

AFFORDABLE COURSE CONTENT INITIATIVES

As higher education costs continue to rise, Iowa State University is finding new ways to help alleviate the cost of course materials. As part of this work, the University Library, CELT, ISU Book Store, & Student Government have partnered to work on the Open & Affordable Education Committee. The programs outlined below are intended to decrease course material costs for students.

Open Educational Resources

OER are free educational materials that can be used as-is or adapted for use in class. The initiative sponsors faculty workshops, provides assistance locating and customizing OER, and offers funding through the Miller Open Education Mini-grant Program.

- + All materials are free to access online.
- + Materials are accessible immediately and in perpetuity.
- + Faculty can use OER as-is, edit the resources, or create their own.
- + Students can order texts in print at a low cost (generally below \$50).
- + Grants are available for instructors to adapt or create new OER.

Course Reserves

The University Library is able to provide copies of course textbooks and other course materials at no cost to students through Course Reserves, which provides both a physical and electronic space for sharing course materials with students at no cost to them.

- + All materials are free to access electronically or in print.
- + DVDs and streaming videos are available.
- + University Library handles copyright permissions and payment.
- + Students can access most course materials in one place.

Immediate Access

Iowa State's Immediate Access program is a collaborative program between the ISU Book Store, faculty, and publishers. Students enrolled in an Immediate Access course will receive access to all required course materials on the first day of class and at a reduced cost compared to the national average.

- + Day 1 access to course materials through Canvas.
- + Includes interactive digital content and ebooks.
- + Reduced course materials cost compared to current options.
- + Increased student engagement with measurable data components.
- + Eliminates need for multiple access codes.

Other Affordable Solutions

The ISU Book Store is committed to finding the most affordable course materials by offering an array of options, including textbook rental, digital, looseleaf books, and a large supply of used textbooks.

- + Custom coursepacket services are available.
- + Affordable digital and print copies are offered.
- + Students can choose between used or new materials.
- + Rental options are available for most courses.
- + Additional options are available through the online marketplace price comparison tool for students.

In Collaboration With:

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