Fair Use Week: February 23-27

Fair Use Week is an annual celebration of the important doctrines of fair use and fair dealing. It is designed to highlight and promote the opportunities presented by fair use and fair dealing, celebrate successful stories, and explain these doctrines.

Fair use and fair dealing are essential limitations and exceptions to copyright, allowing the use of copyrighted materials without permission from the copyright holder under certain circumstances. Fair use and fair dealing are flexible doctrines, allowing copyright to adapt to new technologies. These doctrines facilitate balance in copyright law, promoting further progress and accommodating freedom of speech and expression. Take a look at this [cool infographic](#) for an explanation of the scope and benefits of the fair use doctrine.

While fair use and fair dealing is employed on a daily basis by students, faculty, librarians, journalists, and all users of copyrighted material, Fair Use Week is a time to promote and discuss the opportunities presented, celebrate successful stories and explain the doctrine.

How does the fair use doctrine affect Feinberg School of Medicine users? If you place an article on reserve or use a copyrighted image in a lecture, then your actions fall under fair use. Without the doctrine, we'd have to get permission to use everything in an educational setting, which would seriously impact the day-to-day workings of the education enterprise at FSM. The Northwestern University Libraries have some [general guidelines about copyright and fair use](#). Find out more about [best practices for fair use in scholarly communication](#) here.

You can also learn more about fair use and Fair Use Week at [http://fairuseweek.org](http://fairuseweek.org)

Printed: Friday, April 28, 2017 8:10 PM