



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

UNIVERSITY COPYRIGHT OFFICE

Using Audio-Visual Material in Student Centres

Many student centres include media equipment for the purposes of playing music, screening live television or showing films or other DVDs for atmosphere or background entertainment. Such activities will be subject to copyright and permission or a licence will usually be required from the copyright owner to use material in the student centres.

All University staff have a responsibility to comply with copyright law; failure to obtain the necessary licences or permission to use audio-visual material in student centres may result in the University taking disciplinary action against the staff member responsible.

Screening Live Television



In order to screen live television - either free to air or pay TV - in a student centre a background music licence is required from APRA/AMCOS. An annual fee is payable for the licence based on the size and the number of television screens in the student centre. Contact the Copyright Office <http://www.unimelb.edu.au/copyright/contact.html> if you wish to obtain a licence.

Showing Films or other DVDs

If you wish to show a film or other DVDs in a student centre you will need to seek a non-theatrical licence from the copyright owner. Most non-theatrical licences will be subject to a license fee, based on the number of screenings and the seating capacity of the student centre. Licence fees will vary for each individual films or DVDs. Identifying and locating the copyright owner for the film or DVD can be difficult, as it will be different for each film or program. Copyright owners may also refuse requests to show their film or DVD in the student centre. Contact the Copyright Office <http://www.unimelb.edu.au/copyright/contact.html> for advice on obtaining non-theatrical licences.

Playing Background Music

Background music can be played in the student centres under the University's Music Licence. Music downloaded from iTunes or similar online music services cannot be played in the student centre as this music is purchased subject to the terms and conditions of the online service which generally only permit their music to be used for personal use. Any recorded music played in a student centre should be a legitimate copy, e.g. from an original CD. If you wish to make compilations of music from CDs to play, an additional licence from APRA/AMCOS may be required. Please contact the Copyright Office for further information. Music downloaded or copied illegally cannot be played in the student centre.



For more information on the Music Licence:

<http://www.unimelb.edu.au/copyright/information/musiclicence.html>

Performing Live Music

Performance of live music in the student centre is covered by the University's Music Licence so long as there are no admission fees charged and access is restricted to students or staff of the University. If admission is being charged, even for cost recovery, then a general artists' licence is required from APRA/AMCOS. The licence is based on a percentage of the admission fee. Different licences may apply if the student centre is regularly hosting live musical performances (e.g. on a weekly or monthly basis) and charging admission fees.

For more information on the Music Licence:

<http://www.unimelb.edu.au/copyright/information/musiclicence.html>

Contact APRA/AMCOS <http://www.apra-amcos.com.au/> to obtain a general artists' licence for performances where admission will be charged.



Podcasts, vodcasts & other Web material

Podcasts, vodcasts and other audio visual material available on the web can only be shown or used in the student centres if the terms and conditions of the website allow it. In most cases, podcasts, vodcasts and other audio-visual material is only made available for personal, non commercial use. This means that it could not be displayed in the student centre for anyone to hear or view.

If the terms and conditions of the website permit non-commercial use or if the material has been licenced under a creative commons or similar licence, it can be displayed in the student centre subject to any requirements of the terms and conditions of the website or licence. Make sure you keep a copy of the terms and conditions of the website or creative commons licence for the student centre's records. If the terms and conditions do not allow material to be used non-commercially, then permission can be sought from the copyright owners to use the material in the student centres.

Playing Computer Games

If you wish to provide computer gaming consoles and games for students to play, such as PlayStation or Nintendo Wii, you will need to seek permission from the copyright owners of the games. Licencing fees may apply. For more information, you will need to contact the copyright owner directly. Contact details may be available on their website.

More Information

Information on seeking permission is available at:

<http://www.unimelb.edu.au/copyright/information/fastfind/permission.html>

For more information about using audio-visual material in student centres or for assistance in arranging licences or permission, contact the Copyright Office: copyright-office@unimelb.edu.au or 8344 6647.

This guide prepared and written by:
Helen Thomson
Manager, Copyright & Information Policy