Copyright Information for Students
PROTECT YOURSELF and your work!

Copyright protection is automatic as long as two conditions are met:

1. It must be your original work
2. It must be in a tangible form - it must be readable and physical. It cannot be just a thought in your mind. Once you create it and put it in a form that can be transferred to another person, it is copyrighted – YOU OWN IT.

For more information on copyright basics, visit the U.S. Copyright website:
http://www.copyright.gov/

WITH OWNERSHIP come RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES

AS THE CREATOR OF A WORK – YOU HAVE THE RIGHT to:

1. Allow someone to copy your work (or not).
2. Allow someone to distribute your work (or not).
3. Allow someone to display your work publicly (or not).
4. Allow someone to perform your work in public (or not).
5. Allow someone to base another work on yours (or not).

AS THE CREATOR OF A WORK – YOU HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY to:

EVERYONE has the responsibility to respect the exclusive rights of others. It’s the Golden Rule and it’s the law.

EVERYONE has the RIGHT to profit from their work, and

EVERYONE has the responsibility to respect the rights of others.

PLAGIARISM
Plagiarism is stealing someone else’s work and using it as your own. Plagiarism is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and is treated as a very serious matter here at Northwest-Shoals Community College. Don't do it and protect yourself from someone else who may copy your work.

Protect yourself by keeping your work safe
PEER-TO-PEER FILE SHARING

Peer-to-peer simply means that the files (music, video or documents) are shared among various computer users, not downloaded from a database. If one user doesn't have what you're searching for, another one will have it, and all are willing to share. There are various online services that are used to search among these “peers”, such as Shareaza, BitTorrent, or Limewire. When you “share” these files, the original owner or creator of the music, video or document does not get paid for his/her work product.

Not only is this illegal, but College students and personnel are prohibited from using College networks and equipment in violation of copyright laws. The unauthorized reproduction of copyrighted materials or illegal downloading or sharing of copyrighted music, movies, books, software, etc., is a serious violation of NW-SCC’s Network Usage Policy as well as U.S. Copyright Laws.

For more information on Copyright as it pertains to campus use, see: http://www.copyright.com/Services/copyrightoncampus/index.html

The Northwest-Shoals Community College official Copyright Policy is available online at http://www.nwscc.edu/copyrightpolicy.pdf

If you have any concerns regarding copyright infringement, please contact April Cookson, the designated DMCA agent for Northwest-Shoals Community College. Her contact information is:

April Cookson
Northwest-Shoals Community College
800 George Wallace Blvd
P. O. Box 2545
Muscle Shoals, AL 35662
Phone: 256.331.5395
E-mail: cookson@nwscc.edu

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