

# Dissertation (ETD) Publishing Issues

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# ETD Copyright and Publishing

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# What We'll Cover

The basics of copyright

Publishing Agreements

Previously Published Works and your ETD

ETD Licensing and Publishing

Open Access

# Copyright Creation

Copyright springs into existence when expression is “fixed in any tangible medium”.

You cannot copyright facts and ideas.

Exclusive right to reproduce, create derivatives of, distribute, and display the work.

Copyright vests equally and separately in all authors.

Your rights under copyright are separable and transferable.

Registration is not necessary as part of copyright creation.

# Transferring and Licensing

Like any other property, copyrights can be transferred.

Individuals rights under copyright can be given away, either exclusively or non-exclusively. This is called licensing.

If you transfer your copyright in full to someone else. It is no longer yours. Your rights cease.

# Publishing Agreements

When you submit an article for publication with a scholarly journal, you will likely be asked to sign a copyright transfer agreement, or something to that effect.

This transfers your copyright and all associated rights to the publisher.

Publishers often license back to the author a subset of the rights.

**If you have published with a journal, there are likely restrictions on the way you can use your articles.**

Most agreements allow for article use in ETDs, but often not in commercial databases.

Publishing agreements are negotiable.

\*\*Don't lose your agreement!\*\*

# Previously Published Works

It is common for ETDs to include a previously published work by the author.

You may need permission to upload your ETD to ProQuest if your agreement restricts posting it to a commercial database. If you're unable to get permission, we can work with you on alternative upload methods. Permission to include your article in your dissertation is not the same as permission to upload to ProQuest.

Your publisher may ask to be cited a specific way. Be sure to check on that.

It's important to remember to cite yourself. You can plagiarize yourself.

# Collaborators

Copyright vests in all co-authors equally and separately.

There is no legal duty to speak with your co-authors to exercise your copyright.

It might be polite to ask them to include the work, but it's not necessary.

Publishing agreements generally reassign everyone's rights equally.

You dissertation itself is only yours. There are no co-authors.

Don't forget to cite the work properly.



# ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Online

ProQuest is the service GW uses to manage upload submissions.

ProQuest D&Ts Online is widely used and subscribed to at other universities, so your work will be discoverable by people using this service to search for ETDs.

ProQuest is a commercial database. (More on this later)

In addition to going into ProQuest, your ETD will be uploaded to GW ScholarSpace.

[ProQuest](#)

# GW ScholarSpace

GW ScholarSpace is GW's institutional repository where we preserve GW works and makes them available Open Access.

GW ScholarSpace preserves GW's academic record.

When you upload your ETD you license it to GW for preservation and display in ScholarSpace.

Uploading to ScholarSpace is required as part of the ETD submission process.

[GW ScholarSpace](#)

# GW ScholarSpace Views

By default, all uploads to ScholarSpace are available Open Access.

If viewing of a work needs to be restricted, you can select “GW Only”, which will limit viewing to the GW Community. (Please note, you will also not be able to view the work if you are outside GW’s IP range).\*

In some cases, a work may need to be embargoed. This option is available for both ProQuest and ScholarSpace.

Embargoed works will be private and unviewable to anyone for a set period of time.

GW ScholarSpace is indexed by Google.

\*GW Only is a currently a work in progress.

# Embargos

An embargo a period of restricted access. Most embargos are either 1 year or 2 years.

Publishing agreements often mandate an embargo period.

Please check your publishing agreements for embargo requirements.

Another reason for an embargo might be to expand on the work, for instance, turning it into a book.

In ScholarSpace, when an embargo ends, the work becomes Open Access.

In ProQuest, when the embargo ends, it becomes visible in ProQuest Dissertations and Theses.

# Open Access

Open Access means that a work is available to read without having to pay.

Open Access has been shown to increase citations of works.

All ETDs are available Open Access through GW ScholarSpace, unless otherwise requested.

ProQuest has a \$95 Open Access option, but your work will still be available Open Access in GW ScholarSpace if you choose “traditional publishing”.

# Questions?

- Copyright Questions:
- LAI Scholarly Communications Team:  
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- Barrett Matthews:  
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- Resources:
- [ProQuest](#)
- [GW ScholarSpace](#)

# Conclusion

GW's [ETD site](#) contains an extensive library of resources:

[Copyright](#)  
[Previously Published Works](#)  
[Copyright Permissions](#)  
[Copyright Registration](#)  
[Creative Commons License](#)  
[Patent Issues](#)  
[Publisher Issues](#)  
[Publishing Options](#)  
[Explanation of Key Terms](#)  
[Open Access](#)  
[Traditional Publishing](#)

[CCAS ETD Workshop](#) Thursday, November 5 at 4:00pm

[CCASGRADSERV@GWU.EDU](mailto:CCASGRADSERV@GWU.EDU) Contact CCAS