## STEPP: Inventor 4-Day Course USPTO: Office of Patent Training

USPIO : Office of Patent Training				
Start	End	Duration (hr)	Course Title	Description
Day 1				
12:00 PM	12:15 PM	0.25	Welcome, Introductions, and Housekeeping	Brief introduction and Q&A before the start of the course
12:15 PM	1:30 PM	1.25	The Role of a Patent Examiner / Understanding the patent examination process	Presentation discussing the responsibilities, duties, and work expectations of a patent examiner
1:30 PM	1:45 PM	0.25	Break	
1:45 PM	3:00 PM	1.25	Understanding a training application	Presentation on how examiners are trained to read and understand an application. An accompanying exercise provided with breakout group instructions
3:00 PM	4:00 PM	1	Basic Requirements to File and Informalities	Presentation of highlight on basic issues. An accompanying breakout exercise to continue working on the training application
4:00 PM	4:15 PM	0.25	Day 1: Wrap-Up Q&A	Time dedicated to continuing any discussion with respect to the training application and answering any additional questions
Day 2				
12:00 PM	12:15 PM	0.25	Check-in, Overview of Day 1	Time for reacquainting participants with the subject matter discussed in the previous module
12:15 PM	1:45 PM	1.5	Planning a Search	Presentation focusing on the tools available to Examiners for searching and how these tools are used to formulate a search of both the claimed and disclosed inventions of the training application
1:45 PM	2:00 PM	0.25	Break	
2:00 PM	3:15 PM	1.25	Class discussion on §§ 101 and 112	Participants will discuss knowledge checks and examples on §§ 101, 112(a), 112(b), 112(d) and 112(f)
3:15 PM	4:00 PM	0.75	§§ 101 and 112 training application exercise	Breakout groups completes exercise on the training application
4:00 PM	4:15 PM	0.25	Day 2: Wrap-Up Q&A	Time dedicated to continuing any discussion with respect to the training application and answering any additional questions
Day 3				
12:00 PM	12:15 PM	0.25	Check-in, Overview of Day 2	Time for reacquainting participants with the subject matter discussed in the previous module
12:15 PM	12:35 PM	0.34	Case Reporting - Stage I	Presentation on how examiners are trained to report a case after conducting preliminary examination activities
12:35 PM	12:55 PM	0.34	Instruction to Mapping Art to Claims	Understanding Mapping Art to Claims breakout exercise activity and associated materials
12:55 PM	1:55 PM	1	Mapping Art to Claims Exercise	Breakout groups begin exercises allowing participants to try applying prior art to claims of the training application
1:55 PM	2:10 PM	0.25	Break	
2:10 PM	3:40 PM	1.5	Mapping Art to Claims Exercise	Breakout groups begin exercises allowing participants to try applying prior art to claims of the training application
3:40 PM	4:00 PM	0.33	Case Reporting - Stage II	Presentation on how examiners are trained to report a case after conducting the search and analyzing the claims with respect to the prior art prior to writing an office action
4:00 PM	4:15 PM	0.25	Day 3: Wrap-Up Q&A	Time dedicated to continuing any discussion with respect to the training application and answering any additional questions
Day 4				
12:00 PM	12:15 PM	0.25	Check-in, Overview Day 3	Time for reacquainting participants with the subject matter discussed in the previous module
12:15 PM	1:45 PM	1.5	Writing an Office Action	Presentation detailing steps necessary to write an office action. The training application is used as an example
1:45 PM	2:00 PM	0.25	Break	
2:00 PM	3:00 PM	1	Resources for Inventors	Presentations covering resources available to inventors
3:00 PM	3:45 PM	0.75	Roundtable Discussion	Open Q&A with a Panel of USPTO Personnel
3:45 PM	4:15 PM	0.5	Survey, Course Wrap-up and Q & A	Time dedicated to answering any final questions

For more information, email STEPP@uspto.gov.

