Copyright and Attribution Considerations for the Classroom

2016 Teaching Conference

Gail Clement and Donna Wrublewski
September 21, 2016

Caltech Library

Copyright and Attribution Considerations for the Classroom by Gail Clement & Donna Wrublewski is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License.
Attribution & Copyright = good teaching practices

The classroom is a rich environment for sharing our own work and that produced by others.

Even classroom sharing may require attribution and copyright compliance.

Demonstrating information handling best practices sets a good example for students!

“Richard Feynman teaching Physics X” Photo by Floyd Clark, 1976. Caltech Archives.
http://archives-dc.library.caltech.edu/islandora/object/ct1%3A544
Working Definitions

**Attribution:** Giving Credit Where Due

**Copyright:** Reusing others’ work with appropriate authorization

Wikipedia: Citation needed, Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed

License icon-copyright, Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:License_icon-copyright-88x31.svg
Attribution: Key Points

- Give attribution
  - Avoid plagiarism
  - Honor Code
- Establish credibility
  - Cite reputable and reliable sources
- Provide background for work
  - How does new information extend what’s known?

How do I properly use an image or a video in my class?

Case Study: Images

Source: Getty Images, Buckminsterfullerene
Credit: Evan Oto, Creative #:543368577
http://www.gettyimages.com/detail/illustration/buckminsterfullerene-stock-graphic/543368577
Case Study: Images

Sample language to look for:

The graphic in this article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. See the site’s content usage guidelines.

Source: Compound Interest - Sir Harry Kroto & Buckminsterfullerene, http://www.compoundchem.com/2016/05/02/buckyballs/
The graphic in this article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License.
Case Study: Images

This image of a simple structural formula is ineligible for copyright and therefore in the public domain, because it consists entirely of information that is common property and contains no original authorship.

Copyright: Key Points

Copyright owners have the right to control how/whether their works are:

- Copied
- Modified
- Distributed
- Publicly Displayed
- Publicly Rendered or Performed
Copyright: Key Points

To reuse copyrighted works, your choices are to:

- Limit to works for which you own the copyright
- Get permission (with or without payment)
- Use if it qualifies as Fair Use
- Limit to those already licensed for your use

OR

Limit to works in the public domain (not copyrighted)
Reusing copyrighted works: permission or fair use?

Source: Getty Images, Buckminsterfullerene
Credit: Evan Oto, Creative #:543368577
http://www.gettyimages.com/detail/illustration/buckminsterfullerene-stock-graphic/543368577
Fair Use (USC Title 17, Section 107)

- Generally applies when the use has societal benefit that outweighs economic loss to the owner
- Law requires a Four Factors analysis
- Clearly covers distributing multiple copies for in-class use
- May cover other teaching activities, but not always:
  - Must perform a four factors analysis for each case!
Fair Use - Four Facts Analysis

1. Purpose of the use
2. Nature of work being used
3. Amount of work being used
4. Effect of use on market/economic interest of owner

Fair Use Checklist, Copyright Advisory Office
Columbia University Libraries,
https://copyright.columbia.edu/basics/fair-use/fair-use-checklist.html#Fair%20Use%20Checklist
Case Study: Images

Source: Compound Interest - Sir Harry Kroto & Buckminsterfullerene, http://www.compoundchem.com/2016/05/02/buckyballs/
The graphic in this article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License.
Rights Spectrum

- All rights reserved
- Some rights reserved
- No rights reserved
Creative Commons Licenses & Waivers

- All CC licences require attribution
  - Failure to attribute in manner specified means license (copyright permission) is revoked
- Each CC license may include additional requirements
- CC rights waivers leave attribution to normative practice

Creative commons license spectrum between public domain (top) and all rights reserved (bottom). Wikimedia Foundation, https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/e/e1/Creative_commons_license_spectrum.svg/2000px-Creative_commons_license_spectrum.svg.png
Case Study: Images

This image of a simple structural formula is ineligible for copyright and therefore in the public domain, because it consists entirely of information that is common property and contains no original authorship.

Questions?

Gail Clement  
Head of Research Services & Geology Librarian  
gperetsm@caltech.edu

Donna Wrublewski  
Chemistry & Biology Librarian  
dtwrub@caltech.edu