Public Performance of Film and Video

If you plan to show a film on campus, use this decision flow chart to determine if you need to obtain public performance rights for your film.

Are you going to show the movie to anyone other than your family or a small group of friends?

- Yes.
- No.  ➔

Are you going to show the movie in a place that is open to anyone other than your family or a small group of your friends (e.g. a classroom, an auditorium, or the library)?

- Yes.  ➔
- No.  ➔

**Caution. Your showing is a “public performance”**.

Will you be showing the movie as part of face-to-face teaching activities in a classroom or other area devoted to instruction, and do you have a legally-obtained copy?

- No.  ➔
- Yes.  ➔

Was the movie purchased or rented with an express licence specifically authorizing you to show the movie in a public performance situation or have you obtained permission from the copyright owner to show the work in a public performance situation?

- No.  ➔
- Yes.  ➔

Is the movie you wish to show in the public domain?

- No.  ➔
- Yes.  ➔

**STOP. You need to obtain public performance rights.**

This decision chart is based upon one in use at RISD: http://intranet.risd.edu/pdfs/CopyrightMovies.pdf