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## Managing copyright in your research

During the course of your research at UniSA, you will be using and creating copyright-protected materials. It is important that you understand how copyright works, as you will be relying on copyright law to protect any work you create and to reproduce other people's work in your research.

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Research students submitting their work for examination should familiarise themselves with [Graduate Research: Examination Checklist for Supervisors and Students](#), which should be read in conjunction with the [Guidelines for the presentation of the thesis, or exegesis](#). You will be asked to declare that where you have included the work of another person in your thesis or research:

- due reference has been made in the text
- you have acknowledged all substantive contributions by others in your work.

## Useful links and resources

O'Brien et al. 2007, [Copyright Guide for Research Students: What you need to know about copyright before depositing your electronic thesis in an online repository.](#)

Fitzgerald et al. 2006, [Open Access to Knowledge \(OAK\) Law Project Report No. 1: Creating a legal framework for copyright management of open access within the Australian academic and research sector](#)

## Using copyright-protected works in your research

If you are using other people's copyright material in your research, you must ensure that you comply with copyright law. Before submitting your thesis or research to UniSA's online repository, you will be required to warrant that you have not infringed the copyright of any person. You may include copyright material in your thesis without the copyright owner's written permission if:

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- Not have their work treated in a derogatory fashion (e.g. text quoted out of context or images distorted or altered).

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Under the [Fair Dealing](#) provisions for research and study, you may copy a 'reasonable portion' of someone else's work in an assignment, thesis or project you are submitting for assessment purposes.

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- **10% OR one chapter** (whichever is the greater) of a literary work in hardcopy form (e.g. book);  
or

- **10% of the total number of words OR one chapter** (whichever is the greater) of a literary work in electronic form (e.g. blog entry, report, speech, webpage, conference paper, work published on CD-ROM); or
- **one article** from a periodical publication (e.g. journal, newspaper, magazine) **OR** more than one article if the articles are for the same course of study or for the same research.

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Have you copied material from the internet?	<p>If yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Does the website contain terms and conditions regarding reuse of their content? If the website contains restrictions on downloading or copying of material, you <b>must</b> abide by these, or seek an exemption from the copyright owner. Terms and conditions can generally be found on a website’s homepage under <b>Terms and Conditions</b> or <b>Copyright</b>.</li></ul>
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5. Information about any changes (adaptations) you intend to make to the work.
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7. Explanation about how the publication will be sold (e.g. cost recovery, profit, neither).
8. Information about yourself, including your title and affiliation (if applicable), return postal address, telephone, fax and email.

## Sample permission letter

[Copyright owner's details if possible]

[Date]

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\*\*Adapted from the Copyright Guide for Research Students prepared by the Oak Law team.

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