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Greetings! Welcome to Copyright, Fair Use, and Creative Commons Licensing! My name is Dr. Megan Lowe. I am the Director of University Libraries at Northwestern State University of Louisiana. I am located at the main campus of Northwestern, which is located in

presentation is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License. What that means exactly will be discussed in this presentation!

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What all will we be discussing today? Well, I am going to define copyright, fair use, and Creative Commons Licensing, also known as C-C-L. I will explore how they work and how you as an educator can stay compliant with each of these in the course of the work you do. There is also a brief list of references at the end which I used for this presentation. Including a list of references is good copyright practice, which will become clear as we go through each topic!

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by the laws of the United States (title 17, U.S. Code) to the authors of artistic, and certain other intellectual works. This protection is available

regard to how copyright in one country compares to copyright in another.

Now, a few things to note about this definition.

A work does not have to be published to be copyrighted. If you write an original poem or song, it is automatically afforded a certain level of copyright protection in this country.

of the law attempting to keep up with technology and new forms of

They are intellectual property, and copyright protects that.

Being out of print, also known as O-O-

copyright status. At my previous institution, a professor scanned a whole book and put it in her Moodle course. A colleague confronted her about this being a copyright violation, so she reached out to me for clarification. She told me the book was out of print so she thought it was okay. I told her that because the book was still copyrighted, it was copyright infringement. She did not initially understand that being OOP was not the same as being out of copyright.

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There are few key things to understand about copyright.

It is a bundle of rights intended to protect the author or copyright holder.

It has commercial implications (this is a really key element to this discussion).

These rights can be signed away and frequently are, which is how many publishers acquire the rights to works and authors lose control of their works. For example, Winnie-the-Pooh was written by A.A. Milne. At some point, Disney acquired select rights to Winnie, and so Disney owned Winnie in certain ways. It was able to create a lot of content based on those rights. However, in 2022,

the copyright on the *original* work by A.A. Milne expired and

lovable yellow bear and his buddies can now be used by anyone.

Disney no longer has exclusive rights to the honey-loving bear.

There is a certain degree of copyright that is automatically conveyed on a work created in the United States. However, if you want to ensure full and legal protection under copyright, you must apply officially for  
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## Apologies

is no specific number of words, lines, or notes that may safely be taken

ask for permission.

It's worth noting that APA format has its own ideas about what a limited portion is and recommends that 500 words or less is safely within fair use. Beyond that, permissions should be obtained. But APA does not necessarily address other formats (e.g., images or music) and how much would qualify as fair use or abuse of fair use (i.e., copyright infringement).

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a very  
beneficial part of copyright for those of us working in education. The next concept is Creative Commons Licensing, also known as C-C-L. What is it?

(Creative Commons, n.d.b).

Some people consider CCL to be anti-copyright. It is not anti-copyright. In fact, it is built on the fundamentals of copyright. Creative Commons

by offering them [the works] for use under generous, standardized terms; those who want to make creative uses of works; and those who to benefit

Functionally, CCL allows creators to offer a spectrum of options ranging from retaining all of the rights commonly associated with copyright and

giving up all rights (that is, public domain). Creative Commons calls this

be non-commercial. However, any of their derivative works do not have to be licensed on the same terms. In other words, if they use your work, they can only do so non-commercially







seeking to use CCLs. The Copyright Office is the go-to resource for all things copyright related.

Thank you for your attention! Thank you for taking the time to come learn about copyright, fair use, and Creative Commons Licensing. If you, your colleagues, or students have questions or concerns about

reach out to me via email at [loweme@nsula.edu](mailto:loweme@nsula.edu).