
The University affirms that it will be a partner with users in promoting education and understanding of the appropriate, efficient, and successful use of information resources.

Guiding Principles:

The University of Southern Maine supports the democratic principle of freedom of access to information for every citizen. The University endorses: the **American Library Association (ALA)'s Library Bill of Rights** (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill>) ; **ALA's Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights** (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/accessdigital>) , adopted by ALA in 1996; and the **EDUCOM Guide to the Ethical and Legal Use of Software** (<http://old.cni.org/docs/EDUCOM.html>).

The University does not attempt to limit access to, or otherwise protect, users of information resources from any particular materials available in any format, beyond the choices it makes in selecting materials or providing electronic links to information sources of particular merit.

USM does not monitor, and has no control over, information accessible through the Internet. The University disclaims any warranty for any information found on the Internet as to its accuracy, authority, timeliness, usefulness, or fitness for a particular purpose. Likewise, the University disclaims any control over, or knowledge about, changes in content to the sources for which it has established links, or for the content of sources accessed through secondary links.

Use of the Internet and all other information resources will be managed in a manner consistent with other USM service policies. This includes: the University's Student Conduct Code; the USM Library's Rules and Expectations of Appropriate Conduct (rev. March, 1998); and the **UMS Sexual Harassment Policy**.

Consistent with the above, unacceptable uses and behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- damaging or attempting to alter computer equipment;
- violating, or attempting to violate, computer system security;
- violating, or attempting to violate, software license agreements;

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