sharing

- Liability of users
- Liability of (software) providers
- Liability of ISP's
- Should file sharing be legalized?

7 May 2012:

Class # 7 Current developments

- Extending the term of protection of phonograms and musical performances
- The 'orphan works' problem
- Open content/Creative Commons

Class Participation and Preparation

All students are expected to prepare in advance for class and to participate in class discussions. Homework assignments are posted on the course page on UiB Mi side (My space).

Required Readings for Exam

1. Text Book

Paul Goldstein & P. Bernt Hugenholtz, *International Copyright Law*, 2nd edition, Oxford University Press (2010)

{available from www.amazon.com or via Studia bookstore}

2. Materials on Mi side

More Information

On course: http://www.uib.no/emne/JUS277-2-B

On lecturer: http://www.ivir.nl/staff/hugenholtz.html