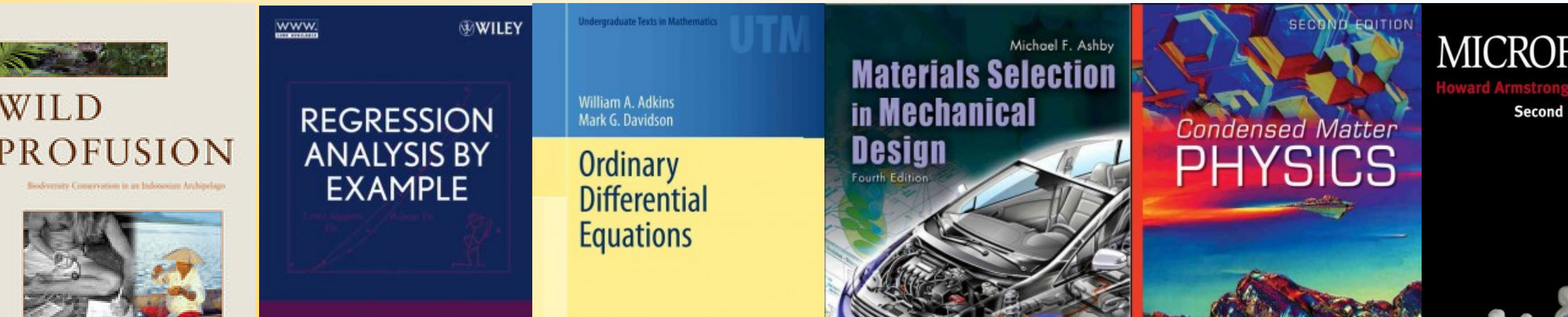


Free STEM E-Textbooks: LSU Libraries' Initiative and Its Impact

Emily Frank

Instructional Technologies & Engineering Librarian



The Effect of the Budget Cuts on Cost of Tuition

Academics

Graduate school costs rising

■ Degrees don't ensure employment

LSU
Libraries

Story Comments

Recommend 0 Tweet 2 g+1 0 Pin it 0 Share 1



Posted: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 6:12 pm

Laryssa Bonacquisti | 0 comments

Posted on Mar 18, 2015
by [Laryssa C Bonacquisti](#)

LSU already has an out-of-state tuition and fee bill that reaches almost three times the in-state cost. Now, students are wondering how the budget cuts will affect

these rates.

Out-of-state student fee bill about three times higher than in-state students'

Tuition, fees continue to increase for fall semester

Federal aid rising more slowly than tuition

Story Comments

Recommend 0 Tweet 8 g+1 0 Pin it 0 Share 1

Posted: Sunday, March 8, 2015 4:12 pm

0 comments

Posted on Mar 8, 2015
by [Carrie G Henderson](#)

Federal financial aid money has failed to keep pace with rising tuition costs around the country, remaining stagnant or even falling in some places.



College affordability differs among University students



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Opinion: Bookstore overpriced, employees incompetent

Opinion: Burning textbooks is a preferable alternative to selling them back

Opinion: Textbook racket steals student money

Cost of Textbooks may affect Student Grade

Story

Comments

Print Font Size:

Recommend

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Share

Posted: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 4:07 pm

Claire Perrodin | 0 comments



Posted on Feb 18, 2014
by [Claire Perrodin](#)

Students may be suffering from bad grades because of no money for study aids. Studies show the increasing prices of

textbooks are affecting students' performance in some of their classes

LSU Instructor Dan Frost tells us why buying textbooks are essential. Frost says the only reason an instructor usually assigns a textbook is



Textbook Strategy

- No textbooks policy
 - Collection development
 - ILL
- Course reserves
 - Faculty-driven
- Digital initiatives
 - Remove barriers to essential academic material
 - Library-driven

E-Book Buying

- DRM-Free
 - Do not require use of special software
 - Chapters are PDFs
 - No technical roadblock: can be printed/downloaded/emailed/saved
 - Never checked out or unavailable
- Unlimited simultaneous users
- Perpetual access
- Publishers:
 - Wiley, Springer, ProjectMuse packages
 - Taylor and Francis (CRC Press, Routledge), Elsevier, other university press titles

The Process

- Bookstore's required textbook lists
 - Course number, section, and professor; and required textbooks title, author, and ISBN
- ISBNs
 - Python script pulls out
 - Query OCLC's xISBN service
- EBSCO Discovery Service API
 - Profile to search UU e-books only
- Publisher lists
 - Purchasing
 - YBP

Academic Year 2014-2015

- Fall, spring, summer
 - 177 classes
 - 4,799 student at full enrollment
 - Savings: \$461,642
-
- Undergraduate costs \$38,365,500
 - 25,577 undergraduates
 - \$1,500 annually on books and supplies

Overall Growth



	Fall 2014	Spring 2015
Textbooks:	66	104
Classes:	60	113
Students at full enrollment:	2,270	2,379
Average textbook price:	\$61.70	\$64.63
Savings:	\$161,863.42	\$287,711.90

STEM Growth



	Fall 2014	Spring 2015
Textbooks:	15	38
Classes:	14	40
Students at full enrollment:	670	1,133
Average textbook price:	\$138	\$105.91
Savings:	\$86,096.03	\$192,694.10

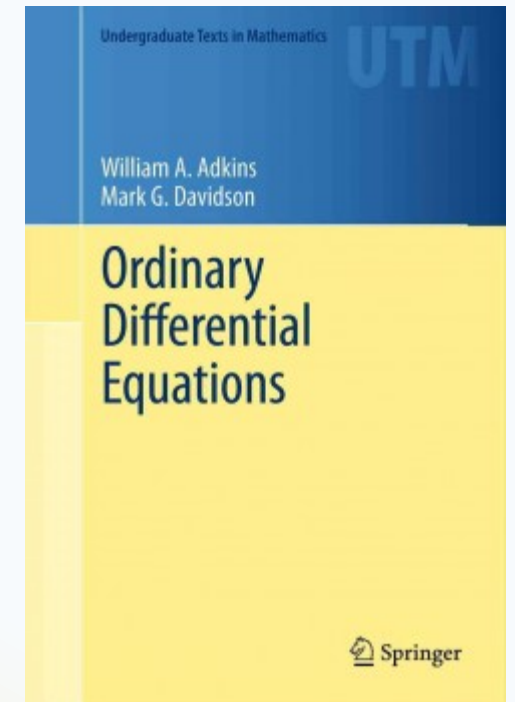
LSU Libraries' Cost

- Packages:
 - Majority of the titles
 - Wiley: \$17/title
 - Project Muse: \$9.70/title
 - Springer
 - Print: purchased 1/3 of output for same cost
 - More circ than entire print
 - 2014-2015
- Title-by-title
 - Spring semester: 28 titles for \$7,000

LSU Libraries' Cost



- MATH 2065 and MATH 2070: *Ordinary Differential Equations*
 - \$79.95 new
 - Used by 8 sections and 323 students
 - Cost for entire class to purchase = \$25,823.85
 - Access through Springer
- ME 3752: *Materials Selection in Mechanical Design*
 - \$89.95 new
 - Cost for entire class to purchase = \$15,291.50
 - Access through Knovel
- AGRO 7165/OCS 7165: *Biogeochemistry of Wetland Soils and Sediments*
 - \$179.95 new
 - Cost for entire class to purchase = \$5,039
 - \$283 for LSU Libraries



lib.lsu.edu/ebooks

Course Materials for Summer and Fall 2015

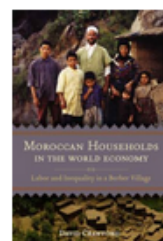
All Assigned Books

Select a Course:

ANTH 1003
ANTH 2051
ANTH 2423
ANTH 4470
BE 4303
BIOL 4110
BIOL 7063
CE 2700
CE 7490
CHE 3100
CHEM 4150
CHEM 4562
CHIN 2070
CM 4357
CMST 3900
CMST 7946
COMD 7783
CPLT 7120
CSC 4103
FF 2810



ANTH 1003
Introduction to
Cultural and Social
Anthropology
*In Search of
Respect*



ANTH 1003
Introduction to
Cultural and Social
Anthropology
*Moroccan
Households in the
World Economy*



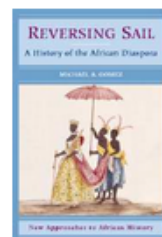
ANTH 2051
Introduction to
World Ethnography
Consuming Grief



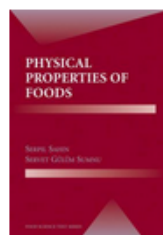
ANTH 2423
Introduction to
Folklore
Living Folklore



ANTH 4470
Folklore of the
African Diaspora
*Haiti's Influence on
Antebellum
America*



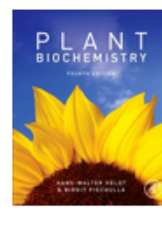
ANTH 4470
Folklore of the
African Diaspora
*Reversing Sail: A
History of the
African Diaspora*



BE 4303
Engineering
Properties of
Biological Materials
*Physical Properties
of Food*



BIOL 4110
Introductory
Microbial
Physiology
*The Physiology and
Biochemistry of
Prokaryotes*



BIOL 7063
Plant Metabolism
Plant Biochemistry

Promotion



Tweets Tweets & replies Photos & videos

Pinned Tweet

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E-Textbooks at LSU Libraries

Find and access selected e-textbooks and supplemental readings for the Spring 2015 semester through the search or by browsing featured titles below.

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tigerware



calendar

LSU BPM
TigerBytes II
GROK

Textbooks online, for free:

lib.lsu.edu/ebooks



LSU Libraries E-TEXTBOOKS

www.lib.lsu.edu/ebooks



Total savings:
\$161,863.42
Per student: \$71.31

FALL 2014:

60 courses with
2770 seats using
LSU Libraries e-
textbooks

PETE 3037
Petroleum Field
Operations
217 students saving
\$257.24 each =
\$55,821.08



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textbooks? Email
us: efrank7@lsu.edu



Save them money



Direct your students to
the ebooks website



LSU Libraries E-Textbooks:
DRM-free
Unlimited simultaneous
users

Publishers Include:
Springer
Taylor & Francis
University presses
Wiley
CRC
Routledge

Promotion

- Contact affected faculty
 - Permalink
 - Link to page (www.lib.lsu.edu/ebooks)
- Student-directed contact
 - Facebook groups
 - Rosters
 - Paper slips



Spring Student Survey

- 167 responses
- Did you know that a required textbook for this class was available for free as an e-book through LSU Libraries' website?
 - 59.9% Knew
 - 40.1% Didn't know
 - Vast majority heard from professor (82.4%)
- Overall positive. Appreciated money savings and convenience of having material in digital form

Student Government

- Presented initiative as promotion
 - Build e-textbooks platform
 - Instructor searching and selecting
 - What we have and what we can acquire quickly
- \$10,000 funding

Why LSU Libraries?

- Is this the library's role?
- Alignment with strategic priorities
 - Retention, cost
 - Competitive funding environment
- Meaningful use of collections
 - E-textbooks help us promote e-book packages
- Role of academic library:
 - Access and discoverability
 - Publishing and licensing
 - Subjects specialists
 - Curriculum integration

Challenges

- Editions
 - On 3-4 year cycle for new editions
- Traditional textbook publishers offer a variety of e-supplements
- Still saying no a lot
 - McGraw Hill, Prentice Hall
- Influence faculty textbook selections
 - Faculty like current system just fine
- Student awareness

Moving Forward

- Textbook lists from multiple campuses, finding crossover, exploring multi-institutional agreements
 - “Whole state is interested in buying X”
 - Pool resources, negotiate
- LSU faculty textbook authors
 - Pitch alternative to publishing
- OERs

Questions



- Does your library advocate for textbook affordability?