Copyright Guidelines for Copying from the Internet

This guide helps academics and staff with respect to using content found on the internet to be used for teaching. Content can be used within the University in a number of ways:

1. In accordance with a Statutory Licence;
2. With the permission of the copyright holder;
3. Pursuant to an open licence; and
4. Pursuant to a voluntary licence.

Statutory Licences- CAL Licence Copying of Text and Images:

Copying of material from the internet predominantly deals with subject matter such as text and images. As such this section of the copyright guide refers to the CAL Licence which allows copying of text and images by educational institutions for educational purposes. This Statutory Licence applies to both print and electronic originals which includes content found online.

According to the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth), the Statutory Licence allows educational institutions to copy a ‘reasonable portion’ of a work. A reasonable portion for a work on the Internet is approximately: 10% of the words of the work, or up to one chapter if the work is divided into chapters or one article in a periodical publication.

It is important to consider the various types of copyright found on the internet. Any webpage may contain a variety of text, graphics, or videos etc. As such there are multiple aspects of copyright that are included in the website. To ensure compliance with the Statutory Licence consideration to the different subject matter contained in the website in addition to the amount being copied must be considered prior to copying materials from the internet. Contact the University Copyright Officer for concerns relating to allowable subject matter and amounts of subject matter under the Statutory Licences.

Permissions:

An academic/staff can seek the permission of a copyright holder to use content in a certain way. When seeking permission to use content from the internet it is important that permission is obtained in writing, and the purpose in which the academic/staff seek to use the content should be specified.

Some websites will expressly allow for educational copying. This will be identified by a disclaimer such as “educational copying acceptable”.

When seeking permission to use copyright content from a website, the first point of contact should be the organisation listed at the ‘Contact Us’ section on the website.

Open Licences:

Content that is licensed under an open licence for reuse is becoming increasingly popular. Licences such as Creative Commons are often placed on internet materials outlining how the copyright holder wishes others to use their content. Content available under a Creative Commons Licence will be easily identified by the ‘CC-BY’ attribution or one of the other ‘CC’ Licences. QUT encourages staff to make use of openly licensed content in appropriate circumstances. For more information on using open licences see the Creative Commons Australia Website.

Voluntary Licences:

QUT Library signs licence agreements with vendors and publishers when they purchase access to Library databases, online journals, videos, ebooks and other information resources. These may be made available on internet platforms. The use and re-use of information provided on these platforms is determined by the licence. Check for any copyright or terms of use statements appearing within the database or resource and ensure you comply with these statements.