In an increasingly digital world in which researchers expect to find primary source material available to them online, many archivists are concerned about violating intellectual property rights. If I digitize this document and publish it online am I infringing on someone's copyright? Is social media in the public domain? Does anyone own a Tweet? This course will cover intellectual property rights laws, how these effect the use of materials in archives and other cultural heritage institutions and the current best practices developed to deal with these issues.

1.5 credits

The main text for this class is "Copyright and cultural institutions : guidelines for digitization for U.S. libraries, archives, and museums" by Peter B. Hirtle, Emily Hudson, and Andrew T. Kenyon. It is available for download (no cost) at this location: https://ecommons.cornell.edu/handle/1813/14142.

Course Objectives

- Discuss the reasons for and intentions of copyright laws in the United States
- Describe the rights assigned to owners of copyright and any exemptions to these rights
- Explain the role of licenses for copyright and creative commons works
- Outline the process for determining copyright holders for orphan works

Schedule of Topics and Readings (See Schedule section in Sakai)

Assignments (see Assignments section in Sakai for descriptions)

Participation: 20%
Copyright in the News 30%
Scenario and Final Exam: 50%

The Honor Code

The UNC Honor Code, which prohibits giving or receiving unauthorized aid in the completion of assignments, is in effect in this class. The Instrument of Student Judicial Governance gives examples of actions that constitute academic dishonesty.