

STUDENT COPYRIGHT CHECKLIST

Examine any relevant elements of pre-production and production for your film (planning sheets, storyboards, raw footage, sound track, etc.) with an eye out for copyright and release issues that may be found in your film.

- Who appears on screen in your film? Do you have signed releases from all these individuals? If you have not gotten all needed releases, can you go back and get them at this time?
- What locations are shown in your film? Are there any recognizable locations (including places of business, private residences) or public places (such as city parks, public buildings) that may require signed releases? Do you have the needed releases? Can you get them?
- What are the planned components of your film's sound track? Do any of these components pose potential copyright problems? Music: Are you using someone else's music? Do you have permission to use it? Narration: Are voices other than your own used? Do you have signed releases for these?
- Looking back at the footage that will be used in your film, do you see any recognizable logos, trademark designs, copyrighted slogans, product containers, etc., visible in any scenes? If there are any of these visible items, what options do you have for dealing with these copyright items?
- Does your film contain any clips or segments taken from a commercial video, or taped from commercial or public television? Do you think use of these would constitute copyright violations, or would the fair use doctrine apply? What choices will you have to make in dealing with these issues?