

Showing Your Students a Movie in the Classroom

The *Copyright Act* includes an exception for educational institutions that permits the performance of **cinematographic works** in the classroom without arranging or paying for public performance rights.

*Refer to Section 29.5(d) of the *Copyright Act*.

The term **cinematographic work** refers to feature films, documentaries, television shows, and even cartoons.

The performance of **cinematographic works** in the classroom without arranging or paying for public performance rights is conditional upon the following:

- The copy of the 'cinematographic work being performed must be a legal copy.
- The cinematographic work can only be performed for educational purposes.

*Entertainment purposes will require arranging and paying for public performance rights.

Subscriptions to Netflix or iTunes do not permit the public performance of content. This limitation is a contractual obligation that you agreed to when you signed up for their services.

Cinematographic works that are **publicly available on the Internet** can be reproduced, performed, and communicated to students in your classroom or through FOL.

Your college library may offer licensed streaming video services that have been authorized for classroom use and you may also be able to post or stream these videos through FOL.

Your college's Fair Dealing Policy permits the reproduction and communication of up to 10% of an audiovisual work **BUT** most DVD and Blu-ray movies are protected by technological protection measures like digital locks and it is illegal to break or circumvent them.

You can ask for permission from the copyright owner to convert an audiovisual work from its DVD or Blu-ray format to a digital file that so that you can post it to your college's learning management system.

If granted permission:

- You will likely be required to pay a fee.
- You will only be permitted to make the digital file available to a specified number of students.
- You will only be permitted to make the digital file available for a specified period of time.

If you are not granted permission:

- You will not be permitted to convert the movie from its DVD or Blu-ray format to a digital file.

For more information, please contact Meaghan Shannon, Copyright Services Officer at:
m_shannon2@fanshawec.ca or extension 4346.