



MMCC6214

Creative Freedoms: Authorship, Technology, Law

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2026

School of Communication, Society and Culture

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Tutor

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By appointment

Convenor

Stephen Collins

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Contact via 9850 2165

444, 25B Wally's Walk

By appointment

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MMediaComm

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit focuses on the role played by copyright law in the production and consumption of media. We look at the changing nature and scope of copyright policy: how it variously enables or frustrates cultural production, and how it copes with new technologies and new forms of creativity. Students are not required to have any pre-existing legal knowledge. Students will learn to critique the law as it operates in everyday life and is applied to creative works.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Analyse and evaluate the roles played by copyright.

ULO2: Evaluate and critique the discourses surrounding copyright.

ULO3: Relate and examine the social, cultural and ethical issues affected and effected by copyright.

ULO4: Formulate advanced research-supported arguments in written and oral formats.

ULO5: Integrate and communicate information from a variety of appropriate sources in responding to areas of debate.

General Assessment Information

Late Submissions

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue. This late penalty will apply to written reports and recordings only. Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs will be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Fundamentals Test	20%	No	23/08/2026	Individual	No	Open
Multiple Choice Quiz	30%	No	20/09/2026	Individual	No	Open
Essay	50%	No	06/11/2026	Individual	Yes	Open

Fundamentals Test

Assessment Type ¹: Problem-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 14 hours

Due: **23/08/2026**

Weighting: **20%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open

You will be required to complete a timed short answer task. The test will assess your understanding of foundational principles in the unit. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and evaluate the roles played by copyright.

- Evaluate and critique the discourses surrounding copyright.

Multiple Choice Quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Problem-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 26 hours

Due: **20/09/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open

Students will individually undertake a timed multiple-choice quiz administered via iLearn. The content of the quiz will relate to lectures and readings undertaken for specified modules. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and evaluate the roles played by copyright.
- Evaluate and critique the discourses surrounding copyright.
- Relate and examine the social, cultural and ethical issues affected and effected by copyright.

Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Written Submission

Indicative Time on Task ²: 50 hours

Due: **06/11/2026**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

Students are required to write and submit an academic essay responding to a set question. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and evaluate the roles played by copyright.
- Evaluate and critique the discourses surrounding copyright.
- Relate and examine the social, cultural and ethical issues affected and effected by copyright.
- Formulate advanced research-supported arguments in written and oral formats.
- Integrate and communicate information from a variety of appropriate sources in responding to areas of debate.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- [Academic Success](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Delivery and Resources

This unit is delivered via 1 x 1hr lecture and 1 x 1hr tutorial each week. Tutorials start in week 1. Students are expected to attend all tutorials and be prepared having listened to the lecture and completed the set readings.

Readings are supplied via Leganto.

Unit Schedule

Lectures start in week 1.

Tutorials start in week 1.

Please see iLearn for full list of topics.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://policies.s.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.s.mq.edu.au>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit connect.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)

- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Changes from Previous Offering

Content has been updated to reflect changes in the field.

Unit information based on version 2026.02 of the [Handbook](#)