

VISUAL COMPOSITION

Copyright in ComTech

In this class you will be using a lot of different media (audio, video, and images) and ideas from the internet. What copyright restrictions and permissions apply?

1. What is copyright?

In the simplest terms, "copyright" means "the right to copy." In general, only the copyright owner, often the creator of the work, is allowed to produce or reproduce the work or to permit anyone else to do so

2. What can you copyright?

Copyright applies to all original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works.

literary works: books, pamphlets, poems, lyrics, other works consisting of text, and computer programs

dramatic works: films, videos/DVDs, plays, screenplays, and scripts

musical works: compositions that consist of both words and music, or music only

artistic works: paintings, drawings, maps, photographs, sculptures, and architectural works.

3. Who owns the copyright?

Generally, the creator of the work is the owner of the copyright.

4. How do I copyright my own work?

Copyright in a work exists automatically when an original work is created.

5. Do I need to mark my work with a notice of copyright ©?

No. This isn't necessary to be protected in Canada. Similarly, other works may be subject to copyright without the © symbol.

6. How long does a copyright last?

The general rule is that copyright lasts for the life of the author and 50 years after the author dies. After that, the work becomes part of the public domain and anyone can use it.

7. What is in the public domain?

The public domain is the set of all works not covered by intellectual property rights at all. Examples include the English language and the works of Shakespeare. Generally, works enter the public domain in one of three ways: When copyright expires, when the work is so old it was created before copyright protection existed, or when the copyright owner chooses to put a work in the public domain. When something is in the public domain it can be copied, used, or modified in any way without asking for permission.

Facts, ideas and news are all considered part of the public domain. That is, they are everyone's property, and one cannot hold copyright in them; although layout, adaptations and translations of factual information are considered protected by copyright. In the case of a magazine article containing factual information, for example, it is the expression of the information that is protected and not the facts.

When something is in the public domain it can be copied, used, or modified in any way without asking for permission. Examples of websites containing material from the public domain include:

[LibriVox](http://librivox.org) - Provides free audiobooks from the public domain
<http://librivox.org>

[Open Content Alliance \(OCA\)](http://www.opencontentalliance.org) - A permanent archive of multilingual digitized text and multimedia content
<http://www.opencontentalliance.org>

[The Internet Archive](http://www.archive.org) - A non-profit organization preserving culture and heritage <http://www.archive.org>

[Project Gutenberg](http://www.gutenberg.org) - A large collection of free electronic books
<http://www.gutenberg.org>

8. If something has a copyright, can it be copied at all?

Yes and no. You cannot copy the entire work. However, you may use part of a copyrighted work if proper credit is given. This means that you need to use quotation marks (for text), references, and citations.

9. How do I reference and cite works?

Quotation marks show that you've quoted someone else's words exactly. The reference comes right after the quotation in the text. (It lists the author's last name and the year the source was published.) The citation is usually listed on the bibliography page or references page. The citation gives a full listing of the

source. It includes all the information someone would need to find the source. (Include the author's name, the title of the source, and the year and place it was published, etc.)

10. What needs to be included in a citation?

Generally, you must include enough information to allow the original work to be found.

The basic elements of a book citation are:

- Author
- Title of book
- Place of publication
- Date of publication
- Publisher

The basic elements of a citation for a webpage are:

- Author of the webpage, if given
- Title of the webpage
- URL address
- Date you accessed the webpage

The basic elements of a citation for a web-based media image or video are:

- Title of the Image or Video
- Title of the Web Page
- URL address
- Date you accessed the webpage

11. Is there help?

There are numerous online resources which offer helpful suggestions on how to do this. The following are some particularly useful web resources on this topic:

<http://citationmachine.net>

Citation machine helps students and professional researchers to properly credit the information that they use. Its primary goal is to make it so easy for student researchers to cite their information sources.

<http://www.easybib.com>

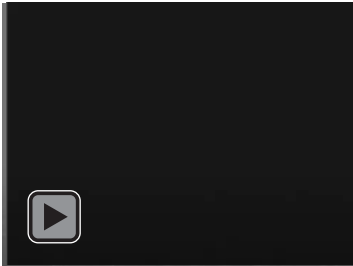
EasyBib is an automatic bibliography composer. When you have sources you need to cite properly for your research paper, EasyBib will help you format your sources quickly and accurately.

12. Is there an alternative to copyright?



Creative Commons (CC) licences are tools that enable copyright owners to licence their works to the public using a "some rights reserved" model as opposed to a traditional "all rights reserved" model. All Creative Commons licences permit distribution, display and copying of works provided the copyright owners' choice of terms is respected.

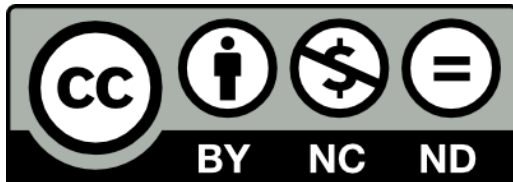
13. What is Creative Commons all about?



<http://creativecommons.org/videos/wanna-work-together>

14. What does a (CC) license look like?

You've probably seen them before, they look something like this:



15. How do you read a Creative Commons (CC) license?

Attribution means:



You let others copy, distribute, display, and perform your copyrighted work - and derivative works based upon it - but only if they give you credit.

Noncommercial means:



You let others copy, distribute, display, and perform your work - and derivative works based upon it - but for noncommercial purposes only.

No Derivative Works means:



You let others copy, distribute, display, and perform only exact copies of your work, not derivative works based upon it.

Share Alike means:



You allow others to distribute derivative works only under a license identical to the license that governs your work.

16. Where can I find Creative Commons (CC) licensed material?

Examples of websites containing Creative Commons licensed material include:

[Flickr](http://www.flickr.com) - With over 4 billion photos, Flickr is a place of amazing photography and endless possibilities. Many Flickr users have chosen to offer their work under a Creative Commons license, and you can browse or search through content under each type of license. <http://www.flickr.com>

[jamendo](http://www.jamendo.com) - On jamendo artists allow anyone to download and share their music. It's free, legal and unlimited. All the music on jamendo is available under one of the six Creative Commons licenses. They authorize free download and enable the artists to promote their music while protecting their rights. <http://www.jamendo.com>

[The Freesound Project](http://www.freesound.org) - The Freesound Project is a collaborative database of Creative Commons licensed sounds. Freesound focuses only on sound, not songs. <http://www.freesound.org>

[ccMixer](http://www.ccmixer.org) - ccMixer is a community music site featuring remixes licensed under Creative Commons where you can listen to, sample, mash-up, or interact with music in whatever way you want. <http://www.ccmixer.org>

References:

Canadian Intellectual Property Office. "Canadian Intellectual Property Office - A Guide to Copyrights (page 9 of 10)." Canadian Intellectual Property Office - Home. 27 May 2010. Web. 17 Aug. 2010.

<<http://www.cipo.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cipointernet-internetopic.nsf/eng/wr02401.html>>.

Creative Commons. "Licenses." Creative Commons. Web. 17 Aug. 2010.

<<http://creativecommons.org/about/licenses/>>.

Leger, Linda. "How to Cite Your Sources." Home Page. 23 May 2007. Web. 17 Aug. 2010.

<<http://web.viu.ca/library/researchskills/citesources.htm>>.

Library and Archives Canada. "FAQs for Teachers - For Teachers - The Learning Centre - Library and Archives Canada." Welcome to the LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA Website | Bienvenue Au Site Web BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ARCHIVES CANADA. 19 Feb. 2008. Web. 17 Aug. 2010.

<<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/education/008-1020-e.html#f>>

Exercise

Create a short presentation or video to illustrate the proper use of copyright restrictions and permissions.

Your work will be short (don't aim for perfection – just get it done!) Pick a theme (example: trees, weather, swimming) and develop this theme by including:

- At least one quotation from a copyrighted website and reference and cite it properly
- At least one CC licensed photograph and reference and cite it properly
- At least one CC licensed song or sound and reference and cite it properly
- Optional: One section of work from the public domain