

May 14, 2020

To: Spring semester course instructors

Regarding online course operations following enactment of the Revised Copyright Act

Meiji Gakuin University

The Revised Copyright Law was enacted on April 28, 2020, raising two points of concern (① and ②, below). One issue common to both ① and ② is that students must be urged to purchase textbooks in May. Because students will be presumed to have purchased all required textbooks by the end of May, from June 1 we ask that you not digitize excerpts from textbooks for conversion to PDF and upload to a server for online courses.

The “Operation Guidelines regarding Article 35 of the Revised Copyright Act, 2020 Edition” issued to students on April 16 included some remaining points for consideration (points remaining undetermined), so we will be operating under our current provisional guidelines (“Meiji Gakuin University Guidelines for Duplicating and Transmitting Teaching Materials in Online Classes, Provisional Edition,” dated April 17, 2020).

① Memorandum of understanding (dated April 23, 2020) between Yuhikaku Publishing Co., Ltd. and Meiji Gakuin University regarding use of published materials

Courses held during the 2020 spring semester: Syllabus-designated textbooks published by Yuhikaku

The memorandum of understanding allowed use of Yuhikaku textbooks in online courses from April 20 until May 31, but students are now presumed to have purchased textbooks by the end of May, so from June 1 we ask that you not upload textbook excerpts for online courses. Class enrollments should be confirmed by late May, so in early June we will conduct a survey on Port Hepburn asking students whether they have purchased textbooks, and we will send emails prompting textbook purchase to students replying they have not yet done so. The University must pay Yuhikaku a usage fee for every enrolled online student that has not purchased a textbook, so we ask all instructors to urge students to purchase textbooks in May.

② Others

Requirements for submission of notice to the Society for the Administration of Remuneration for Public Transmission for School Lessons (SARTRAS) (submitted on May 1, 2020).

We have submitted notices for Meiji Gakuin University, the Graduate School of Meiji Gakuin University, and the Meiji Gakuin Junior High School and Higashimurayama High School. Notification in May allows use in courses from April 28, so usage free of charge and without permission from copyright holders is allowed during the 2020 school year. However, free usage necessitates cooperation with sample surveys conducted by SARTRAS. Details regarding these sample surveys are not yet established, but once they are, we may need to ask for the cooperation of faculty and students.