

## Additional Copyright Resources and Policies

### *Regents Guide to Understanding Copyright & Educational Fair Use*

An overview basic copyright and fair use guidelines prepared by the University System of Georgia

<http://www.usg.edu/admin/legal/copyright/>

### *Digital Millennium Copyright Act*

<http://www.copyright.gov/legislation/hr2281.pdf>

### *Music United – Music Industry File Sharing Education*

<http://www.musicunited.org/>



### Information Technology

1100 S. Marietta Parkway Building H  
Marietta, GA 30060  
678-915-HELP (4357)

<http://infotech.spsu.edu>

# SPSU InfoTech Safe & Secure Computing

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## Unauthorized Use

Access to resources provided by obtaining a SPSU account is granted in accordance with the following:

Unauthorized privileges, unauthorized access to the system or user files and password disclosure are prohibited by law. Under the laws of the state of Georgia, if you are found guilty of such an act you may be penalized by fines from \$5,000 up to \$50,000, imprisoned from 1 to 15 years, or both.

In addition, all University rules of conduct apply to the use of telecommunications, network, and system resources. Use of telecommunications, network and system resources that involve academic dishonesty is a violation of University policy.

Upon obtaining a SPSU account, you acknowledge that you are aware of the Southern Polytechnic State University and Board of Regents policies, as well as Georgia Law applying to computer related offenses and agree to abide by all such laws and policies.

Examples of unauthorized use include but are not limited to:

- Damaging computers or other peripherals
- Gaining unauthorized access to systems that you have not been granted permission
- Depriving another user of authorized resources
- Obtaining extra resources not authorized to you
- Sharing, or breaching or disclosure of passwords assigned to access network resources.

As a student of SPSU, you are responsible for recognizing (attributing) and honoring the intellectual property rights of others. SPSU's IT Policy & Procedure can be viewed at:

<http://infotech.spsu.edu/policies/>

## Virus Protection

SPSU does not require you as a SPSU student to have virus protection on your personal computer, but we do suggest it. With the speed in which virus files are being created and distributed, it is a wise investment. Please keep in mind that if the SPSU IT Services Department tracks down viruses coming from your computer in campus housing, we will turn off your room's network port until you have proven the viruses have been removed.

## Copyright

Most people would never consider stealing something that did not belong to them. But those who duplicate and/or distribute copyrighted material without authorization are, in fact, stealing someone else's property – their intellectual property, and breaking the law.

Like most creative works, such as books, music and films, computer software is protected by U.S. copyright laws. When you purchase software, you do not become the owner of the copyright. Rather, you are purchasing the right to use the software under certain restrictions imposed by the copyright owner, typically the software publisher.

Music, video, textbooks, and other forms of intellectual property are protected under copyright law. Compliance with all copyright laws is expected of all students, faculty, staff and guest users of the University's resources. Violators may be subject to temporary or permanent loss of network and system access privileges, referred to the appropriate disciplinary procedure(s), as well as referred for criminal or civil prosecution.

Additional information may be obtained by visiting the United States Copyright Office website:

<http://www.loc.gov/copyright/>

## File Sharing

The use of Peer to Peer (P2P) file sharing software to distribute music, movies, video, software, and other intellectual property without consent of the copyright holder may result in lawsuits and other legal action. SPSU will cooperate with local, state, and federal law enforcement when necessary.

Colleges, Universities, and ISPs have been served with subpoenas requesting the names and identifies of individuals suspected of illegally sharing material protected under copyright law. SPSU will assist law enforcement with their investigations. Legislation has been passed over the past several years to protect copyright owners' rights, specifically dealing with the issues surrounding the digital duplication of materials covered under copyright law (The Digital Millennium Copyright ACT, and others). Possible actions that may be taken by SPSU include (but are not limited to) immediate suspension of computing privileges, cooperation with law enforcement agencies, and other administrative/academic disciplinary actions that are necessary.

The use of Peer to Peer (P2P) file sharing software can compromise the security of your computer, as many programs include spyware or otherwise compromise the security of your PC. Software applications acquired from peer to peer networks may also contain malicious code that provides hackers with a backdoor into your computer. Spyware, virus and other malicious applications can cause degraded system performance on your computer, interference with network traffic, and suspicious network activity that may lead to a disconnection of your network access.