Copyright for your Thesis

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Copyright basics

QUT policies

Publishing

Helpful Tips
What is copyright?

a system which gives creators a number of rights for a limited amount of time
why do you care?

your research.

thesis journal article exhibition conference paper film report performance...
Copyright protects ‘works’

- **literary works**: Books, poems, articles, research papers, short stories, rules to games, letters, email, instruction manuals, computer programs, song lyrics, catalogues, compilations, tables, questionnaires, dictionaries, other forms of writing, plays, film scripts, scenarios, librettos, mimes, other scenic or dramatic compositions intended to be performed, such as choreographic works, popular and classical scores and other combinations of melody and/or harmony in print or other material form, paintings, engravings, photographs, sculptures, maps, sketches, plans, drawings, architectural drawings, prints, jewellery, dress patterns, technical drawings, computer graphics, buildings and models of buildings, works of artistic craftsmanship, ceramics, wood carvings, installations, etc.

- **dramatic works**:

- **musical works**:

- **artistic works**:
Copyright protects

‘subject matter other than works’

✓ cinematographic films

_sound recordings

_broadcasts

_published editions of works

Film is captured forever CC-BY 2.0 Leland Francisco
Copyright does not protect

- Ideas

- Facts

- Small and insubstantial amounts of text

- Single words & titles
copyright is free and automatic

- no need to register for copyright
- no fees to create/establish it

✓ communicate your copyright (e.g., © 2013 Pam Ida)
✓ include contact details for copying permission
How long does copyright last in Australia?

📖 **Works:** Life of creator plus 70 years

聆听 **Films & sound recordings:** 70 years from the end of the year in which it was first published
exclusive rights of copyright owners

reproduce or copy

perform in public

communicate online
moral rights

1. right of attribution of authorship
2. right not to have authorship falsely attributed
3. right of integrity

In Australia, moral rights apply as long as the work is still copyright.
WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?
Will you be reproducing copyright material?

The ‘fair dealing’ exception allows you to reproduce copyright material for research or study, criticism or review, parody or satire, reporting news professional legal advice.

Limits apply to amount you can copy.
quoting others’ work

long quotes
figures & tables
tests/surveys
music samples
AV files
song lyrics
images
Will you be including others’ work in your thesis?

- Images
- long quotes
- figures & tables
- tests/survey instruments
- music samples
- AV files
- song lyrics

⚠️ ask permission
QUT Policy for Students - Obligations & Publishing Works

• Once you have completed your thesis or article you may consider publishing your work
• If your work is accepted for publication you will be provided with a publication agreement – **It is important to read your agreement carefully!**
• If the agreement transfers copyright to the publisher, then you will need to check that you retain the rights you need
• As a HDR Student of QUT you have an obligation to comply with the University’s Intellectual Property Policy and the terms of your enrolment
• Some, but not all, agreements allow authors to share copies of their ‘accepted manuscript’ version - but not the version which includes publisher-contributed formatting and branding
• You need this permission to be able to include a version of the article in your thesis – as your thesis will be put online via QUT ePrints.
asking for permission

don’t wait! ask as soon as possible
retain all permissions received.

copyright owner request letter
http://www.library.qut.edu.au/services/adt.jsp
☑ research
☑ write up
☐ publish
When publishing or putting your research online:

- you are no longer covered by fair dealing for research or study

- permission is needed from copyright owner to include a ‘substantial part’ of a copyright work in your thesis (or publication)

- permissions are your responsibility
have you included extracts (text, illustrations, audio, visual) created by others?
Where possible, use CC licensed material

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Specifies what you can (and cannot) do with the material.

Creative Commons

http://creativecommons.org.au/learn/licences/
Tools for finding Creative Commons licenced content

- CC Search http://search.creativecommons.org/
- Google Poly https://poly.google.com/
- Unpaywell http://unpaywall.org/
publishing with a commercial publisher?

you may be asked to transfer your copyright

potential consequences:

😄 you may need their permission to reuse your own work

😄 they can on-sell your work to others without your permission

😄 the number of readers may be restricted to just those who can afford to pay for a subscription to the journal
be aware of print on demand publishers.
know your rights: understand what you’re giving away

1. check Sherpa/RoMEO
2. read the publishing agreement
3. contact your liaison librarian
Common publishing models

- Traditional publishing
- Gold open access
- Green open access
- Hybrid open access

What is open access?
don’t be afraid to…

✓ ask for clarification of the agreement

✓ ask the publisher if you can retain some rights or publish with a CC license

✓ explore journals/publishers with different publishing models (if they are suitable for your discipline)

✓ get a second opinion
Why access matters

For research to ‘make a difference’, it needs to be found, read and applied (or built upon)

Unfortunately, most commercial publishers restrict access to paying customers

This is why many research funders now insist on open access copies being made available – either immediately or within 12 months of publication
QUT ePrints: Other benefits

Stats Dashboard with detailed download and referrer stats

Citation counts from Web of Science and Scopus
Tip One:  CC it

http://creativecommons.org/choose/

http://search.creativecommons.org/
Tip Two: Check a journal’s publishing terms

http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/
Tip Three: Read the small print!
More resources

QUT copyright guide

copyright owner request letter
http://www.library.qut.edu.au/services/adt.jsp

copyright compliance table
http://www.library.qut.edu.au/services/adt.jsp
Final tips

- Reuse other people’s resources ethically (cite your sources) and legally (ask for permission!)
- Creative Commons Licences are easy to use
- Manage your own copyright effectively
- If you are publishing don’t forget to read your publishing agreements
- Remember your obligations to QUT as HDR students
- QUT Copyright Guide contains lots more information
- If the answer is not there, contact the QUT Copyright Officer qut.copyright@qut.edu.au
QUESTIONS?

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The end