Because we live in a culture that makes it difficult to talk straightforwardly about death, many people spend their final days fighting for life rather than preparing to die. This has profound consequences for all of us, from exploding health costs to the allocation of hospital resources to the way we cope with loss.

The award-winning three-part film series, Secrets of Life and Death, encourages the dialogue by focusing on death as an opportunity for learning and self-discovery. Both compact and rich, this series of ½ hour films provides educators with an engaging tool for examining spiritual, social and psychological aspects of dying. Each film comes with a separate discussion guide to give students in sociology, social work, psychology, nursing and theology a deeper understanding of the key issues of death and dying.

With compelling first-hand stories, each film in the Secrets of Life and Death series conveys a different viewpoint of the dying experience -- from the person facing death, to the caregiver, to the griever. Trailers for the films may be found at: http://www.secretsoflifeanddeath.com/films.html

To learn more contact Nighat Ispahany, Reference & Media Resources Librarian - ni12@columbia.edu
In 2008, the U.S. Department of Education signed the Higher Education Opportunity Act into law. The act requires that all U.S. Colleges and Universities have a plan to “effectively combat the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials” on the campus network, in addition to providing information on copyright law and campus policies.

Columbia University’s full copyright policy is online at http://policylibrary.columbia.edu/copyright-information-network-users

Important points include:

- Any individual who uses the campus network (wired or wireless) must abide by federal copyright law.
- Copyright laws protect any original work—including online postings and email—and applies the moment it is created, without the author having to take any additional steps to protect it.
- Unintentional infringement of copyright is still a legal violation and subject to the same consequences. Many file sharing programs automatically open up files on your computer for distribution and should not be installed.
- The University is bound by law to stop any breach of copyright upon notification. Actions can include disconnecting from the network, canceling an email or UNI account, and notifying the student’s dean or employee’s supervisor.

Anyone who repeatedly violates copyright law will permanently lose access to the network and computer accounts.

Learn more from the copyright policy page above and check the Columbia Copyright Advisory Office at: http://copyright.columbia.edu/copyright/

Now that you’re familiar with copyright, we have a handy tip for anyone who has been frustrated when trying to copy text on a web page with multiple columns or links and other layout information that you may not want to include.

Caret browsing is a feature that allows you to use the Home, End, Page Up, Page Down and arrow keys on your keyboard to select a very specific range of text within your web browser. This is typically much easier than using drag and select with a mouse or touchpad. Just press the F7 function key on your keyboard to toggle caret browsing on and off, place your cursor within the desired text and hold down the Shift key while using any of the arrow or navigation keys to select text within that page or column.

Windows 8 Beta was recently unveiled by Microsoft. While it looks to have some great new features, remember that any beta software or operating system can’t be guaranteed to work with campus IT resources including the wired and wireless network.

Macintosh OS X Lion (10.7) is also not currently supported, and compatibility testing will take some time to verify that it works properly with the wide variety of resources, programs and web sites used on campus. We will post announcements on our home page once newer operating systems are supported.