

Information on Course Content Sharing Sites for Faculty

There are a number of Course Content Sharing Sites on the Internet – most look like social media platforms, some claim to facilitate peer tutoring, and all provide an online space for students to upload and share copies of their assignments and other documents.

Course materials like licensed case studies, articles, and book chapters, as well as handouts and slides that are faculty-created content, and slides that have been provided by the publisher of a textbook, are the intellectual property of the respective copyright owners. Course materials are provided to students for their individual use for the purposes of their own education, private study, criticism, and review – the sharing course materials by students with other people is prohibited and can result in penalties for Academic Offences as well as sanctions through the Student Code of Conduct.

The College's Academic Integrity Office works with faculty to issue warnings and penalties to students who upload course materials and assignments to Course Content Sharing Sites. These students are at risk of incurring the following Academic Offences:

- The student acts to assist or facilitate an Academic Offence, or
- The student participates in activities, in person or electronically, that are not permitted in the preparation or completion of academic work.

The College's Academic Integrity Office also works with faculty to issue warnings and penalties to students who access and download course materials and assignments from Course Content Sharing Sites. These students are at risk of incurring the following Academic Offences:

- The student commits plagiarism, which means taking credit for another person's work and includes submitting another person's work as his or her own,
- The student uses materials, resources, or technologies that are not permitted in the preparation or completion of academic work,
- The student uses materials, resources, or technologies that are not permitted for use in a quiz, test, or exam, or
- The student participates in activities, in person or electronically, that are not permitted in the preparation or completion of academic work.

The College's Copyright Services Office issues takedown notices to Course Content Sharing Sites for:

- Course materials that are faculty-created content and the intellectual property of the College,
- Course materials that have been licensed for use within a course during a specific term,
- Course materials and assignments that display the College's logo, and
- Course materials and assignments that include the names, student ID numbers, and/or email addresses of other students.

If you would like your course codes added to the list of course codes that the Copyright Services Office checks Course Content Sharing Sites for, please send your course codes to the email address below. If you have found course materials or assignments on a Course Content Sharing Site and would like takedown notices to be issued, please send the link to the email below. Questions and concerns about Course Content Sharing Sites, course codes, and links to course materials and assignment can be sent to Meaghan Shannon, Manager, Academic Integrity m_shannon2@fanshawec.ca.