

Copyright Infringement

COPYRIGHT LAWS

The U.S. Copyright law (title 17 U.S. Code) governs the making of photocopies of and copyrighted material. Photocopies may be made for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, or research as long as the reproduction or distribution is made without any purpose of direct or indirect commercial advantage. Grace School of Theology subscribes to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act for handling certain copyright complaints.

Students must be keenly aware that any unauthorized use, illegal downloading, or distribution of copyright material, including unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing when using the school's information technology system, may result in disciplinary action that includes a failing grade, suspension, and/or expulsion.

Additionally, the following civil and/or criminal penalties may apply:

CIVIL PENALTIES

The civil penalties for copyright infringement not registered with the Library of Congress include actual losses sustained by the copyright owner as the result of the infringement. When it comes to a registered copyright filed with the Library of Congress, the copyright owner can also obtain triple damages above and beyond actual damages, together with attorney fees in a copyright infringement case.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES

The maximum penalty for a criminal conviction in the area of copyright infringement may include up to five years in prison and up to a \$250,000 fine.