



Film Screenings on Campus – some issues for screenings other than in a lecture or tutorial

*NB: This information does **not** apply to AV materials shown in 'class' or in lectures that are to be recorded – see the Copyright website www.murdoch.edu.au/copyright for further information.*

Showing a film on campus, other than in tutorials or lectures, will usually be considered as a performance 'in public' – this means that the screening must take place either according to the *Copyright Act*, or under a 'non-theatrical' licence.

Under the *Copyright Act*

1. The provision for a 'performance in the course of educational instruction' (s.28) permits the screening of a film when:
 - a. it is connected with the educational purposes of the University;
 - b. only students and staff of the University are present at the screening; and
 - c. it is not screened for profit.

All three criteria must be met for s.28 to apply

2. The provision for a 'fair dealing for the purpose of research and study' (s.103C) may permit the screening of a film (outside the context of a tutorial or lecture) if it is required for a student's particular research topic or course of study.

Under licence

A 'non-theatrical' licence is usually the best choice for screening a film on campus (when it is not in a tutorial or lecture).

Some typical events that require a 'non-theatrical' licenced copy of a film:

- University Open Day, Harmony Day, Environment Day, etc.
- O week
- Screening by a club or society for the entertainment of their members and friends
- Screenings at the tavern, worship centre, etc.

There are severe penalties for showing films outside the home without the protection of either the Copyright Act or a licence – please take this into consideration when selecting a film.

Where to find a non-theatric licenced copy of a film

*NB: most DVDs that are hired from a video store or purchased from Amazon, the ABC shop, etc. are **not** licenced for non-theatric screenings – they are intended only for domestic use, though screening them 'in class' should be covered by the Copyright Act's s.28.*

The library has some films that already have a non-theatric licence – check with the Copyright Coordinator (copyright@murdoch.edu.au) re specific titles.

Otherwise, there are a number of distributors of non-theatric licenced films – fees paid to these companies include royalties to the copyright owners in the film.

- **Amalgamated Movies** <http://www.amalgamatedmovies.com/>
Amalgamated Movies rent out non-theatrical licenced films on behalf of Sony Pictures, Icon Films, and Madman Entertainment.
- **Jaffa Room** (contact [Copyright Coordinator](mailto:copyright@murdoch.edu.au) for catalogue & booking forms)
The Jaffa Room rents out non-theatrical licenced films on behalf of Village Roadshow (representing Warner Bros, Paramount, MGM, Universal, etc.).

NB both these W.A. distributors charge \$120 per film for an on-campus screening – if you want to book a sequence of screenings, please contact the Copyright Coordinator.

- **Ronin Films** <http://www.roninfilms.com.au/>
(purchase only) A full length film costs about \$120 for a 'community group' such as, for instance, the Guild (cost is about \$365 for the Library): their catalogue includes Australian documentaries, a selection of feature films, as well as documentaries from other countries, especially from independent filmmakers in the USA.
- **The Australian Film & Sound Archives** <http://www.nfsa.gov.au/services/loans/>
(loans only) AFSA has a catalogue of over 17,000 titles including 16mm and 35mm formats: DVDs only cost about \$10 per rental for a 'community group' such as the Guild, or a student society or club.

Please don't hesitate to contact the copyright coordinator at copyright@murdoch.edu.au if you have any queries about a screening, or would like some help with sourcing a licenced copy or a licence for the copy of a film that you already own.