Digital Locks

The *Copyright Act* **DOES NOT** include any exceptions for educational institutions that permit the breaking or circumventing of digital locks.

The term **digital locks** refers to technological protection measures (TPMs) and rights management information. Copyright owners use ‘digital locks’ to restrict access to their works and control the use of their works.

Examples of the use of **digital locks** include:
- Read-only documents.
- eBooks that can only be read on specific devices.
- DVDs or compact discs that cannot be copied.
- DVDs or Blu-ray discs that are formatted for specific geographic locations.
- Online services that require logins and passwords to access content.
- Television shows that can only be watched from certain locations.
- Video games that can only be played in specific consoles.

Before accepting the terms of a license agreement when you sign up for an online service or purchase locked content, ensure that the content will be available in the format you require and that it can be accessed from the device you intend to use.

For more information, always refer to your college’s copyright practices or ask the person designated by your college to answer copyright questions. Your library is a good place to start!