Responsible use of electronic resources

WSU Libraries licenses a variety of databases, online journals, eBooks, streaming videos and other electronic resources to support teaching and research. The agreements for these resources specify who can access them, how they may be used, and the universities liability if library users comply with these terms. Service providers may suspend access if terms are violated by users. Consult with us if you have questions [please contact us](mailto:%20jcummings@wsu.edu)

Using electronic resources

* Active students, staff and faculty with a [valid WSU network ID](https://dev-webutil.wsu.edu/apps/myNetworkProfileHelp/CreateNIDs.aspx).
* “Walk in” or community users conducting personal or educational research while on campus may access most electronic resources.

When a resource requires a separate user account

* An individual account may be required by the resource provider’s platform to access some or all the features or content. These individual accounts are third-party accounts. While you may use your WSU email, for security reasons do not use your network ID password.
* [Contact your liaison librarian](https://libraries.wsu.edu/ask/) with questions about any resource’s individual account policies.

Examples of best practice use

* Incorporating citations and persistent links or permalinks to online content in journal clubs, learning management system course pages, bibliography software, and internal sites.
  + Using persistent links helps us accurately evaluate resource usage so we can make informed purchasing decisions.
* Use portions of the licensed materials, in agreement with fair use, in the process of conducting scholarly communication activities such as writing (for publications, theses, course projects, personal scholarship, teaching, etc.) if appropriate attribution is given.
* [Consult with us](mailto:%20jcummings@wsu.edu) before conducting large computer analyses so that such activities can be cleared with resource providers.

Activities not allowed

* Systematically downloading content from electronic resources. This includes, but is not limited to:
  + Downloading entire journal volumes
  + Using scripts, spiders, crawlers, or other computer programs to automatically download content
* Removing, obscuring or modifying copyright notices
* Reverse engineering, decompiling, disassembling or otherwise altering, framing, or simulating the appearance of licensed content.

Content of this page was informed by the following sites:

<https://library.oregonstate.edu/collections/e-resource-guidelines>

<https://www.lib.washington.edu/about/policy/usageguidelines>

<https://guides.lib.uw.edu/research/faq/access>

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