

Keeping it Fair: Celebrating Fair Use Week 2019

Is it **fair** to tweet a link to my research article?

Is it **fair** to make copies from a book?

Is it **fair** to use an online image in my presentation?

We've all experienced that sense of uncertainty regarding copyright. Copyright and fair use can be confusing, and we're here to point you toward resources to make it less so. That's why we take time every year to celebrate Fair Use Week.

Fair Use Week 2019

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. In 2019, Fair Use Week is celebrated February 25-March 1.

Fair use and fair dealing are essential limitations and exceptions to copyright, which permit 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 by 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. A detail of the graphic is included below.

 <p>GOOGLE, TVEYES Creating databases to make information searchable is a fair use.</p>	 <p>NEW YORK TIMES Quoting and reprinting to report the news is a fair use.</p>	 <p>BRAILLE Making books accessible to the blind and print-disabled is a fair use.</p>	 <p>CODE Copying a computer program to make new programs that work with it is a fair use.</p>
 <p>SOUTH PARK Making fun of culture in parodies is a fair use.</p>	 <p>ANDY WARHOL Using old art to make new art is a fair use.</p>	 <p>DISH Network, VHS, VCR Using recorders in your home to record television and watch later is a fair use.</p>	 <p>BALTIMORE RAVENS Documenting history in a way rich with logos and cultural artifacts is a fair use.</p>

3. "Baltimore Ravens logo" by Source. Licensed under Fair use via Wikipedia - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Baltimore_Ravens_logo.svg#mediaviewer/File:Baltimore_Ravens_logo.svg
4. South Park logo by VECTOR.ME

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 champion 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 daily workings of the education enterprise at FSM. With some limitations, it is fair use for the Galter Health Sciences Library to receive material for its institutional repository, [DigitalHub](#), and make deposited works publicly available, including items that contain copyrighted material that are included on the basis of fair use (from the [ARL Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Academic and Research Libraries](#)).

The Northwestern University Libraries have created a guide that covers [copyright and fair use](#). Discover more about [best practices for fair use in scholarly communication](#).

Is it fair use?

Please be advised Galter Library is not qualified to render legal advice. These are just general guidelines; any final decisions are yours to make and may need legal consultation before you do so.

Is it **fair** to tweet a link to my research article?

Yes, provided you are linking to where the article is hosted (e.g. by the publisher or in a digital repository)

Is it **fair** to make copies from a book?

This is tricky as the rights of the copyright holder need to be balanced against the interests of education and research. There isn't a set amount that's considered fair to copy, though Educational Fair Use Guidelines specify that it should be limited to a chapter of a book and for personal use. See: <http://fairuse.stanford.edu/overview/academic-and-educational-permissions/non-coursepack/>

Is it **fair** to use an online image in my presentation?

Generally, as long as it's for educational use, then the answer is yes. You need to weigh the fair use factors and make a call. See this page for more guidance: <http://libguides.mit.edu/usingimages>

Learn more about fair use and Fair Use Week at <http://fairuseweek.org>

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