What are your e-textbook options?



Open Educational Resources

Free educational materials that are openly licensed to enable use and reuse.



Pros

- Content can be accessed free online or made available through your library.
- Print versions can be made available cheaply.
- Resources can be adapted for different contexts.
- Can be used in MOOCs.

Cons

- Not all open textbooks have free added materials.
- Some subject areas have less coverage.

Library Licensed Materials without Digital Rights Management

Materials available to students and staff through their library.



Pros

- Free access to course materials available through your library.
- No restrictions on use such as copying, printing or numbers of simultaneous users.

Cons

- Many publishers do not allow libraries to purchase eTexts.
- Presents a challenge for MOOCs in providing access to licensed resources.
- DRM-free often not available for high use texts.

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Commercial Educational Resources

Digital course packs curated by publishers and made available online.



Pros

 Access is provided to publishervetted teaching resources.

Cons

- Escalating costs for students and/or universities.
- Actively supports a publisher model that disregards affordability and equity issues.
- Opt-out model can auto-charge students without consent.
- Platform/publisher has control over student data.

