

# Plagiarism & Copyright Resources

Vee White & Andrea Klingler (plagiarism), Caitlin O'Brien (copyright)

Vee White and Andrea Klingler conducted international research on plagiarism surveying English-language editors, writers, and publishing professionals. The purpose of the study was to:

- Explore current global differences in defining and approaching plagiarism
- Identify existing training and education about plagiarism
- Understand unique pain points regarding plagiarism

Information on a forthcoming article from that research and access to the full survey results will be posted online: <https://veewhite.com/plagiarism-survey>. An online course from Vee White and Caitlin O'Brien on plagiarism, copyright, and permissions (including a module addressing generative AI) is also forthcoming by the end of 2024.

Sign up to stay updated on the article and survey results and to share your feedback on what might be most helpful to you, your colleagues, or your writers in an online course via this form: <https://forms.gle/ZgCuYrcf9vaiDK5x7>. We've included resources for further reading in this handout.

## Plagiarism Resources

### Style Guides

AMA (American Medical Association) Manual of Style 11e

- Section 5.3.2, Editorial Policy for Preventing and Handling Allegations of Duplicate Publication (p. 207, related to using software to detect plagiarism) and section 5.4, Scientific Misconduct (pp. 213, 215-217, related to misappropriation: plagiarism and breaches of confidentiality and inappropriate manipulation of digital images)

APA (American Psychological Association) Style provides:

- [“Avoiding Plagiarism Guide”](#)
- [Statement](#)

Associated Press provides:

- [Statement on the use of others' material](#) (under “Practices”)

Chicago Manual of Style 17e

- Sect 1.91 Journal Retractions (p. 45); sect 4.75, General Principles for Obtaining Permissions (p. 207); sect 4.92, Importance of Attribution (p. 213)

### Professional Associations

ACES: The Society for Editing provides:

- [Fighting Plagiarism](#) eBook
- Blog article: "[The Plagiarism Police: Why Editors Should Care About Attribution](#)" by Aileen B. Houston and Rebecca Pieken
- Blog article: "[Ten Signs of 'Lifted' Text](#)" by Adrienne Montgomerie

Chartered Institute of Editing and Proofreading (CIEP) provides:

- Blog article titled "[Ten Signs of Possible Plagiarism](#)" by Julia Sandford-Cooke
- Blog article titled "[In Your Own Words](#)" by Clair Bacon

Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)

- Dedicated to publication ethics in scholarly research. Read more about plagiarism and other ethical concerns on their [website](#).

Council of Science Editors provides:

- Several articles discussing [plagiarism](#)

### Additional Resources

- Wayne Booth, Gregory Colomb, Joseph Williams, Joseph Bizup, and William Fitzgerald's *The Craft of Research*, 4th edition
- Lise Buranen and Alice Roy's (editors) *Perspectives on Plagiarism and Intellectual Property in a Postmodern World*
- Amy Einsohn and Marilyn Schwartz's *The Copyeditor's Handbook: A Guide for Book Publishing and Corporate Communications*, 4th edition. See the chapter "Beyond Grammar"
- M.V. Dougherty's *Disguised Academic Plagiarism: A Typology and Case Studies for Researchers and Editors*
- Dr. Rebecca Moore Howard's article "[Cultural Perspectives on Plagiarism](#)"
- Dr. Rebecca Moore Howard's *Standing in the Shadow of Giants: Plagiarists, Authors, Collaborators*
- Drs. Rebecca Howard and Amy Robillard's *Pluralizing Plagiarism: Identities, Contexts, Pedagogies*
- Dr. Joely Taylor and Katharine O'Moore-Klopf's article: "[Purging Plagiarism: Why Authors Plagiarise and How to Fix It](#)"
- Yuehong Zhang's *Against Plagiarism: A Guide for Editors and Authors*

## Copyright Resources

Introductory resources and basic primers

- Copyright.gov [circulars and fact sheets](#)
- Columbia University Libraries: [Copyright Basics](#)
- Stanford University Libraries: [Copyright and Fair Use](#)
- Cornell University Library: [Copyright Basics](#)

Copyright and AI

- Copyright.gov: [Copyright and Artificial Intelligence](#)

#### Copyright and Permissions in Practice

- Editorial Freelancers Association: Elsa Peterson, "[Copyright and Permissions: What Every Writer and Editor Should Know](#)"
- Jane Friedman, "[A Writer's Guide to Fair Use and Permissions + Sample Permissions Letter](#)"
- William S. Strong, Chapter 4: "Rights, Permissions, and Copyright Administration," in *Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th edition (University of Chicago Press, 2017)
- Richard Stim, *Getting Permission: Using & Licensing Copyright-Protected Materials Online & Off*, 8th edition (NOLO, 2022)

#### Advanced Learning

- Professors William Fisher and Ruth Okediji: IPX courses: [CopyrightX](#)

## What works generally don't require permission? (US-specific)

<p><b>Public Domain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Most works published before 1929 (as of 2024)</li> <li>● Works of the US federal government</li> <li>● US laws, statutes, codes (any level)</li> <li>● Works published without a copyright notice during specific periods when that was required</li> <li>● Works to which the copyright has expired</li> </ul>	<p><b>Fair Use</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No "bright line" rules; only decided in the courts</li> <li>● Four Factors:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Purpose and character of the use</li> <li>○ Nature of the copyrighted work</li> <li>○ Amount and substantiality used</li> <li>○ Effect of use on the potential market</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Frequently misunderstood/misapplied: be careful!</li> </ul>
<p><b>Special licenses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Copyleft (GFDL, Creative Commons, etc.)</li> <li>● Specialized individual licenses (e.g. certain uses of Google Maps, Microsoft screenshots, etc.)</li> <li>● Usually required attribution, reciprocity</li> <li>● Sometimes have special conditions; if they can't be met, <b>permission is required.</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Uncopyrightable</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pure facts/data (e.g. lists of phone numbers)</li> <li>● Simple recipes</li> <li>● Simple graphics with no distinctive creative element (e.g., basic shapes, some tables and diagrams)</li> <li>● Short phrases (but some exceptions, like slogans, trademarks, etc.)</li> <li>● Titles</li> <li>● Ideas not captured in a fixed, tangible expression</li> </ul>