

Find and attribute images for teaching

This handout will help you to:

- Find and select images suitable for use in teaching; and
- Use the images in copyright-compliant ways; while
- Modelling academic integrity and best practices

Find and Select Images

Best practice for selecting images (including art objects):

- Prioritise images available in the public domain (“CC-0”) which may be freely used (open).
- Choose images licensed under a Creative Commons (“CC-BY-”) licence.
- Use the [Library image databases](#) which allow educational reuse.
- If necessary, you may rely on the University’s [statutory 113P licence](#). This allows you to copy and communicate images for educational purposes without seeking permission from the copyright owners. However, these licences are expensive and restrict how content may be reused, so use only where an appropriate alternative is not available (for example, technical drawings). If the image is to be illustrative / decorative, use openly licensed content.

Note: You must abide by all the usage terms detailed in the license.

Find public domain or Creative Commons images

The University encourages use of images that are open, licensed under Creative Commons or available from one of our subscription databases. By using open or Creative Commons (CC) material you support a growing movement which encourages people to share, and reuse content, to develop new learning resources and create new works without a cost. You can also be confident that the images you are using comply with copyright law.

Illustrative images:

! Indicates image collection also includes copyrighted images. Use the filter options to limit your results.

- [Creative Commons search](#)
- [Flickr !](#)
- [Google images !](#)
- [Unsplash](#)
- [OpenClipArt](#)
- [Pexels](#)
- [Pixabay](#)

Artworks and objects:

! Indicates image collection also includes copyrighted images. Use the filter options to limit your results.

- [Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco](#)
- [MoMA](#)
- [National Gallery of Art \(US\): Images](#)
- [New York Public Library](#)
- [Rijksstudio](#)
- [Smithsonian Freer Sacker collection](#)
- [Tate \(UK\) !](#)
- [The Met !](#)

Stuck? Ask us to search for you! If you are looking for a particular image that is open, licensed under Creative Commons or licensed for educational use please contact [Ask the Library](#)

Use and Attribute Images for Teaching

When reproducing images and logos, consider both **attribution** and **referencing** (“citing”):

- **Attribution** helps to meet the legal copyright obligations relating to the use of images, by communicating the work and author; and the license under which it is reproduced.
- **Referencing** / Citing represents academic integrity and exemplifies best practices to our students. It is done per a style (e.g. APA 7th).

To attribute, follow ‘TASL’:

Title, Author, Source, and the **License** under which it is used. Include a link to the license terms.

If the image is to be used online (i.e. in a course site or in PowerPoint handouts), you can hyperlink the image title to its source; and the license to its license-terms, rather than spelling them out in full:

- Betts et al, “[Axial Skeleton 01](#)” [CC-BY-4.0](#)

Tip: If the work is copyrighted and will be used under the statutory license, you do not need to specify the license. Instead, include the [113P license notice](#) somewhere on your PowerPoint, or course site. UniSA Online course sites already have this notice embedded in the footer.

If the image has been reproduced from a [Library image database](#) which explicitly permits teaching use, the image should download with a license statement. If it does not, include “Copied by the University of South Australia under licence from <licensor/database>”.

To reference, follow your local preferred style:

Most units at UniSA use APA 7th. Per this referencing style, resources need an inline (‘in-text’) citation and a full reference list entry.

Or save time, and reference and attribute together:

You can meet your legal requirements and demonstrate best practice at the same time, by including the attribution in your in-text citation. For example, using APA 7th style:

- [Figure: Axial Skeleton 01](#) (Betts et al 2022) [CC-BY-4.0](#)

You should still create a standard reference list entry for the image, per your referencing style.

Note: While some CC and Public Domain licenses do not mandate attribution, doing so clearly signals that the material was not reproduced under the more expensive statutory license; and also demonstrates best practices for students.

FAQs

Do I need to attribute quotes or embedded video?

No. Quotes require referencing (intext citation, and reference list entry) only. This also the case for embedded videos, as these are technically hyperlinked rather than reproduced .

Should I attribute purely decorative images or images that I own the copyright of?

Yes. Attributing your work clearly identifies that the University has permission to use the item, and under which terms. However, depending on the referencing style being used, you may not need to create a reference list entry.

What if I have special permission to use an image?

Include “Reproduced with permission” in the attribution, unless you have been provided with specific instructions to comply with. It is also recommended to send a copy of the permission communication to LBY-Copyright@unisa.edu.au

If I have attributed and referenced my materials, do I still need the 113P notice?

If you have used any copyrighted materials, yes. The [113P notice](#) signals that, unless otherwise stated, materials have been reproduced per the educational use clause.