

Media and Audio Visual

What is Carthage College's policy regarding media copyright?

Carthage Policy on Media Dubbing and Standard Conversion

The following was extracted (used by permission) from a University of Illinois web page (<http://www.atlas.uiuc.edu/AVServices/G-70/dup.html>) The page is no longer active, it appears to have been relocated to <http://www.atlas.illinois.edu/services/media/duplication/copyright/>.

Copyright Restrictions

For copyright purposes, conversion from one format to another is the same as duplication.

Therefore, we restrict what matter may be duplicated. In order to copy any videotaped program which you are not the producer or author of, you must have received explicit written consent from the copyright holder for that program.

This means we cannot make a copy of the film you may have rented, or a program you have taped from television without this explicit written permission....

We will not make any copies of commercially produced or televised programming without express written permission from the copyright holder. **There are no exceptions.**

What Can Be Duplicated

In order to give you a better understanding of these restrictions, these are general rules of thumb of what may be copied:

- Personal tapes which were videotaped by you. This includes home movies, personal camcorder tapes, or any programs for which you are effectively the copyright holder.
- Classroom tapes recorded with ATLAS Equipment [read: Carthage equipment].
- Programs recorded or produced by the ATLAS [read: Carthage]. This includes tapes of class skits recorded in the ATLAS Studio [read: Carthage facilities].
- Programs for which you have express written permission from the copyright holder to duplicate. A copy of this permission must be provided to us when a Duplication Request is made.

What Cannot Be Duplicated

In general we cannot legally duplicate any of the following materials:

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- Commercially produced videocassettes. These may include movies, television programs, or other programs.
- Tapes of programs which have been recorded from television, laser disc or any broadcast source (including, but not restricted to, movies, television shows, news programs, and satellite programs).
- Non-commercial tapes for which the customer is not the producer or copyright holder. These may be demonstration tapes, corporate videos, music videos, etc.

Hint: Always check the videotape labeling and its box for any copyright listing or marks. If there is one and you are not the listed copyright owner then it is likely that we cannot duplicate that tape.

Special note for tapes recorded from television

Copyright Law provides for what is known as "fair use" of copyrighted material. This is the clause which allows for you to make photocopies of some materials, make quotations, etc. For video programs, this means you are allowed to tape programs from television for your own private use and archival. This does not provide for the archival of such programs for professional use, which includes classroom instruction.

"Fair use," however, does provide for a 45 day period of time subsequent to the airing and taping of a program for its use in the classroom. After this time this program may not be archived for instructional use and may no longer be used for classroom instruction without written permission from the producer of that program.

At our discretion, we may choose to duplicate a videotape recorded off of television if: (1) the program was recorded within the last 30 days, (2) the purpose is for immediate classroom use, and (3) the person requesting the duplication affirms that the duplicate videotape is not for archival or other use that may infringe copyright law.

Otherwise, we will not duplicate any tape recorded from television without express written permission from the copyright holder.

Carthage Media Services will not make any copies of commercially produced or televised programming without express written permission from the copyright holder. **There are no exceptions.**

Yale University's Center for Language Study has prepared a copyright handbook

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that sheds considerable light onto these issues. Carthage Media Services gratefully acknowledges the Yale CLS for much of the content in this policy statement and for permitting linking to their site.

Q&A -- Media Copyright "Quickies":

Q: Can I bring in a tape from home and make copies to send to my friends and relatives?

A: Yes, provided you have the rights to copy the material on the tape.

Q: I tried copying a movie from a DVD at home, and the picture looked horrible. Can you help me with this?

A: No. Most commercially released videos (tapes as well as DVDs), especially movies, are encrypted with copy-protection schemes. Because the consequences of improperly using copyrighted material can be serious, we take copyright issues very seriously.

Q: But this is for my class. What about Fair Use?

A: Take your original tape or disc with you and use the VCR or DVD player in the classroom.

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A Note about Copy Protection

Some videos employ technological methods to prohibit or discourage duplication. A copy of a copy-protected video might look fuzzy, have static like a scrambled TV station, or have its contrast fade in and out slowly going from normal to very, very dark and then back again. Though our preference to make decisions about our services based on copyright law, rather than limitations from technological modifications, there is often very little Carthage Media Services can do about this sort of protection. In these cases the original video will have to be played in a multi-standard player or additional copies will have to be purchased.

Standard Conversion

Most media recorded outside North America cannot be played back on U.S. VCRs or DVD players. These tapes and DVDs are recorded in incompatible formats. Carthage Media Services MAY be able to copy programs onto U.S. standard videocassettes or DVDs which will playback on domestic equipment. The standard conversion of electronic media is regulated just like duplicating and subject to the same laws and standards. Therefore Carthage Media Services may be legally prohibited from converting some media. See the Copyright Restrictions section above for more information.

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Disclaimer

Carthage Media Services is not responsible for damage caused by mechanical malfunction or failure of our equipment.

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