

URGENT

from UUP President Fred Kowal

Protect your course materials

Private companies selling faculty course materials

Has your intellectual property been posted and sold without your permission?

It has come to UUP's attention that private companies, such as those listed at right, are posting course materials such as syllabi, exams, study guides, notes and homework questions without permission from the faculty to whom this intellectual property belongs. Materials can be submitted by students and then sold to other students.



StudyBlue: www.studyblue.com
 Course Hero: www.coursehero.com
 StudySoup: www.StudySoup.com
 Chegg Study: www.chegg.com
 OneClass: www.oneclass.com
 Gradebuddy: www.gradebuddy.com
 Quizlet: www.quizlet.com
 StuDocu: www.studocu.com

Attorneys from UUP's affiliate, New York State United Teachers, filed a "Cease and Desist" order in 2018 on behalf of UUP that would direct the companies to remove all materials belonging to more than 100 UUP members who agreed to be named as victims. The order seeks immediate removal and permanent protection against future illegal use of course materials for all individuals named as parties to the action.

UUP expects to know the outcome of this action sometime in March 2019. If we are successful, we will consider filing actions on behalf of additional UUP members. If you have found unauthorized course materials on these sites and want information about possible ways to get your materials immediately removed, please contact UUP Vice President for Academics Alissa Karl at akarl@uupmail.org or 1-800-342-4206.

Ways to protect your course materials from intellectual property theft:

- Search the following websites to see if any of your course materials have been posted **without your permission**.
- Inform UUP if your intellectual property appears on any of these sites—or any others you may know of that are posting course materials without faculty permission.

Protect Your Intellectual Property

1. Make sure all your work, including course syllabi, PowerPoints, exams, and other course materials, includes a copyright notice. In the United States, the copyright notice generally consists of three elements:
 - The © symbol, or the word 'Copyright' or abbreviation 'Copr.';
 - The year of first publication of the copyrighted work;
 - The name of copyright owner.
2. Tell students that posting your course materials without your permission is a copyright violation.
3. Add the following to course materials: "Reproduction of this material is prohibited without the author's consent."

For more information on copyright, click on the QR code at right or go to goo.gl/EUaYtq



UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS | PRESIDENT FREDERICK E. KOWAL, PH.D.

518.640.6600 | FAX: 518.640.6698 | WWW.UUPINFO.ORG

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