Policy
It is the policy of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls to comply with all applicable provisions of the copyright law and to promote understanding of the protections provided to the owners of the copyright.

Authority
The UW-River Falls Chancellor issues this policy in accordance with the Administrative Policy process.

The Assistant Chancellor for Business and Finance is responsible for the administration of this policy. To request an exception to this policy, mailto: administrative-policy@uwrf.edu.

Sanctions and Appeals Process
Failure to adhere to the provisions of this policy may result in appropriate disciplinary action as provided under existing procedures applicable to students, faculty, and staff, and/or civil or criminal prosecution.

University Responsibilities
The University will promote understanding and compliance with the fair use provisions of copyright law. Section 107, U.S. Copyright Law, outlines four factors to be considered in determining whether or not a particular use is fair:

- the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of commercial nature or for non-profit educational purposes;
- the nature of the copyrighted work;
- amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and
- the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

UW-River Falls bases its copyright policy on U.S. Copyright Law and revisions such as the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and the Technology Education and Copyright Harmonization Act. As copyright law continues to evolve, the University will respond by educating the University community to develop practices and procedures that comply with current law.

The University is not liable for willful infringement of copyright law by faculty, staff, or students.

Department/Unit Responsibilities
When using copyrighted works to fulfill the University's mission of teaching, research and service, all faculty, staff, and students are expected to make informed, good faith decisions that comply with copyright law and its fair use provisions.
Background
Copyright is a form of protection provided by the laws of the United States (Title 17, U.S. Code) to the authors of "original works of authorship," including literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, and certain other intellectual works. This protection is available to both published and unpublished works, and gives the owner of the copyright exclusive right to reproduce their work, to prepare derivative works, to distribute copies of phonorecords, to perform their work publicly, and to display their work publicly.

Contact
To direct questions about this policy, mailto: administrative-policy@uwrf.edu.