Copyrights & Responsibilities: The Scholar’s Powers & Duties as Author under U.S. Copyright Law

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Writing your dissertation, journal article and other original, creative work raises questions of copyright. If you plan to incorporate copyrighted material (charts, drawings, photographs, computer programs, music, text, etc.) into your work, you will need to ensure your insertion constitutes “Fair Use” under copyright law or obtain permission from the copyright holder. You also will want to make certain that copyright protects your work. This session briefly summarizes copyright law and analyzes its importance to a scholar’s writings. You will learn what copyright is, when and how to seek permission to use materials protected by copyright, and how to manage your own copyrights in a manner most supportive of your research and writing pursuits.