

Academic Copyright Policy

Gaston College Compliance Policy: Library and Classroom

The purpose of the Gaston College *Copyright Compliance Policy: Library and Classroom* is to provide a summary of U.S. copyright law as it relates to the use of text-based copyright-protected works in the classroom and library at Gaston College, and to provide guidelines and procedures for obtaining copyright permission to use these works.

U.S. copyright law contains many gray areas, and the goal of this policy is to provide Gaston College administrators, faculty, librarians, students, employees, and others with a standard approach for addressing complex copyright issues. This policy covers classroom issues such as photocopying, online and distance education, and course packs. It also covers library uses for print and electronic reserves, ILL and document delivery. Other Gaston College copyright and intellectual property policies may complement this policy by providing guidance on copyright issues beyond text-based materials used in the classroom and library.

This policy provides practical advice and procedures on copyright-related matters; however, it is not a substitute for legal advice, and proper legal advice should be obtained when necessary. Copyright Officer **Dr. Harry Cooke**; may be able to assist you with any questions you may have. **Dr. Cooke** may be reached at: **704-922-6355** or via e-mail at cooke.harry@gaston.edu

WHAT IS COPYRIGHT?

Copyright is an area of law that provides creators and distributors of creative works with an incentive to share their works by granting them the right to be compensated when others use those works in certain ways. Specific rights are granted to the creators of creative works in the U.S. Copyright Act ([title 17, U.S. Code](#)). If you are not a copyright holder for a particular work, as determined by the law, you must ordinarily obtain copyright permission prior to reusing or reproducing that work. However, there are some specific exceptions in the Copyright Act for certain academic uses, and permission is never required for certain other actions, such as reading or borrowing original literary works or photographs from a library collection.

WHAT IS PROTECTED BY COPYRIGHT?

The rights granted by the Copyright Act are intended to benefit "authors" of "original works of authorship", including literary, dramatic, musical, architectural, cartographic, choreographic, pantomimic, pictorial, graphic, sculptural and audiovisual creations. This means that virtually any creative work that you may come across—including books, magazines, journals, newsletters, maps, charts, photographs, graphic materials, and other printed materials; unpublished materials, such as analysts' and consultants' reports; and non-print materials, including electronic content, computer programs and other software, sound recordings, motion pictures, video files, sculptures, and other artistic works—is almost certainly protected by copyright. Among the exclusive rights

granted to those "authors" are the rights to reproduce, distribute, publicly perform and publicly display their works.

These rights provide copyright holders control over the use of their creations and an ability to benefit, monetarily and otherwise, from the use of their works. Copyright also protects the right to "make a derivative work," such as a movie from a book; the right to include a work in a collective work, such as publishing an article in a book or journal; and the rights of attribution and integrity for "authors" of certain works of visual art. Copyright law does not protect ideas, data or facts.

In the U.S., the general rule of copyright duration for a work created on or after January 1, 1978 is the author's life plus 70 years after the author's death. This is often referred to as "life-plus-70". Works created by companies or other types of organizations generally have a copyright term of 95 years. For more information on copyright duration, visit <http://www.copyright.gov/circs/circ1.html#hlc>.

FAIR USE

A provision for fair use is found in the [Copyright Act at Section 107](#). Under the fair use provision, a reproduction of someone else's copyright-protected work is likely to be considered fair if it is used for one of the following purposes: criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship and research. If the reproduction is for one of these purposes, a determination as to whether the reproduction is fair use must be made based upon four factors:

1. The purpose and character of use (principally, whether for commercial or nonprofit educational use);
2. The nature of the copyright-protected work;
3. The amount and substantiality of the portion used; and
4. The effect of the use being evaluated upon the potential market for or value of the copyright-protected work.

Fair use is an ambiguous concept and the law does not state exactly what uses of a copyrighted work will be considered fair uses under the law and may therefore be used without obtaining permission. As such, individuals who are not lawyers may often need to be interpreters of the law in everyday circumstances, and answers as to how much reproduction may be considered fair use often remain unclear. The bottom line is that fair use requires a very circumstance-specific analysis as to whether a particular use or reuse of a work may indeed be considered fair use.

To avoid confusion and minimize the risk of copyright infringement, Gaston College interprets the following situations as fair use:

- Quotation of short passages in a scholarly or technical work for illustration or clarification of the author's observations.
- Reproduction of material for classroom use where the reproduction is unexpected and spontaneous – for example, where an article in the morning's paper is directly relevant to that day's class topic. This would generally cover one time use in only one semester.

- Use in a parody of short portions of the work itself.
- A summary of an address or article, which may include quotations of short passages of the copyright-protected work.

If your use does not meet the above criteria and the work is protected by copyright, you probably need to obtain permission to use the work from the copyright holder or its agent.

Alternative: Refer to the [Fair Use Checklist](#) for Guidelines on Determining Fair Use.

TYPES OF USE

Classroom Handouts

Based on Gaston College's fair use analysis, classroom handouts fall into two categories; one that requires permission and one that does not. If the handout is a new work for which you could not reasonably be expected to obtain permission in a timely manner and the decision to use the work was spontaneous, you may use that work without obtaining permission. However, if the handout is planned in advance, repeated from semester to semester, or involves works that have existed long enough that one could reasonably be expected to obtain copyright permission in advance, you must obtain copyright permission to use the work.

Coursepacks

All articles, chapters and other individual works in any print or electronic coursepack require copyright permission. Copyright permission for coursepacks is usually granted by the academic period. To reuse a coursepack in subsequent academic periods (e.g.: semester, quarter, trimester, etc.), you probably need to obtain permission again. Many copyright holders provide time-sensitive permission because their own rights may be time-sensitive and could be transferred to different copyright holders at any time.

When ordering coursepacks it is important to clarify who will obtain permission for the coursepack—the copy shop or reprographic center, the faculty member or a member of the administrative staff. Deferring responsibility for copyright permission will not provide you protection against a claim of copyright infringement.

Reserves

If the Gaston College libraries owns a copy of a publication, the library may place that copy on reserve without obtaining copyright permission. If the library wishes to reproduce additional copies of a work and place them on reserve for students to review, in either paper or electronic format, the library must obtain copyright permission.

Photocopying In The Library

It is permissible to photocopy copyright-protected works in the Gaston College libraries without obtaining permission from the copyright owner, under the following circumstances:

- **Library user requests for articles and short excerpts.** At the request of a library user or another library on behalf of a library user, the Gaston College library may

make one reproduction of an article from a periodical or a small part of any other work. The reproduction must become the property of the library user, and the library must have no reason to believe that the reproduction will be used for purposes other than private study, scholarship and research. As recommended by Section 108 of the Copyright Act, the library must display the register's notice at the place library users make their reproduction requests to the library.

- **Archival reproductions of unpublished works.** Up to three reproductions of any unpublished work may be made for preservation or security or for deposit for research use in another library or archive. This may be a photocopy or digital reproduction. If it is a digital reproduction, the reproduction may not be made available to the public outside the library or archive premises. Prior to receiving any of the three reproductions permitted under this provision from another library or archive, the Gaston College library or archive must make a reasonable effort to purchase a new replacement at a fair price. The reproducing library or archive must also own the work in its collection.
- **Replacement of lost, damaged or obsolete copies.** The Gaston College library may make up to three reproductions, including digital reproductions, of a published work that is lost, stolen, damaged, deteriorating or stored in an obsolete format. Any digital reproductions must be kept within the confines of the library (that is, available on its computer but not placed on a public network.)
- **Library user requests for entire works.** One reproduction of an entire book or periodical may be made by your library at a library user's request, or by another library on behalf of a library user upon certain conditions being met. These conditions include the library determining after reasonable investigation that an authorized reproduction cannot be obtained at a reasonable price. Once made, the reproduction must become the property of the library user. The library must have no reason to believe that the reproduction will be used by the user for purposes other than private study, scholarship and research, and the library must display the register's notice at the place library users make their reproduction requests to the library.
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PHOTOCOPYING by Patrons

Photocopying by library patrons (students, faculty, etc.), is subject to a fair use analysis. A single photocopy of a portion of a copyright-protected work, such as a copy of an article from a scientific journal made for research, may be made without permission

- The reproduction becomes the property of the library user.
- The library has no reason to believe that the reproduction will be used for purposes other than private study, scholarship and research.
- The library displays the register's notice at the place library users make their reproductions.

Photocopying all the assignments from a book recommended for purchase by the instructor, making multiple copies of articles or book chapters for distribution to classmates, or copying material from consumable workbooks, all require permission.

Document Delivery Services

It is important to maintain a distinction between Interlibrary loans (ILL) and Document Delivery Services (DDS). Photocopying for DDS requires copyright permission.

ILL

The Gaston College library may participate in interlibrary loans without obtaining permission provided that the "aggregate quantities" of articles or items received by the patron do not substitute for a periodical subscription or purchase of a work. Gaston College follows the [Commission on New Technological Uses \(CONTU\)](#) guidelines for defining "aggregate quantities." The CONTU guidelines state that requesting and receiving more than five articles from a single periodical within a calendar year or a total of six or more copies of articles published within five years prior to the date of request would be too many under CONTU.

If the articles or items being copied have been obtained through a digital license, you must check the license to see under what terms and conditions, if any, interlibrary loan is permitted

Distance Education and Course Management Systems

In 2002, the Technology, Education and Copyright Harmonization ([TEACH Act](#)) became law and expanded the latitude universities, including Gaston College, have for the performance and display of copyright-protected materials in a distance education environment, including through the use of Course Management Systems (CMS).

The copyright requirements for TEACH and CMS postings are similar to those of classroom handouts, but extend the traditional rules for those handouts to the digital transmission of materials to distance education students. If the use is spontaneous and will not be repeated, copyright permission is not required; however, the content may not remain posted for extended periods of time. If the use is planned, repeated or involves works that have existed long enough that one could reasonably expect to receive a response to a request for copyright permission, you must obtain copyright permission.

Copyright and Foreign Works

The U.S. is a member of the leading international copyright treaty, the Berne Convention. As such, when Gaston College uses a copyright-protected work from another country, the protections provided to works by U.S. copyright law automatically apply to the use of that work as well (assuming the use takes place in the U.S.). Copyright Clearance Center has many reciprocal licenses to allow use of materials from other countries.

HOW TO OBTAIN COPYRIGHT PERMISSION

Permission to use copyright-protected materials, when required, should be obtained

prior to using those materials. It is best to obtain permission in writing (including e-mail) and to ensure that the Gaston College Copyright Officer has a copy of each permission form or letter.

The time to obtain permission may vary and, where possible, it is recommended to start the permissions procedure at least six months prior to the time that you wish to use the materials. If you need a quicker permission, let the copyright owner know this and he/she may be able to get back to you more quickly. Often, Copyright Clearance Center is your quickest one-stop resource for obtaining copyright permission.

Fact Finding Questions

Once you have identified the materials you want to use and determined that copyright permission is required, you must locate the copyright holder. If the copyright holder is not listed on the work, locating the appropriate person or entity to grant permission may take some investigative and creative work.

The Copyright Office of the Library of Congress (www.loc.gov) may be of assistance in locating a copyright owner if the work is registered. Note, however, that copyright is automatically granted to all works upon their being written down and that registration with the Copyright Office is not required.

There are two primary options for obtaining permission to use the work. You may contact the copyright holder directly ([Association of American Publishers Packet](#)) or you may contact [Copyright Clearance Center](#). Check with your department manager to determine if your institution already has an established process for obtaining copyright permission through Copyright Clearance Center. If your department or campus does not have a centralized location or process for obtaining copyright permission, you may create an account with Copyright Clearance Center at www.copyright.com.

Information in your Permission Request

The copyright holder or its agent will require the following information in order to provide you with permission:

- Title of the material
- Creator/author of the material
- Publisher of the material
- Description of material
- ISBN or ISSN, if applicable
- Date of publication, if applicable
- Purpose for which you wish to reproduce the item (research, commercial, educational, etc.)
- How the material is to be reproduced (e.g., photocopied, digitized)
- Where the reproduced material will be used or will appear and for how long

Computer Software

College owned or operated computers resources are for the use of faculty, students, staff and other authorized individuals. Individuals granted access privileges are responsible for using resources in an effective, ethical and lawful manner ([Gaston College - Acceptable Use Policy](#)).

Computer software/information use is also governed by the Fair Use principle Title 17 US Code as well as any accompanying license agreements.

(1) Gaston College purchases or licenses the use of copies of computer software from a variety of outside companies. Gaston College does not own the copyright to this software or its related documentation and, unless authorized by the software developer, does not have the right to reproduce it for use on more than one computer ([Software & Information Industry Association Guidelines](#)).

(2) With regard to use on local area networks or on multiple machines, Gaston College employees shall use the software only in accordance with the license agreement.

(3) Gaston College employees learning of any misuse of software or related documentation within the college shall notify the appropriate supervisor.

According to the US Copyright Law, illegal reproduction of copyright print materials, audio visual works, or computer software, data files, graphics, and/or documentation can be subject to civil damages of as much as \$150,000 for each work infringed, and criminal penalties, including fines and imprisonment. Gaston College employees who make, acquire or use unauthorized copies of computer software shall be disciplined as appropriate under the circumstances. Such discipline may include termination.

II. Intellectual Property Rights

Ownership of Materials

College Ownership:

The College will own any and all Intellectual Property that is made, discovered, or created by a "Covered Individual" who is specifically hired or commissioned by the College for that purpose for specific additional compensation from the College.

The College will own any and all Intellectual Property that is made, discovered, or created by a "Covered Individual" within the scope of his or employment by the College.

The College will own any and all Intellectual Property that is made, discovered, or created by a “Covered Individual” whose position description may include such duties, unless otherwise provided by written agreement between such “Covered Individual” and the College.

The College will own any and all Intellectual Property that is made, discovered, or created by a “Covered Individual” who makes “Significant Use” of College resources in connection with the development of such Intellectual Property.

The College owns all rights to its logo, seal, and other related materials.

The College, at its sole discretion, may release its rights of ownership in Intellectual Property. However, the College will retain a royalty-free license to use this Intellectual Property for research and education.

Covered Individuals” Ownership:

A “Covered Individual” owns all rights to Intellectual Property that is made, discovered, or created by that “Covered Individual” on his own time that utilizes his own resources and, therefore, does not involve “Significant Use” of College resources or equipment for which purpose he was not hired or commissioned by the College and whose position description does not include performance of such duties.

A “Covered Individual” and the College will share jointly in the rights of ownership of all Intellectual Property that is made, discovered, or created by that “Covered Individual” and that involves “Significant Use” of College resources or equipment. In any situation where a “Covered Individual” and the College share jointly in the rights of ownership to Intellectual Property, the Compensation provisions of this Policy shall apply.

Compensation

Compensation to “Covered Individuals” for production of educational materials and media is realized in two ways:

A “Covered Individual” can receive monetary compensation by first requesting this compensation by completing “An Agreement for Professional Services” form and submitting this request with appropriate signatures to the Office of the Vice-president of Academic Affairs for approval, or

“Covered Individuals (instructional designers)” can request through their appropriate department heads/division chairs through a written memo a course reduction load during the semester in which the educational material is being created, beta tested, and finalized. This request is also subject to the final approval of the Office of the Vice-president of Academic Affairs, or

“Covered Individuals” may produce material as part of their employment at Gaston College which is in accordance with their job descriptions and job expectations; therefore, no compensation is given.

Occasionally, requests will be entertained from the NC Community College System to “have access to” a Gaston College “Covered Individual” to work on a special statewide project. In this event, compensation issues shall be negotiated directly with System Office personnel and the Office of the Vice-president of Academic Affairs.

Copyright Issues

Course and course materials created by instructors at Gaston College are considered the property of Gaston College under the following conditions:

1. They were created by an employee within the scope of employment, or
2. They were created on College time, with the use of College facilities or College financial support; or,
3. If they were commissioned by the College.

Any special circumstances must be agreed upon in advance, in writing by the College and the “Covered Individual.”

This policy is in accordance with the United States Code Title 17, Chapter 2, Sec. 201. Ownership of copyright: Works Made for Hire -

In the case of a work made for hire, the employer or other person for whom the work was prepared is considered the author for purposes of the title, and, unless the parties have expressly agreed otherwise in a written instrument signed by them, owns all of the rights comprised in the copyright.

Gaston College **recognizes and adheres to the copyright laws** of the United States; therefore, all material used in course and course-related material development must fall into one of the following categories:

1. Original material created by the Gaston College “Covered Individual” for the Gaston College course
2. Material in Public Domain
3. Copyrighted material for which the “Covered Individual” has obtained written permission from the copyright owner for use in the Gaston College course. A hardcopy of this permission must be on file in the College’s Office of Vice President Academic Affairs before the material can be included in the course.

4. The doctrine of Fair Use is not to be substituted for written permission from the owner of copyright.

By creating or contributing to the creation of courses or course-related materials at Gaston College, the “Covered Individual,” also known as the contributor or the creator, acknowledges and agrees to the policy stated above, and that ownership and all rights (including but not limited to copyright) to the course and materials belong solely to Gaston College.

Finally, Gaston College adheres to the Intellectual Property Policy for the [Virtual Learning Community \(VLC\)](#) approved by the North Carolina Community College System State Board on 11/17/00. The VLC is the collaborative initiative of the State Board of Community Colleges and the participating community colleges to share resources and expertise for the purpose of expanding access to quality online courses and support services. The terms of this agreement, which address ownership and other intellectual property issues, are stated in the North Carolina Community College System VLC Cooperative Agreement.

Use of Revenue Derived from the Creation and Production of all Intellectual Property

In any situation where a “Covered Individual” and the College share jointly in the rights of ownership of Intellectual Property, the College will distribute the income accordingly: _____% of the gross revenue will be distributed to the “Covered Individual.” And _____% of the gross revenue will be distributed to the College.

This will occur only after the expenses accrued by the College have been deducted prior to this revenue dissemination.

The “Covered Individual” will warrant in writing that there are no third party claims against the Intellectual Property that has been disclosed to the College, that the Intellectual Property in question is the exclusive work of the “Covered Individual” and other persons identified in the disclosure to the College, and that no other person or entity claims an interest in the Intellectual Property in question.

The “Covered Individual” must agree, in writing, to fully indemnify and hold harmless the College, its trustees, officers, faculty members, staff, and any and all other individuals associated with the College, from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, and causes of action brought against the College, its trustees, officers, faculty members, staff, and any and all other individuals associated with the College, relating in any way to the Intellectual Property in question.

Exceptions to the above policies are authorized if approved by the President of the College following a favorable review and recommendation from the Executive Committee. Before approving an exception, the President must determine that, on the basis of the evidence available, such exception is in the public interest and is consistent with the College’s responsibilities to the public.

The Gaston College Copyright Compliance Policy has been updated May 11, 2005.

Additional Websites

<http://www.copyright.gov/circs/circ21.pdf>

<http://www.siaa.net/piracy/default.asp>

<http://www.lib.utsystem.edu/copyright>