FAIR USE CHECKLIST

For each of the four factors, check as many statements as apply. Where the factors favoring "fair use" outnumber the factors weighing against a finding of "fair use," reliance on the fair use exception is justified. Where less than half of the factors favor "fair use," permission should be obtained before copying or disseminating copies of the work. Where the factors appear evenly split or you have questions about interpretation, please feel free to contact ((INSERT CONTACT INFO HERE)) for additional assistance.

This checklist is not a substitute for legal advice and does not insure against liability for copyright infringement. Rather, this checklist is a tool to assist in making a determination of whether fair use exists for a proposed use. Not all of the facts will be present in any given situation. Check only those facts that apply to your use. No single item or factor is determinative of fair use; rather, it is a balancing of all facts that determines whether a proposed use falls within the fair use exception.

For more information regarding copyright and fair use, please see the information and resources available at ((WEBSITE)).

FACTOR 1: PURPOSE AND CHARACTER OF USE

Facts Favoring Fair Use	Facts Opposing Fair Use
☐ Nonprofit educational institution	☐ Commercial Activity
☐ Use supports teaching	☐ Profit from use
☐ Research or Scholarship	☐ Entertainment
☐ Criticism, comment, news reporting or	☐ Non-transformative – use fulfils original
parody	purpose
☐ Transformative – work is used for different	☐ For publication
purpose than original utility	
☐ Personal study	☐ For public distribution
☐ Use is necessary to achieve pedagogical	☐ Use exceeds that which is necessary for
goals	stated educational purpose
☐ Weight in Favor of Fair Use	☐ Weight Against Fair Use

FACTOR 2: NATURE OF THE WORK

Facts Favoring Fair Use	Facts Opposing Fair Use
☐ Published work	☐ Unpublished work
☐ Factual or nonfiction; technical	☐ Highly creative work (art, music, film, fiction, dramatic work)
☐ Essential for learning objectives	☐ Consumable work (workbook, test book)
☐ Weight in Favor of Fair Use	☐ Weight Against Fair Use

FACTOR 3: AMOUNT AND SUBSTANTIALITY OF PORTION USED

Facts Favoring Fair Use	Facts Opposing Fair Use
☐ Small portion of work used	☐ Large portion or entire work used
☐ Portion used is not central or significant to	☐ Portion used is central to work or "heart of
crux of the entire work	the work" or a "spoiler"
☐ Selection is narrowly tailored to educational	Selection is more than necessary for criticism,
purpose, such as criticism, comment, research,	comment, research, or subject matter of the
or subject matter	course
☐ Weight in Favor of Fair Use	☐ Weight Against Fair Use

FACTOR 4: EFFECT ON THE MARKET

Facts Favoring Fair Use	Facts Opposing Fair Use
☐ Absence of significant effect on market for	☐ Significantly impairs market or potential
copyrighted work	market for work or its derivative
☐ Use stimulates market for original work	☐ Use is repetitive and long-term, affecting
	the market for the work
☐ No similar product marketed by rights	☐ Reasonably available licensing mechanism
holder	for use of the work
☐ Licensing or permission unavailable	☐ Affordable permission available for use of
	work
☐ Individual or institution owns lawfully	☐ Individual or institution does not own a
acquired or purchased copy of original work	lawfully acquired or purchased copy of the
	original work
☐ Access restricted to students enrolled in	☐ Unrestricted access on the web or in some
course	other public forum
☐ One or few copies made	☐ Numerous copies made or distributed
☐ Weight in Favor of Fair Use	☐ Weight Against Fair Use