Guidelines for Fair Use: Multimedia and Films

Disclaimer: These guidelines represent the library's best effort at articulating copyright principles. They neither represent general legal advice nor a legal response to a specific situation.

Summary of Multimedia Fair Use Guidelines (Georgia Harper, UT General Counsel; summarized from CONFU and CCUMC)

- Students may incorporate others' works into their multimedia creations and perform and display them for academic assignments
- Faculty may incorporate others' works into their multimedia creations
  - to create multimedia curriculum materials
  - to teach remote classes where access and total number of students is limited; technology makes copying impossible
- Faculty may demonstrate their multimedia creations at professional symposia and retain same in their own portfolios
- Time limit on fair use: 2 years from completion of the multimedia work
- Copies limit: generally, only 2, but joint work creators may each have a copy
- Portion limits:
  - motion media - up to 10% or 3 minutes, whichever is less
  - music - up to 10% or 30 seconds, whichever is less
  - photos and images - up to 5 works from one author; up to 10% or 15 works, whichever is less, from a collection

Educational Fair Use of Films

- may show films in class (including “in home use” films) provided it is in a face-to-face classroom activity with instructor and enrolled students, as long as it relates to an educational activity (i.e., not just for entertainment)
- on Blackboard, be careful, because to be legal, they should not be able to download, duplicate the clip (retain or copy).
- Converting from VHS to DVD
  - if YOU own VHS, you may convert it for your personal use but not share
  - if College owns it, under certain circumstances, College may make copy (for archival), but if available in DVD, not allowed to copy. Essentially, if only available in VHS, making a DVD is a way of preserving from deterioration; then would only be allowed to use the DVD (which would be a replacement for the VHS).

For Licensed Movie Clips