

# Tutored self-paced course on structured search

Programme | 4 September – 10 October 2024

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Format - **Online course**

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Seminar reference - **OU02-2024**

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Organised by **European Patent Academy**

European Patent Office  
Bob-van-Bentham-Platz 1  
80469 Munich  
Germany  
academy@epo.org  
epo.org/learning



## Description

Finding a relevant document for a particular application is easy, but does that mean the search is complete? Did the search lead you to the most relevant documents? Was the relevant prior art thoroughly investigated? Most of all, did the search cover all the aspects of the claimed invention?

In this course, which is only open to patent examiners at national patent offices, participants will learn why they should approach their own searches in a structured way and will be provided with the most important tools to do so.

Participants will be invited to independently study online training material developed by the European Patent Academy:

- Structured searches
- How to define the scope of a search
- Why conduct a preliminary search?
- How to design a search strategy

Throughout the self-learning process, participants will have access to an online forum to exchange views and post questions for EPO experts.

To increase the impact of self-paced learning, the Academy is organising an introductory online session and two wrap-up online sessions, followed by an online test. These sessions aim to answer participants' questions and illustrate the key concepts with examples. Participants are free to choose which online session they prefer to attend.

- Course room opening: 4 September 2024
- Introductory session: 12 September 2024, 11.00 – 11.45 hrs CEST
- Wrap-up session 1: 26 September 2024, 14.00-16.00 hrs CEST
- Wrap-up session 2: 30 September 2024, 10.00-12.00 hrs CEST
- Closure of course room: 25 October 2024

### Technical requirements

The online sessions will be held on Zoom.

# Thursday, 12 September

Moderator  
*Alice Becker, co ordinator, European Patent  
Academy, EPO*

- 10.50**    **Zoom link activated**
- 11.00**    **The concept of supported self-learning in the  
overall training portfolio of the Academy**  
*Moderator*
- 11.10**    **Learning together as a community**  
Presentation of speakers, who will briefly  
introduce the themes of the course, and  
invitation to participants to introduce  
themselves  
*Moderator*
- 11.45**    **End of session**

# Thursday, 26 September

	Moderator <i>Alice Becker</i>		
<b>13.50</b>	<b>Zoom link activated</b>	<b>14.50</b>	<i>Break</i>
<b>14.00</b>	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Moderator</i>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>The importance of conducting a preliminary search and how to design a search strategy</b> <i>Sergej Polisski and Frédéric Cavallo</i>
<b>14.05</b>	<b>Structured searches and defining the scope of a search: main takeaways</b> <i>Sergej Polisski and Frédéric Cavallo, examiners, EPO</i>		Q&A
	Q&A	<b>15.30</b>	<b>Examples and questions from the forum</b> <i>Sergej Polisski and Frédéric Cavallo</i>
<b>14.30</b>	<b>Examples and questions from the forum</b> <i>Sergej Polisski and Frédéric Cavallo</i>		Q&A
	Q&A	<b>15.55</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>
		<b>16.00</b>	<b>End of session</b>

# Monday, 30 September

	Moderator <i>Alice Becker</i>		
<b>09.50</b>	<b>Zoom link activated</b>	<b>10.50</b>	<i>Break</i>
<b>10.00</b>	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Moderator</i>	<b>11.00</b>	<b>The importance of conducting a preliminary search and how to design a search strategy</b> <i>Sergej Polisski and Frédéric Cavallo</i>
<b>10.05</b>	<b>Structured searches and defining the scope of a search: main takeaways</b> <i>Sergej Polisski and Frédéric Cavallo, examiners, EPO</i>		Q&A
	Q&A	<b>11.30</b>	<b>Examples and questions from the forum</b> <i>Sergej Polisski and Frédéric Cavallo</i>
<b>10.30</b>	<b>Examples and questions from the forum</b> <i>Sergej Polisski and Frédéric Cavallo</i>		Q&A
	Q&A	<b>11.55</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>
		<b>12.00</b>	<b>End of session</b>