Fair Use of Copyrighted Material

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Intro to Copyright

It's in the Constitution!

To promote creativity, innovation and the spread of knowledge

> Article 1 Section 8 U.S. Constituțion



Copyright principles

- Copyright protects original works of authorship fixed in a tangible medium of expression – music, movies
 - tangible medium of expression = audio recording, video recording, YouTube video etc.





 tangible medium of expression ≠ street performance, spontaneous speech, etc.



Copyright principles

- © symbol not required, copyright begins when the idea is fixed in tangible medium
 - If you make a YouTube video, and someone copies it, they may have infringed your copyright









Copyright protections

- Copyright owners have <u>exclusive</u> rights to make copies, create derivative works, distribute, display and perform works publicly
- Generally, if you want to use a protected work, you either need permission or an exemption must apply
 - Fair Use is most common exemption, particularly in educational settings



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Copyright vs. Trademark vs. Patent

- These intellectual property (IP) rights are often confused.
- There are some similarities, but these IP rights are different and serve different purposes.



Patents

Patent protection is afforded to inventions and

C. EAMES

FURNTTURE CONSTRUCTION

May 29, 1951

industrial designs











2,554,490

Sept. 20, 1949 Des. 155,272 C. EAMES CHAIR





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Trademark

 Trademark is a distinguishing mark or logo -gives the owner the right to prevent others from using a confusing, similar mark









Safest route: permission

- Get it in writing
- Email the author/composer/creator
- Resource:

http://fairuse.stanford.edu/overview/introducti

on/getting-permission/

But what if they say no?





The Fair Use Exemption

- Fair use exemption created by section 107 of the Copyright Law
- Fair use is analyzed using four factors:
 - 1. Character of the Use
 - 2. Nature of the material being used
 - 3. Amount and importance of the part used
 - 4. Effect on market





Factor #1: character of the use

- Fair use is stronger where a copyrighted work is used for <u>teaching, research, scholarship,</u> <u>criticism, comment, parody or other nonprofit</u> <u>educational purposes</u>.
 - Weaker argument for fair use where the copyrighted work is used for <u>commercial or for-profit</u> purposes.



Factor #2: nature of the copyrighted work

- Copyrighted fictional/creative works such as plays, movies, music and novels receive greater protection.
- Factual works such as biographies receive less protection because dissemination of facts or information benefits the public.



Factor #3: amount and substantiality of the portion taken

- Fair use is stronger if a small/short clip of a copyrighted work (e.g. movie or music) is used, and length of the clip used is related and appropriate for the intended educational purpose of the project.
 - Fair use is diminished where a large portion or whole work is used without modification or without additional transformation.



Factor #4: effect of the use upon the potential market

- Fair use is stronger where use of the copyrighted work would have <u>no significant</u>
 <u>effect</u> on the market or potential market
 - a belt and suspenders approach is to restrict access to the videos based on some established criteria (e.g. log-in or password protection).



Fair Use example

• Mayor Soglin vs. Sconnie Nation, LLC





Fair Use example

- Court says: fair use!
 - No reduced marketplace demand for the original work.
 - Defendants changed so much of the original that, "as with the Cheshire Cat, only the smile remains."
 - "What is left, besides a hint of Soglin's smile, is the outline of his face, which cannot be copyrighted."
 - Defendants chose the design as a form of political commentary, not for profit.

Parody

- Type of fair use
 - Parody must comment on the work itself and the humor must come from the meeting of form and content
 - Parody can't destroy the market value for the original



Parody example: "Pretty Woman"

2 Live Crew



Roy Orbison





Practical points

• Use a disclaimer:

- "This video was created by students for a class project. It is is intended for academic, educational, critical, non-profit and non-commercial purposes. If you feel that this video violates your intellectual property rights, please contact us at [insert email]."
- Use only as much of the work as you need
- Emphasize your parody/editorializing/transformative use of the work



Other exemptions

- Section 108: copying exemptions for libraries and archives
- Section 110(1): face-to-face teaching exemption for display/performance of a work in the classroom
- Section 110(2): limited exemption for transmission and display of still images for classroom instruction



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Infringement penalties

- The law provides a range from \$200 to \$150,000 for each work infringed.
- Infringer pays for all attorneys fees and court costs.
- The Court can issue an injunction to stop the infringing acts.





- Few bright lines in copyright law; fact intensive analysis
- Sometimes permission will be necessary
- <u>This presentation and the material</u> <u>discussed is for informational purposes; it is</u> <u>NOT to be relied upon as legal advice</u>



Additional Resources

- U.S. Copyright Office <u>http://lcweb.loc.gov/copyright/</u>
- Stanford University Library Fair Use Page <u>http://fairuse.stanford.edu/</u>
- CU Boulder Libraries copyright resource page <u>http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/copyright/</u>

