

MU Compliance Regulation based on the Austrian Copyright Lawⁱ

Moodle/Reading packs

As of 1 October 2015, all *Moodle* (or similar) platforms are officially regulated under Austrian law (see § 42g UrhG).

The regulation is similar to those regarding print copies or copies on CD/DVD.

The law allows using *Moodle* as a platform on which to provide copied course-related documents for MU students.

There are, however, some restrictions.

- (1) The material only can be accessible to students registered in the given course during the actual semester. Hence, **any copyright protected material must be published in the secure course area accessible to participants only.**
- (2) No restrictions apply to journal articles or other research related publications. Entire textbooks, where the purpose of the publication is to support teaching, are not allowed unless there is an approval of the legitimate person.
- (3) If parts of a textbook are copied for academic purposes, the pages made available to course participants must be limited to either 100 pages or 10 % of the book's contents. If more pages than this amount are required, then the use of various textbooks is recommended.

Actions/Recommendations

- Study material in *Moodle* has to be restricted to registered students. In order to provide open access to our course descriptions for all students (and externals), the syllabi must be duplicated in a different location (e.g. website or Intranet).
- Students will need to verify (sign off) when they pick up course material/Reading Packs to (1) prove that they are registered in the course and (2) will be required to return copyright protected material when they unregister from a course. The ACO will make sure that reading packs for MBA students will only be accessible for students who have signed up for a particular class.

- If the restrictions on textbooks create a problem and an entire textbook is urgently needed for a class, then the faculty must inform their respective Dean. The Dean will decide whether or not to place an order for the amount of books required by the students. The Dean will communicate this information to the Library which is then responsible for ordering the textbooks. The Dean must be informed about requests at least 6 months before the class is scheduled to begin.

Copyright of bachelor, master, and doctoral dissertations

All bachelor, master, and PhD thesis must be made available in the University Library. In addition, PhD thesis must be made available to the Austrian National Library. The publication over these libraries doesn't affect other copyrights.

As foreseen by the study contracts, the University Library can publish the thesis on the Library website.

MODUL University Vienna will not publish a thesis on the website, or remove the thesis from the website upon request, when the student proves that they have published or submitted the thesis for publication with a different publisher (e.g., one paper of a compilation of three papers dissertation).

University Board, September 16, 2016

ⁱ Bundesgesetz über das Urheberrecht an Werken der Literatur und der Kunst und über verwandte Schutzrechte (Urheberrechtsgesetz).

StF: [BGBl. Nr. 111/1936](#) (StR: 39/Gu. BT: 64/Ge S. 19.) [RIS - Urheberrechtsgesetz - Bundesrecht konsolidiert, Fassung vom 08.02.2022 \(bka.gv.at\)](#) (14 September 2016)