Research Support and Intellectual Property; Partners in Copyright

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Copyright guidance for postgraduate researchers (PGRs); the quest to boost copyright knowledge



Training sessions now provided for all PGRs specifically tackling the use of third-party content in theses.



First major collaboration between Research Support and the Content, Licensing and Intellectual Property team, culminating in extensive copyright guidance for PGRs and a YouTube video.

Recognition that copyright guidance needs to be demystified and made easier to understand.

The move to electronic submission of research degrees.





COVID CHRONICLES PROJECT

- Content to be used in an externally funded project
- Verbal permission acceptable?
- Copyright guidance on obtaining and recording permission
- Checking substantial third-party content



Research degree digitisation project

Digitisation on demand through EThOS British Library service since 2009.

Electronic thesis deposit to Open Research Online (ORO) mandated from Oct-2016.

Thesis Digitisation Project 2019-2020 with ProQuest- aim to digitise remaining print theses in holdings.

Substantial third-party or embargoed copies rejected.

1,600 digitised and copyright checked!

Total 6,131 theses in ORO and counting!



PhD Thesis – Being sold without permission



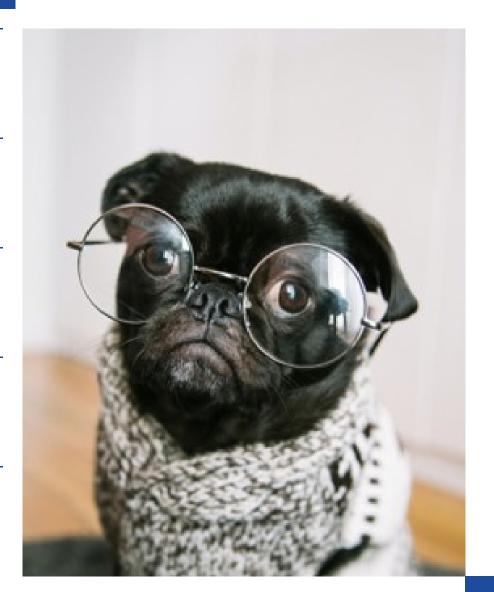
Postgraduate Student's thesis published via Open Access on ORO

Thesis put up for sale by a Third-Party Amazon Seller

Who was the copyright owner?

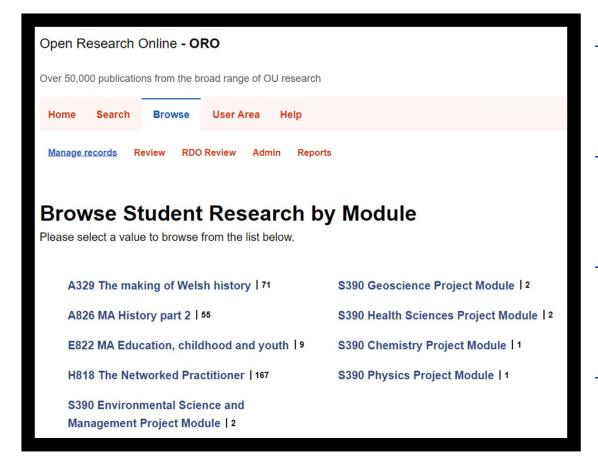
Added complexity of the student publishing a book based on this thesis – Commercial publisher

What does this mean for Open Licenses?





Copyright guidance for student research; What, why, and how



Undergraduate and postgraduate student research accessed via Open Research Online (ORO).

Identified need for copyright guidance.

Engaging students with copyright issues.

Ongoing support from the Research Support team.

Positive feedback and active engagement!



FUTURE ASPIRATIONS



Developing a copyright literacy framework



Further opportunity to collaborate between the teams to have a wider reach to research teams and students





Useful links

Copyright and your thesis https://www.open.ac.uk/library-research-support/open-access-publishing/copyright-and-your-thesis

Library Research Support https://www.open.ac.uk/library-research-support/

Open Research Online (ORO) https://oro.open.ac.uk/

Open University Library https://www.open.ac.uk/library/

ORO Browse by thesis https://oro.open.ac.uk/view/thesis/

ORO Browse by student research https://oro.open.ac.uk/view/dissertation/

Student research copyright guidance https://www.open.ac.uk/library-research-support/open-access-publishing/student-research

The Orb blog post 'Copyright and your thesis: new guidance for conquering copyright confusion http://www.open.ac.uk/blogs/the_orb/?p=3025

THANK YOU



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