Nottingham Trent University takes centre stage in a vibrant student city with the creative arts and innovation at its core. We spoke to them about their approach to teaching intellectual property, and their philosophy of being creative and doing things differently.

Nottingham Law School (NLS) is one of the leading Law schools in the country, combining an academic and practical approach to teaching intellectual property (IP) law to undergraduates, post graduates, practitioners, and a variety of non-law students across the University.

Our highly esteemed IP law programmes are the most extensive in the East Midlands and include:
- Undergraduate LLB third year elective module on the F/T and D/L programmes
- Postgraduate Diploma in Commercial Intellectual Property
- LLM in Intellectual Property Law
- LLM in Intellectual Property Litigation
- Intellectual Property Litigation and Advocacy Professional Qualification
- Professional Certificate in Trade Mark Practice.
- Staff also supervise MPhil and PhD students in the IP field.
- Our staff are members of the European Intellectual Property Teachers’ Network (EIPTN) and the Association of Teachers and Researchers in Intellectual Property (ATRIP) and work directly with regulators and professional bodies such as the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA), the Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys (ITMA) and the Intellectual Property Regulation Board (IPReg).

NLS has significant depth in the field of IP law education and research. Our Research Group focusses on:
1. IP law education;
2. IP law and practice; and
3. IP commercialisation.

It comprises staff engaged in refereed publications, conference presentations in the UK and overseas, interdisciplinary research and projects, as well as designing and teaching on programmes that span undergraduate, post graduate and professional IP education.

See www.ntu.ac.uk/ipresearch to read more about our work.

In 2014-2015, the ‘Nottingham Creative IP Team’ comprising Janice Denoncourt (Senior Lecturer), Jane Jarman (Reader) and Nicholas Johnson (Principal Lecturer) was successful in winning significant funding from the UK Intellectual Property Office in respect of two winning bids:
- Fast Forward 2014 (£69,000) Nottingham Creative IP Project to equip those in the creative industries with a better understanding of how to identify, protect, manage and exploit the copyright, design, trademarks, patents and confidential information and how these legal rights impact on their creative work and projects.
- Nottingham Creative StudentsIP Enterprise project (£24,980) in which law students using the UKIPO's IP Health Check tool will support their peers in the School of Art & Design to develop an understanding of their IP rights as they prepare for the Art & Design Degree Show (29 May-June 2015).


We also offer pro bono IP law clinics through the Law School’s state of the art Legal Advice Clinic located in the Chaucer Building at the City campus which draws on the IP expertise of our law staff and our links with practitioners from local law firms specialising in soft and hard IP law.

When we received an email to say we had been shortlisted for the Award, we were absolutely thrilled so thanks to whoever nominated us! We are grateful for your support.

Nottingham Law School has been working steadily over the past two decades to arrive at where we are now – offering the full range of IP law educational opportunities. Thanks to our dedicated and forward-thinking staff, our IP graduates are highly sought after within the profession, IP policy development and research in the UK, EU and around the world.

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