



Group Viewing of UI Libraries' Videos and DVDs: Copyright and Licensing Information

Apart from face to face classroom teaching use, the University of Iowa Libraries video collection may come with special licensing for group viewing. If this is possible, a note in InfoHawk for the particular title will state: "Includes public performance rights on campus only. No admission fee may be charged." This notice means the UI Libraries has purchased special licensing to allow this activity for that particular title.

For titles owned by the UI Libraries that do not have this special licensing, the Libraries does not lend films except for private or permissible educational uses. To determine if the use you wish to make is allowable, you may want to consult the following three web sites:

ALA Fact Sheet on Video and Copyright:

http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?%20%20Section=Library_Fact_Sheets&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=24635

Libraries should not knowingly loan a video to groups for use in public performances. If a patron inquires about a planned performance of a videotape, he or she should be informed that only private uses of it are lawful.

The U.S. Copyright Office: <http://www.copyright.gov/help/faq/faq-fairuse.html#movies>.

ARL analysis of "Performance of or showing films in the classroom":

<http://www.arl.org/pp/ppcopyright/webdigitalpsa.shtml>.

Can a school show a movie without obtaining permission from the copyright owner?

If the movie is for entertainment purposes, you need to get a clearance or license for its performance.

It is not necessary to obtain permission if you show the movie in the course of "face-to-face teaching activities" in a nonprofit educational institution, in a classroom or similar place devoted to instruction, if the copy of the movie being performed is a lawful copy. [17 U.S.C. § 110\(1\)](#). This exemption encompasses instructional activities relating to a wide variety of subjects, but it does not include performances for recreation or entertainment purposes, even if there is cultural value or intellectual appeal.

If you have further questions about a group showing of a UI Libraries' video, please consult the Office of the General Counsel - <http://www.uiowa.edu/~gencouns/index.shtml>.