

Bethany Global University

Copyright Policy

Bethany Global University expressly forbids the use of ad-hoc peer-to-peer file sharing programs to exchange copyrighted material while on the Bethany Global University network. Unauthorized duplication, use, or distribution of copyrighted materials, including music and video files is illegal under the DMCA and exposes you to serious civil and criminal penalties.

Enforcement

Failure to adhere is against the law and may result in the FBI as well as the RIAA investigating and/or prosecuting alleged violations. If served a lawfully issued subpoena, Bethany Global University will comply with the terms of that subpoena.

Remember that you are ultimately responsible for any uploading or downloading of files from your computer that infringe on copyrights.

Technology Deterrents

Information technology will utilize a packet inspection solution for bandwidth shaping & traffic monitoring.

Information technology will be diligent in accepting and responding to DMCA notices. DMCA notices will be sent to a standalone email account where they will be actively monitored and categorized based on the source.

Information technology will utilize web security appliances to block peer-to-peer websites that promote illegal file sharing.

The effectiveness of this compliance plan will be defined and reviewed by the Bethany Global Leadership Team each year.

Summary of Civil and Criminal Penalties for Violation of Federal Copyright Laws

Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement.

Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or "statutory" damages affixed at not less than \$750 and not more than \$30,000 per work infringed. For "willful" infringement, a court may award up to \$150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys' fees. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505.

Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to \$250,000 per offense.

For more information, please see the Web site of the U.S. Copyright Office at www.copyright.gov, especially their FAQ's at www.copyright.gov/help/faq.