



Course Number:	MMI 274
Course Title:	Intro to Music Copyright Law
Credits:	3
Instructor:	Rey Sanchez • 305-284-8289 • rsanchez@miami.edu
Bulletin Description:	This course provides a study of the current U.S. copyright law as it applies to musical compositions and sound recordings. This course includes analysis of the modern practices of music licensing for both digital and physical uses as well as copyright acquisition. Students will study the various rights of the copyright owner, what can be protected by copyright, and the duration of copyright. They will learn the formalities of music copyright including registration and notice. Current music copyright infringement cases are reviewed along with defenses to infringement and remedies for infringement. The course also covers international copyright protection and music copyright as it applies to digital technologies and distribution.
Prerequisite:	MBEI majors, minors or permission of instructor.
Objectives:	Students will be able to identify, explain, and apply basic music copyright terms, law and procedures. Students will be able to recognize the unique nature of music and explain why the application of copyright law to music differs fundamentally from other types of copyrightable works. Emphasis is placed on the differences between U.S. copyright law and those of other major international music markets.
Methodology:	Online Lecture/Seminar
Resources:	Moser, David; Music Copyright Law , currented. Bowker, Richard R., Copyright: Its History And Its Law , 1912 Selected articles, readings and other resources as assigned.
Examinations:	Two exams, seven quizzes, (<i>see schedule for dates</i>). Please be advised that examinations may include material found in the assigned reading and not discussed in the video lectures, and vice-versa.
Grading Policy:	Exam I 35%, Exam II 35%, Self-Assessments 20%, Discussion 10%
Attendance Policy:	The University of Miami has no provision for unexcused absences. Participation in all modules is expected.
Honor Code:	Students will be bound by the University of Miami Honor Code. All reports, papers, written assignments, test papers, and examination papers must include a signed honor pledge that states: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received any aid on this assignment." Academic dishonesty may result in a lowered grade or a failing grade for the entire course.
Disabilities:	Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the instructor and Disability Services at the beginning of the semester.

MMI 274 Music Copyright Law CLASS SCHEDULE

Spring 1 - 2018	
Module 1:	1/15 – 1/21
Module 2:	1/22 – 1/28
Module 3:	1/29 – 2/4
Module 4:	2/5 – 2/11
Module 5:	2/12 – 2/18
Module 6:	2/19 – 2/25
Module 7:	2/26 – 3/4
Module 8:	3/5 – 3/7

Module 1	Introduction to Copyright
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe and evaluate the history of copyright. • Recognize and distinguish between the two major copyright systems practiced today. • Explain the balance of copyright.
Units	1.1. An Overview of Copyright 1.2. Philosophies of Copyright 1.3. A Brief History of Copyright
Readings & Resources	Moser, Ch. 1-2 Bowker, Ch. 1-2 Various online resources (<i>see online module</i>)
Discussion	<i>Balancing Copyright</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does copyright attempt to balance? • What "rights" do users have to use someone else's work without permission? Why?
Assessment	Quiz

Module 2	What is Protectable? The Subject Matter of Copyright
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpret the 3-fold requirement of copyright. • Classify the primary categories of copyrightable works. • Appraise copyright ownership on the basis of specific circumstances.
Units	2.1 The Requirements of Copyright 2.2 Categories of Works 2.3 Ownership of Copyright
Readings & Resources	Moser, Ch. 3-4 Copyright Basics Title 17 Various online resources (<i>see online module</i>)
Discussion	<i>Ownership in Copyright</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is original expression and why does it require "minimal creativity"? • Discuss the distinction between ideas and expression. Are there times when an idea cannot be separated from its expression?
Assessment	Quiz

Module 3	The "Bundle of Rights"
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illustrate and assess the 6 exclusive rights of copyright owners.. • Evaluate and discuss specific limitations and exclusions in relation to exclusive rights.
Units	<p>3.1 Reproduction, Derivative, and Distribution Rights</p> <p>3.2 Public Performance, Display, and DPSR Rights</p>
Readings & Resources	Moser, Ch. 5-7 Title 17, S106, 107, 110, 114 & 115
Discussion	<p><i>Exclusive Rights and Limitations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This section of the law attempts to be the "Balance of Copyright: Where does copyright end and user's rights begin?" • What is the impact of the Compulsory Mechanical License provision on the "Balance of Copyright"?
Assessment	Quiz

Module 4	The Logistics of Copyright
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimate the duration of any given work under copyright. • Illustrate and assess the practical application of copyright formalities.
Units	<p>4.1 Duration of Copyright</p> <p>4.2 Copyright Formalities</p>
Readings & Resources	Moser, Ch. 8-9 Title 17, S301-305, 401-402, 408-409, & 411-412
Discussion	<p><i>Duration and Formalities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the impact of different terms of copyright duration in neighboring nations? • What's so important about copyright notices and registration?
Assessments	Quiz, Exam I

Module 5	Music in Relation to Copyright
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize and distinguish the cyclic development of musical genres. • Illustrate and assess the idea/expression dichotomy within a musical work. • Recognize and evaluate the dual-nature of recorded music in connection to copyright.
Units	<p>5.1 Intro to Music and Copyright</p> <p>5.2 Musical Elements and Copyright</p> <p>5.3 Recorded Music and Copyright</p>
Readings & Resources	<p>"I Created Jazz in 1902" (online pdf)</p> <p>"Unfair? The Unique Status of Sound Recordings under U.S. Copyright Law and its Impact on the Progress of Sample-Based Music" (online pdf)</p> <p>Various online resources (see online module)</p>
Discussion	<p><i>Music and Copyright</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do so many songs sound so similar? • How are musical styles formed?
Assessment	Quiz

Module 6	Copyright Infringement and Remedies
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asses copyright infringement in relation to music. • Consider and critique examples of music copyright infringement cases.
Units	6.1 What is Infringement 6.2 Defending Against Infringement
Readings & Resources	Moser Ch. 10-12 Title 17, S501-507 Music Copyright Infringement Resource (online)
Discussion	<i>Copyright Infringement Cases</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have certain cases impacted the music industry? • Would you have decided in the same or different manner? Why?
Assessment	Quiz

Module 7	International Copyright in the Digital Age
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and appraise the impact of select international treaties on U.S. Copyright Law. • Analyze and critique the interpretation and application of copyright in regards to the Internet. • Examine moral rights in U.S. Copyright and summarize their scope.
Units	7.1 International Copyright Treaties 7.2 Digital Copyright Issues
Readings & Resources	Moser, Ch. 13-14 Title 17, Appendix B, K, L, M, & N
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have international copyright treaties affected U.S. laws? • What is the impact of treaties not directly related to copyright (such as TPP) on music,
Assessment	Quiz, Exam II

Module 8	Wrap Up
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compose an argument based on a current copyright-related issue and defend this position.
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are some significant things you've learned about copyright in relation to music? • How has this course impacted your understanding of music in relation to copyright?