

PREPARATORY SEMINAR FOR THE EUROPEAN QUALIFYING EXAMINATION 2027

VORBEREITUNGSSEMINAR FÜR DIE EUROPÄISCHE EIGNUNGSPRÜFUNG 2027

SEMINAIRE DE PRÉPARATION À L'EXAMEN DE QUALIFICATION 2027

Paper M 3 - Prüfungsaufgabe M 3 - Epreuve M 3

PROGRAMME

26 – 29 October 2026 : Strasbourg/online

9 November 2026 (afternoon): online

10 November 2026 (afternoon): online

Monday, 26 October 2026

09.00 – 13.00: **Welcome and overview of M3.1, M3.2, M3.3**

General knowledge: prior art, dependent/independent claims, plurality of independent claims, priority, novelty, ranges, selection inventions, i.s. with partial problems, clarity, sufficiency of disclosure, unity

14.00 – 17.00: **M3.1 – Methodology and exercises**

Detailed presentation of paper M3.1 and of basic approach for solving it

- Requirements by IPREE
- Allocation of marks
- Steps for solving M3.1
- Time management

Guided Walkthrough Part 1: Identification of documents and classifying information in client's letter

- Getting an overview of provided documents
- Classifying information in client's letter (known vs new)
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on a paper to be prepared
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 2: Analysing the invention: features and effects

- Defining and understanding technical problem
- Identifying essential features for invention
- Identifying options for dependent claims
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 3: Considering features for the independent claims and comparison with prior art

- Defining possible subject-matter for the independent claim
- Choosing the category of claims
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Tuesday, 27 October 2026

09.00 – 13.00: **M3.1 – Methodology and exercises (continued)**

Guided Walkthrough Part 4: Drafting the independent claim(s)

- Formulating one or more independent claims
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 5: Drafting the dependent claims

- Formulating dependent claims
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 6: Checking the claims

- Verification of drafted claims
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts (with example claims to be assessed)
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 7: Drafting the introductory part of the application

- Formulating an introductory part according to the expected structure
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

14.00 – 17.00: **M3.2 – Methodology and exercises**

Detailed presentation of paper M3.2 and of basic approach for solving it

- Requirements by IPREE
- Steps for solving M3.2
- Time management

Guided Walkthrough Part 1: Identification of documents and preliminary analysis

- Getting an overview of provided documents
- Structuring of first reading of the documents (keywords, objections, effects, ...)
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on a paper to be prepared
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 2: In-depth analysis of the documents

- Defining and understanding the core of the invention
- Identifying arguments for novelty and inventive steps
- Identifying fall-back positions
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Guided Walkthrough Part 3: Checking and amending the set of claims

- Assessing technical problem
- Respect of EPC requirements
- Scope of protection
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

Wednesday, 28 October 2026

09.00 – 13.00: **M3.2 – Methodology and exercises (continued)**

Guided Walkthrough Part 4: Drafting the letter to the EPO

- Amendments
- Clarity
- Novelty
- Inventive step
- Exercise: Practising the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

14.00 – 17.00: **M3.3 – Methodology**

Guided Walkthrough Part 1:

Detailed presentation of paper M3.3 and of basic approach for solving it

- Requirements by IPREE
- Steps for solving M3.3
- Time management

Procedural and formal knowledge and (if time allows) substantive knowledge:

- Procedures concerning third party observations, opposition, appeal: opponent, strawman, representation, timings, ...
- Formal knowledge: Opposition, TPO and Appeal: structures, eg. how to write the introduction/formality part of an opposition, TPO, Appeal
- Substantive knowledge: Prior art, Inventive step: problem-solution-approach, Extended subject matter, Clarity and Sufficiency of Disclosure, unity

Thursday, 29 October 2026

09.00 – 13.00: **M3.3 – Methodology and exercises**

Guided Walkthrough Part 2 (2h):

Identification of objects, prior art documents and preliminary analysis using adapted paper C2002:

- Getting an overview of provided documents, objects to attack and prior art documents
- Analyse the client's letter
- Define each subject matter to attack
- Evaluate priority issues
- Define usability of prior art documents for each subject matter
- Carry out claim-disclosure analysis
- Exercises: Practicing some of the above steps
- Discussion of solutions to the exercises

Guided Walkthrough Part 3 (2h):

Identification and drafting attacks

- How to work through objects to identify and define correct attacks
- Strategy for attacks
- How to draft a novelty attack
- How to draft an inventive step attack – problem solution approach
- How to draft an extended subject matter attack
- How to write the submission
- Exercise: Practicing the above steps on the same paper used in the preceding parts
- Discussion of solutions to the exercise

14.00 – 17.00: M3.3 exercise

Exercise using adapted C paper of 2015:

- Analyse the client's letter, define the form of procedure and submission needed, define priorities and additional attacks (added subject matter, ...)
- Analyse objects and their dates
- Check the prior art and their dates, define usability of each prior art vs each object
- Carry out claim-disclosure analysis
- Define and draft attacks

Common correction and discussion

BEFORE Monday, 9 November 2026

Participants write a full CEIPI Mock paper M3 in real time

Monday, 9 November 2026 (online only)

14.00 – 17.00: Online session: Correction of the CEIPI Mock paper M3 with a tutor

Tuesday, 10 November 2026

14.00 – 16.00: Online session: Correction of the CEIPI Mock paper M3 with a tutor (continued)