



Policy Name:	Distance Learning Course Ownership Policy		
Associated Form(s):	N/A	Policy Number:	2019-1
Reviewed:	Non-Academic Policy Committee	Approved:	February 14, 2019
Approval Authority:	President <i>Timothy L. Hall</i>	Adopted:	
Responsible Executive(s):	Provost	Revised:	N/A
Responsible Office(s):	Office of the Provost	Contact(s):	Associate Provost

Policy Statement Regarding Faculty Rights in Distance Learning Courses

The purpose of this policy statement is to set forth clear expectations regarding the ownership of materials for courses that are delivered in the distance learning format (i.e. fully online) for all faculty at Mercy University, including but not limited to core faculty, visiting faculty, adjunct faculty and lecturers, effective after the adoption date of this Policy.

For courses designed to be delivered fully online, by computer or through similar technologies, the University claims no ownership rights in either the intellectual content of such courses, or the tools and technologies used to present them, *unless* the distance learning courses and courseware involve a substantial investment of documented University financial support and resources, including significant technical support (server time and software), staff support (instructional designers, programmers, text editors, graphics specialists), and/or administrative support. In such cases, the courses will be owned by the University. In addition, where the work is made for hire and where there is a written agreement commissioning the work which is signed by the author before the work begins, or where there is other consideration given in the form of course release(s) or stipends, then the work belongs to Mercy University.