THINK BEFORE YOU SHARE

Your instructor may share a variety of resources with you, from journal articles, to slides, to course notes, to videos of their lectures. This content is protected by copyright. This means that you almost always need to ask permission before you share material.

As a general rule, material should not be shared publicly online, e.g. materials should not be uploaded to services like CourseHero.

A SHARING INSTRUCTOR CREATED CONTENT (E.G. SLIDES, COURSE NOTES)

Your instructor owns copyright in the materials they've prepared for the class, unless they specifically state otherwise. This means that if you want to share their materials outside of the class, you should ask for permission first. Sharing quotes or small portions (e.g. one or two slides) of content is likely okay under Copyright Act exceptions, described on page 3.

B SHARING THIRD-PARTY CONTENT (E.G. JOURNAL ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS)

Your instructor may have used materials from other sources, such as Library licensed materials (like journal articles or book chapters) or scans shared under Copyright Act exceptions. Sharing this content further depends on its source so ask your instructor if you aren’t sure. Library licensed materials can be shared with UWaterloo community members (other students, staff, and faculty).
COPYRIGHT BASICS FOR ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Using course resources

2 BE AWARE OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY IMPLICATIONS

Certain materials should not be shared with others regardless of copyright exceptions, such as tests and exams and assignment answers. Even if sharing of these materials was allowed under a Copyright Act exception the principles of academic integrity would stop you from sharing these.

3 NOT SURE? ASK!

If you aren't sure if you can share course materials, ask your instructor.

If you need copyright help, reach out to: copyright@uwaterloo.ca

If you need academic integrity help reach out to: academic.integrity@uwaterloo.ca