



**Policy Name:** Copyright Policy: Charles J. Meder Library

**Policy Number:** B-11

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2. If a work is a United States Government publication, copyright protection is generally not available (17 U.S.C. §105). Nevertheless, a limited number of U.S. government publications may be copyrighted under special circumstances.

### Fair Use

In recognition that the unrestricted flow of information is vital to a free society, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits actions that could abridge freedom of speech or of the press. Because information flows in more than one direction, The First Amendment guarantees both the right to express information and the right to receive it. Copyright, too, is intended to promote the sharing of ideas, but because it employs restrictions on the expression of ideas as an economic stimulus to their dissemination, copyright may come to conflict with the greater purpose of the First Amendment. The doctrine of fair use represents an attempt to strike a balance between the requirements of the First Amendment and appropriate compensation to authors as protected by copyright. 17 M. (n)-aorhs4.2 (



producer. If the material is out of print and no longer available from a distributor, duplication may be allowed. All requests for off-air, cable, or satellite transmissions will be referred to the IT/Educational Technology department.

#### Digital Resources

Digital materials account for a growing proportion of resources at the Charles J. Meder Library. The Library's copyright policy is based on the premise that the protections afforded to the creators of original works are not affected by the physical form in which the works are preserved. The benefits of copyright should not depend on the type of storage media. Therefore, the copyright protection afforded to printed, recorded and broadcast materials applies equally to electronically published materials. However, while in print and traditional audio and video materials the Copyright Law (Title 17, US Code) is used to consider violations of copyright, in the world of the Internet the Digital Millennium Copyright Act now applies.

In accordance with the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (October 1998), all databases and software used in the Library must have signed licenses or contracts. The contracts should cover browsing, transmitting within the campus environment, displaying, downloading and printing reasonable portions of the database for educational use.

#### **Forms/Online Processes:**

None

#### **Appendix:**

None