Busse Library Database Use Policy

Busse Library's subscriptions to databases and online journals are governed by signed licenses; these are legally binding contracts which govern the use of these resources. Individual faculty and students are subject to the provisions of these licenses.

Typically, licenses permit any normal scholarly use of the materials by students, faculty, and staff of Mount Mercy University, including printing for personal reading, temporary storage on an individual computer, and quotation with appropriate acknowledgement within the limits of copyright law. They do no permit commercial use without explicit written permission from the licensor or publisher, nor do they normally permit articles to be systematically downloaded, copied, or shared with users outside the University.

Faculty can avoid making a copy of licensed resource by linking to it instead. Faculty are encouraged to make links to journal articles and other PDF documents on the vendor's site whenever possible to avoid concerns over violating copyright law or legally binding licensing restrictions.

Typically, the license agreements permit access to the commercial product for students, faculty, and staff of the University and to on-site users of the campus library. Busse Library, is not, however, legally able to provide access to alumni, independent scholars, contributors or local citizens, unless those individuals are physically in the library.

Faculty are encouraged to contact the library for detailed license privileges and restrictions, as specified by the database vendor.

Revised 12/17/2019