Common Copyright Scenarios

Videos
- Can I show a DVD from the library to my in-person class?
  - Yes, if it is for educational purposes it is fair use.
- Can I live stream a DVD or upload a file of the DVD to Blackboard for my online class?
  - No. Students would either need to purchase the DVD on their own, check it out from a local library or access it on a personal streaming service. An alternative is to find similar material in Films on Demand.
- Can I show a film from Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu or another streaming service to my in-person class?
  - No, this violates the user agreement of these services. You may contact the streaming service provider for permission or find similar material in Films on Demand.
- Can I provide access to a film from Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu or another streaming service to my online class?
  - No, this violates the user agreement of these services. You may contact the streaming service provider for permission or find similar material in Films on Demand.
- I am a faculty member and I have a video on VHS that I would like to show in class, but I only have access to a DVD player. Can I make a copy on DVD?
  - Yes, you are allowed to make a digital copy for showing to your class, but you have to make every effort to find the title on DVD first, and keep the original VHS copy. It is also understood that the copy will be used for educational purposes only.

Articles
- Can I share an article I obtained through ILL with my students on Blackboard?
  - No, this violates the ILL agreement. You can talk to your librarian and see if it is possible for the library to purchase access to the article or ask your librarian to help you find a similar article.
- Can I make copies of an article the library has access to and distribute in class?
  - Yes, for one semester. Continued use of the article in later semesters requires copyright permission.
- Can I distribute an article the library has access to in my online class?
  - Yes, use the Permalink provided by the database. Talk to your librarian if you need help.
- I own a personal copy of an article that I would like to make available to my class on Blackboard. How can I do that?
  - The library can scan the article and put it on eReserve for 1 semester. Continued use of the article in later semester requires copyright permission.

Books
- I have a personal copy of a book I would like to make available to my class. How can I do that?
  - You can put the item on reserve at the library and students can check it out in person. For an online class, one chapter of the book can be put on eReserve for 1 semester. Continued use of the chapter in later semester requires copyright permission.
- The library has a book I would like to make available to my class. How can I do that?
  - You can put the item on reserve at the library and students can check it out in person. For an online class, one chapter of the book can be put on eReserve for 1 semester. Continued use of the chapter in later semester requires copyright permission.
- My textbook is on reserve for my class. Can I scan and print it?
  - You are allowed to print one chapter of the book for personal use. Distributing any paper or electronic copies violates copyright.
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- I want to print and distribute a report from the Government Publishing Office to students in my class. Can I do that?
  - It depends. Government documents are not copyrighted, but they may contain content that is. Either way, credit should be given to the agency that prepared the content. Images found on government websites are typically not in the public domain, and rights are retained by the owner.

Multimedia Presentations

- I have presentations created by myself and my students that include music, videos and photos that were used without copyright permission. Can these be uploaded to Blackboard?
  - Yes, as long as access is restricted to students in the class and they are used for educational purposes.
  - Can they be uploaded to my personal blog or other unlimited web access? No, if anyone can access them outside the class, then it is no longer fair use. Use photos, videos and music in the public domain or with a Creative Commons license.