



SCHOOL OF LAW

MIP6202: ADVANCED COURSE ON PATENTS

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

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DURATION: (3 HRS)

INSTRUCTIONS

The paper contains 7 questions.

Answer **two (2)** questions from **Section A** and any other **(two) 2** Questions from **Section B**. Questions for Section A and B are answered in separate answer booklets.

Write your answer clearly. Use numbered headings or subheadings to show which part of your answer refers to which question.

Example: Question 2 (a).

SECTION A

Answer any TWO (2) questions from this section)

QUESTION 1

The patent system provides an incentive for the creation of new technology by offering inventors exclusive rights to commercially exploit patented inventions for a limited time, in exchange for complete public disclosure of the invention. This disclosure gives the public access to information regarding new technologies, stimulating innovation and contributing to economic growth.

Describe part of a patent application which provides:

- (a) exclusive rights to the inventor **(10 marks)**
- (b) disclosure of the invention to the public **(15 marks).**

QUESTION 2 (25 marks)

Claims are a legally operative part of a patent application. A typical patent application contains a set of claims that comprises independent and dependent claims.

Describe with examples:

- a) the main parts of the patent claim (i.e., claim structure). **(13 marks)**
- b) independent claim and dependent claim. **(6 marks)**
- c) two (2) specific types of patent claims. **(6 marks)**

QUESTION 3

Patent databases are organized online collections of technical and legal information about published patent applications and granted patents, allowing users to search for inventions, understand the "state of the art," identify competitors' activities, and find ideas for innovation.

Explain four (4) reasons why it is essential to carry out a patent/prior art search. **(25 marks)**

SECTION B