

Q&A's

Fall 2019 Faculty Development Days

Copyright & Fair Use Session

Question: Can someone “steal” a work in progress because the “idea” is not copyrighted?

Answer: Yes. Ideas are not copyrighted unless protected by a trademark, patent, or has copyright protection, such as a plot of a novel or using someone’s music.

Question: We don’t have DVD players in the classrooms anymore, so how can we show an entire movie that we are able to view with students that we cannot find them in the library or within online sources?

Answer: Contact IT Support. Nathan Kraft and his team will set you up.

Question: What can we do about sites such as coursehero.com or chegg.com?

Answer: If your course assignments/content is on these sites without your permission, you can ask that it be removed via an online form with Course Hero and a pdf form with Chegg. These sites are not violating any copyright laws as they do ask their users to acknowledge that they own the copyright or have permission from the copyright holder to upload. Should something be removed, they will permanently ban users who have uploaded content that did not belong to them.

Question: Do we have to link or send students to the online library? Or, can we download those and distribute?

Answer: Yes, you should link unless you have copyright permission to distribute copies in a class or post to an online secured site.

Question: Can you show the fair use checklist and where can we download those and distribute?

Answer: The link can be located at <https://bellevue.libsurveys.com/loader.php?friendly=fairusechecklist>, or on the following library website pages: “Copyright Center” or “Plagiarism and Copyright Resources.”

Question: What is the law for using memes?

Answer: There is no clear answer for this since memes involve an image created by someone, but could include images or movie stills of celebrities, which would mean that the copyright is owned by someone else. The best option is to take into consideration “fair use.”