Educating Students about Note-Sharing Sites

When dealing with course materials being posted without permission on note-sharing sites such as Course Hero and StuDocu, the best practice is to educate students on why such actions are unacceptable and encourage them to use appropriate learning resources and services for their studies.

Here are some strategies:

1. Talk to your students

   ABOUT THE COURSE MATERIALS

   At the start of a term, mention to your students that the course materials provided by you or posted on SLATE are for their own educational use and should not be shared on the Web or externally.*

   *It's up to a faculty's discretion on whether materials can be shared outside of class. For third party material, there may be copyright implications related to distribution.

2. Remind them

   BY INCLUDING A © NOTICE ON THE COURSE MATERIALS

   Add the copyright symbol, your name and date that you created the material. Cite any third party sources that you are using to demonstrate good scholarly practice and academic integrity to your students.

3. Provide informational resources

   ON NOTE-SHARING SITES & OTHER COPYRIGHT ISSUES

   Consider posting on SLATE:
   - Sheridan Library’s video on “Note-Sharing Websites”
   - Academic Integrity Office’s “Shades of Grey” handout

   More information for students and faculty is also available on the “Copyright Services Guide.”

4. Suggest learning support services

   AVAILABLE AT SHERIDAN LIBRARY & LEARNING SERVICES

   In addition to seeking coursework help from you and other professors, refer students to the Library for research and citation help and the Tutoring Centre for learning support.

You may also contact the note-sharing site directly to request removal of the your material. Most of these sites have an online form for takedown requests.

For more information, please contact Angela Clark, Academic Integrity Facilitator at alf@sheridancollege.ca.