Sharing Course Materials Beyond Stanford

Courses taught and courseware developed by faculty while employed by the University belong to Stanford regardless of the form of expression, including courses captured on video or in other digital forms. However, faculty are permitted to make written course materials they personally create available to peers at other academic institutions for noncommercial academic or personal use outside the University. Additionally, if a faculty member leaves the University, he or she may continue to use, at another non-profit academic institution, course material he or she created at Stanford. (https://doresearch.stanford.edu/policies/research-policy-handbook/intellectual-property/copyright-policy and https://doresearch.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/documents/policyclarifications_onlineinstruction_0.pdf)

Faculty, as well as other Stanford entities or organizations providing courses, who wish to share course materials or courseware beyond Stanford (e.g., make lecture videos publicly viewable) should first contact VPTL, who will work with the faculty or relevant Stanford party to determine the most appropriate and effective means for such distribution. VPTL also will advise on the requisite compliance issues, such as:

- Permissions for third party copyrighted content
- Releases from guest speakers
- FERPA and other privacy considerations
- Accessibility
- Use of Stanford name
- Relevant approvals from co-creators, department chairs, deans, etc.

In some cases (e.g., certain types of instructional software) where the best means of distribution may involve customized or commercial licensing, VPTL will refer the faculty or relevant Stanford party to OTL for further consult.

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1 As noted previously, nothing in this policy is intended to impede the traditional sharing for non-commercial purposes of text- or slide-based course content with peers at other non-profit, academic institutions.