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Should Syllabi and Course Materials be Faculty Intellectual Property?

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Reece E. Newman 
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Conceptual Questions

1. What social rules and policies, if any, should govern syllabi and course materials in higher education?
2. If property social rules and policies should govern, should they be intellectual property social rules and policies?
3. If they should be intellectual property social rules and policies, should they be common, collective, or private?
4. If they should be private intellectual property social rules and policies, should they be private to particular individuals such as faculty, to particular higher education institutions, or to both?

Definitions

- **Property**
- **Intellectual property**
  - Types
  - Nonrivalrousness
  - Nonscarcity
- **Common intellectual property**
- **Collective intellectual property**
- **Private intellectual property**

Arguments for Private Intellectual Property

- Consequentialist
- Deontological
- Social Contractarian
- Social Contractualist
- Virtue Ethics

Arguments for Individual Private Intellectual Property

- Individual Personality
- Individual Incentives
- Lockean

Arguments for Institutional Private Intellectual Property

- Institutional Culture
- Institutional Incentives
- “Lockean”

Arguments for Both

- Individual Personality and Institutional Culture
- Individual and Institutional Incentives
- Lockean and “Lockean”

Answer: It all depends