Visual Resources Center Copyright Policy

The mission of the Visual Resources Center is to serve the teaching needs of the Department of Art and Art History at Wright State University. In serving these needs, the Center is creating a collection of digital images to be used in presentation and study during courses offered by the department.

The Visual Resources Center recognizes that the university is committed to compliance with all copyright laws. The intellectual and creative property rights of creators should be respected.

In support of instruction in Art, representations of works must be shown to facilitate learning and discussion. It is impossible to effectively instruct students without quality digital images of a wide variety of works.

Whenever possible, the Visual Resources Center will assist faculty in using publisher-provided image banks and art images from large licensed collections such as ARTstor and the OHIOLINK Digital Media Center. However, it is impossible for these databases to include every work necessary to teach the diverse subjects covered by our faculty. To this end, the Visual Resources Center will add to the collection:

1. Digital image sets available with permission from some textbook publishers.
2. Digital images available for license or purchase at a reasonable cost.
3. Digital images of artwork currently in the public domain.
4. Digital images of copyrighted artwork obtained through the permission of the rights holder and the provisions of fair use.

Digital images will be maintained through ARTstor’s Shared Shelf service. All materials will be added only at the request of a faculty member. The amount of a work added will be directly related to the educational objectives of the course.

The University Libraries provide access to ARTstor and the OHIOLINK Digital Media Center for all students, faculty, and staff at Wright State University. Images specifically requested by art faculty and held by the Visual Resources Center will be made available to faculty through password-protected access to the Center’s database inside Shared Shelf/ARTstor. Students will have access to database images through password-protected access to the same database available for the duration of the time during which they are registered as a student at Wright State University. Faculty members will be educated about copyright and the provisions of fair use.

Metadata for all images added to the collection will be maintained by the Visual Resources Center staff, including information on the sources for each image as recommended by pertinent standards developed by professional organizations such as the Visual Resources Association and the College Art Association.

This document was developed with the assistance of Sonja Staum-Kuniej, Herron Art Library at Indiana University, Purdue University Indianapolis, Dr. Allan T. Kohl, Minneapolis College of Art & Design, the Visual Resources Association’s “Image Collection Guidelines”, and Dr. Kenneth Crews, Copyright Law for Librarians and Educators, American Library Association, 2006.