

# WHY COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS ARE SO EXPENSIVE

**WHY COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS ARE SO EXPENSIVE** IS A QUESTION THAT RESONATES WITH COUNTLESS STUDENTS AND PARENTS EVERY ACADEMIC YEAR. THE HIGH COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS CAN BE BURDENSOME, OFTEN LEADING TO SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL STRAIN. THIS ARTICLE DELVES INTO THE MULTIFACETED REASONS BEHIND THE STEEP PRICES OF THESE ESSENTIAL EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES. WE WILL EXPLORE FACTORS SUCH AS MARKET DYNAMICS, PUBLISHING PRACTICES, THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY, AND ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS. BY UNDERSTANDING THESE INFLUENCES, STUDENTS CAN BETTER NAVIGATE THE FINANCIAL CHALLENGES POSED BY COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS.

- UNDERSTANDING MARKET DYNAMICS
- PUBLISHING PRACTICES AND THEIR IMPACT
- THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN TEXTBOOK PRICING
- ALTERNATIVES TO TRADITIONAL TEXTBOOKS
- CONCLUSION

## UNDERSTANDING MARKET DYNAMICS

THE MARKET FOR COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS IS CHARACTERIZED BY A UNIQUE SET OF DYNAMICS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR HIGH PRICES. THE SUPPLY AND DEMAND RELATIONSHIP PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN DETERMINING HOW MUCH STUDENTS PAY FOR TEXTBOOKS. WHEN A NEW EDITION OF A TEXTBOOK IS RELEASED, THE DEMAND OFTEN SPIKES, ALLOWING PUBLISHERS TO SET HIGHER PRICES. MOREOVER, THE COLLEGE TEXTBOOK MARKET IS DOMINATED BY A FEW LARGE PUBLISHERS, WHICH CAN LIMIT COMPETITION AND KEEP PRICES ELEVATED.

## LIMITED COMPETITION

IN THE COLLEGE TEXTBOOK MARKET, A SMALL NUMBER OF COMPANIES CONTROL A VAST MAJORITY OF THE TITLES AVAILABLE. THIS OLIGOPOLY CAN RESTRICT COMPETITION, LEADING TO HIGHER PRICES. WHEN THERE ARE FEWER OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS, PUBLISHERS CAN SET PRICES WITHOUT FEAR OF LOSING SALES TO COMPETITORS. THIS LACK OF COMPETITION IS EXACERBATED BY EXCLUSIVE CONTRACTS BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLISHERS, FURTHER SOLIDIFYING THE MARKET POWER OF A SELECT FEW.

## HIGH DEMAND FOR NEW EDITIONS

PUBLISHERS FREQUENTLY RELEASE NEW EDITIONS OF TEXTBOOKS, OFTEN WITH MINOR UPDATES OR CHANGES. THIS PRACTICE ENSURES THAT STUDENTS NEED TO PURCHASE THE LATEST VERSION, AS OLDER EDITIONS MAY NOT ALIGN WITH CURRENT COURSE CURRICULA. CONSEQUENTLY, STUDENTS ARE LEFT WITH LITTLE CHOICE BUT TO BUY THE MORE EXPENSIVE NEW EDITION, DRIVING UP OVERALL COSTS. ADDITIONALLY, INSTRUCTORS MAY REQUIRE SPECIFIC EDITIONS, LIMITING STUDENT OPTIONS FOR PURCHASING USED OR OLDER VERSIONS.

# PUBLISHING PRACTICES AND THEIR IMPACT

PUBLISHING PRACTICES WITHIN THE COLLEGE TEXTBOOK INDUSTRY SIGNIFICANTLY INFLUENCE PRICING. THE COST OF PRODUCING TEXTBOOKS, INCLUDING RESEARCH, WRITING, AND PRINTING, CONTRIBUTES TO THEIR FINAL RETAIL PRICE. HOWEVER, BEYOND PRODUCTION COSTS, MARKETING STRATEGIES AND THE OVERALL BUSINESS MODEL ADOPTED BY PUBLISHERS ALSO PLAY IMPORTANT ROLES.

## PRODUCTION COSTS

THE PRODUCTION OF HIGH-QUALITY TEXTBOOKS INVOLVES SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. AUTHORS ARE OFTEN EXPERTS IN THEIR FIELDS, AND THEIR COMPENSATION REFLECTS THEIR EXPERTISE. ADDITIONALLY, THE PROCESS OF EDITING, DESIGNING, AND PRINTING TEXTBOOKS INCURS COSTS THAT ARE ULTIMATELY PASSED ON TO STUDENTS. THIS FINANCIAL BURDEN IS COMPOUNDED BY THE NECESSITY FOR TEXTBOOKS TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES, SUCH AS ONLINE ACCESS CODES AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS, FURTHER INCREASING PRICES.

## MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION EXPENSES

PUBLISHERS INVEST HEAVILY IN MARKETING THEIR TEXTBOOKS TO UNIVERSITIES AND INSTRUCTORS, WHICH ADDS TO THE FINAL COST. THE DISTRIBUTION OF TEXTBOOKS, INCLUDING SHIPPING AND HANDLING, ALSO INCURS EXPENSES. THESE COSTS ARE FACTORED INTO THE RETAIL PRICE STUDENTS PAY, MAKING TEXTBOOKS MORE EXPENSIVE THAN THEY MIGHT OTHERWISE BE.

## THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN TEXTBOOK PRICING

AS TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES, SO DO THE METHODS OF DISTRIBUTING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS. HOWEVER, THESE ADVANCEMENTS DO NOT ALWAYS TRANSLATE INTO LOWER PRICES FOR STUDENTS. THE RISE OF DIGITAL TEXTBOOKS AND ONLINE PLATFORMS HAS INTRODUCED NEW PRICING MODELS THAT CAN SOMETIMES BE MORE EXPENSIVE THAN TRADITIONAL PRINT VERSIONS.

## DIGITAL TEXTBOOKS AND ONLINE ACCESS

MANY PUBLISHERS HAVE SHIFTED TO DIGITAL FORMATS, OFFERING E-BOOKS AND ONLINE ACCESS CODES THAT CAN BE MORE CONVENIENT BUT MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE CHEAPER. IN SOME CASES, DIGITAL TEXTBOOKS ARE PRICED SIMILARLY TO THEIR PHYSICAL COUNTERPARTS. ADDITIONALLY, ACCESS CODES FOR ONLINE RESOURCES OFTEN COME WITH AN EXPIRATION DATE, COMPELLING STUDENTS TO REPURCHASE MATERIALS FOR SUBSEQUENT COURSES.

## SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

SOME COMPANIES OFFER SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES FOR TEXTBOOKS, ALLOWING STUDENTS TO ACCESS A LIBRARY OF TITLES FOR A MONTHLY FEE. WHILE THIS MODEL CAN PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY, IT OFTEN LEADS TO ONGOING COSTS THAT CAN ADD UP OVER TIME. FURTHERMORE, STUDENTS MAY FIND THEMSELVES LOCKED INTO LONG-TERM SUBSCRIPTIONS, WHICH CAN BE FINANCIALLY BURDENSOME.

# ALTERNATIVES TO TRADITIONAL TEXTBOOKS

STUDENTS SEEKING RELIEF FROM THE HIGH COSTS OF COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS HAVE SEVERAL ALTERNATIVES TO CONSIDER. THESE OPTIONS CAN HELP REDUCE FINANCIAL STRESS AND PROVIDE ACCESS TO NECESSARY MATERIALS WITHOUT THE HEFTY PRICE TAG.

## USED TEXTBOOKS

ONE OF THE MOST COMMON WAYS TO SAVE ON TEXTBOOK COSTS IS TO PURCHASE USED EDITIONS. MANY ONLINE RETAILERS AND CAMPUS BOOKSTORES OFFER USED TEXTBOOKS AT SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER PRICES THAN NEW ONES. STUDENTS CAN ALSO PARTICIPATE IN TEXTBOOK EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, WHERE THEY BUY AND SELL USED BOOKS AMONG PEERS, FURTHER REDUCING EXPENSES.

## OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OER)

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES ARE FREELY ACCESSIBLE AND OPENLY LICENSED EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS THAT CAN BE USED FOR TEACHING, LEARNING, AND RESEARCH. MANY INSTITUTIONS ARE INCREASINGLY ADOPTING OER TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH HIGH-QUALITY RESOURCES WITHOUT THE ASSOCIATED COSTS. STUDENTS SHOULD INQUIRE WHETHER THEIR COURSES UTILIZE OER AS A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO TRADITIONAL TEXTBOOKS.

## LIBRARY RESOURCES

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES OFTEN HAVE COPIES OF REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AVAILABLE FOR LOAN. STUDENTS CAN CHECK THEIR LIBRARY'S CATALOG TO SEE IF THE TEXTS THEY NEED ARE AVAILABLE, ALLOWING THEM TO AVOID PURCHASING NEW OR USED BOOKS ENTIRELY. ADDITIONALLY, MANY LIBRARIES PROVIDE ACCESS TO DIGITAL VERSIONS OF TEXTBOOKS, FURTHER ENHANCING AFFORDABILITY.

## CONCLUSION

UNDERSTANDING THE REASONS WHY COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS ARE SO EXPENSIVE IS CRUCIAL FOR STUDENTS NAVIGATING THE FINANCIAL CHALLENGES OF HIGHER EDUCATION. MARKET DYNAMICS, PUBLISHING PRACTICES, AND THE IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY ALL CONTRIBUTE TO THE RISING COSTS OF THESE ESSENTIAL RESOURCES. HOWEVER, BY EXPLORING ALTERNATIVES SUCH AS USED TEXTBOOKS, OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES, AND LIBRARY SERVICES, STUDENTS CAN MITIGATE THESE EXPENSES. IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR STUDENTS TO REMAIN INFORMED AND PROACTIVE IN THEIR SEARCH FOR AFFORDABLE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS, ENSURING THAT THEIR ACADEMIC JOURNEY IS AS FINANCIALLY MANAGEABLE AS POSSIBLE.

## Q: WHY ARE COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS MORE EXPENSIVE THAN REGULAR BOOKS?

A: COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS ARE OFTEN MORE EXPENSIVE DUE TO SPECIALIZED CONTENT, HIGHER PRODUCTION COSTS, AND THE LIMITED COMPETITION IN THE TEXTBOOK MARKET. PUBLISHERS INVEST SIGNIFICANTLY IN RESEARCH, AUTHOR COMPENSATION, AND MARKETING, WHICH ALL CONTRIBUTE TO THE HIGHER RETAIL PRICES.

## Q: HOW OFTEN DO PUBLISHERS RELEASE NEW EDITIONS OF TEXTBOOKS?

A: PUBLISHERS TYPICALLY RELEASE NEW EDITIONS OF TEXTBOOKS EVERY 2-3 YEARS. THESE UPDATES MAY INCLUDE MINOR

REVISIONS OR CHANGES TO THE CONTENT, WHICH OFTEN FORCES STUDENTS TO PURCHASE THE LATEST EDITION EVEN IF THE PREVIOUS ONE IS STILL RELEVANT.

### **Q: ARE DIGITAL TEXTBOOKS ALWAYS CHEAPER THAN PRINT VERSIONS?**

A: NOT NECESSARILY. WHILE DIGITAL TEXTBOOKS CAN SOMETIMES BE CHEAPER THAN PRINT VERSIONS, THEY OFTEN COME WITH PRICING THAT IS COMPARABLE OR EVEN HIGHER, ESPECIALLY WHEN ACCESS CODES OR SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS ARE INCLUDED. ADDITIONALLY, THE COST OF SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES FOR DIGITAL ACCESS CAN ADD UP OVER TIME.

### **Q: WHAT ARE OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OER)?**

A: OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES ARE FREELY ACCESSIBLE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS THAT CAN BE USED FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING. THEY CAN INCLUDE TEXTBOOKS, VIDEOS, AND COURSE MATERIALS THAT ARE OPENLY LICENSED, ALLOWING STUDENTS TO USE THEM WITHOUT COST.

### **Q: HOW CAN STUDENTS FIND USED TEXTBOOKS AT LOWER PRICES?**

A: STUDENTS CAN FIND USED TEXTBOOKS THROUGH ONLINE RETAILERS, CAMPUS BOOKSTORES, AND TEXTBOOK EXCHANGE PROGRAMS. WEBSITES THAT SPECIALIZE IN USED BOOKS OFTEN OFFER SIGNIFICANT DISCOUNTS COMPARED TO NEW EDITIONS.

### **Q: DO LIBRARIES PROVIDE ACCESS TO TEXTBOOKS FOR STUDENTS?**

A: YES, MANY UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES HAVE COPIES OF REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AVAILABLE FOR LOAN. STUDENTS CAN CHECK THEIR LIBRARY'S CATALOG FOR AVAILABILITY AND MAY ALSO FIND DIGITAL VERSIONS ACCESSIBLE THROUGH LIBRARY RESOURCES.

### **Q: WHAT FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TO THE HIGH PRICES OF NEW EDITIONS OF TEXTBOOKS?**

A: NEW EDITIONS OFTEN HAVE REVISED CONTENT, UPDATED RESEARCH, AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES THAT JUSTIFY THE HIGHER PRICE. THE PRESSURE FROM INSTRUCTORS TO USE THE MOST CURRENT MATERIALS ALSO DRIVES DEMAND FOR THESE NEW EDITIONS.

### **Q: ARE THERE ANY INITIATIVES TO REDUCE TEXTBOOK COSTS FOR STUDENTS?**

A: YES, MANY INSTITUTIONS ARE ADOPTING OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OER) AND IMPLEMENTING TEXTBOOK RENTAL PROGRAMS TO HELP REDUCE COSTS. ADDITIONALLY, SOME UNIVERSITIES OFFER GRANTS OR FUNDING FOR INITIATIVES AIMED AT DECREASING TEXTBOOK PRICES.

### **Q: HOW CAN STUDENTS ADVOCATE FOR LOWER TEXTBOOK PRICES?**

A: STUDENTS CAN ADVOCATE FOR LOWER TEXTBOOK PRICES BY ENGAGING WITH THEIR UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION, PARTICIPATING IN STUDENT GOVERNMENT, AND ENCOURAGING FACULTY TO CONSIDER OER OR USED TEXTBOOKS. RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT THE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF TEXTBOOKS CAN LEAD TO MORE INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR AFFORDABLE OPTIONS.

## Q: WHAT SHOULD STUDENTS DO IF THEY CANNOT AFFORD THEIR TEXTBOOKS?

A: IF STUDENTS CANNOT AFFORD THEIR TEXTBOOKS, THEY SHOULD EXPLORE OPTIONS LIKE PURCHASING USED VERSIONS, BORROWING FROM THE LIBRARY, OR CHECKING FOR OER. ADDITIONALLY, STUDENTS CAN DISCUSS THEIR SITUATION WITH INSTRUCTORS, WHO MAY PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE RESOURCES OR ASSIGNMENTS.

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**why college textbooks are so expensive: *The Sad Demise of the American Middle Class*** Steven H. Propp, 2023-01-03 Mark and Rosalyn Reese, and their 17-year-old son Jacob, are solid Middle-Class citizens living in northern California: with seemingly secure jobs, they have two cars, and are buying a house, as well as setting money aside for Jacob's upcoming college education. But when Rosalyn unexpectedly loses her job, she is unable to find another with a comparable salary. Suddenly, the financial world of the Reeses seemingly collapses, and they must struggle desperately simply to find affordable housing. And then, in early 2020: the Coronavirus (COVID-19) hits the country, causing a mass 'Shutdown' of businesses, government offices, and schools. Without warning, U.S. citizens must now cope with unemployment, working from home, and 'distance learning,' as well as with safety protocols such as wearing protective masks, practicing 'social distancing,' and avoiding crowds. The whole country seems to be in turmoil, and mass protests against social injustice only add to the unrest. A uniquely contentious 2020 national election creates even further divisions among the people, sharply dividing citizens into 'Blue State' or 'Red State' alliances, 'pro-vaxx' and 'anti-vaxx' factions, as well as controversies over the growing economic inequality in the country. As real as the events of today's headlines, the Reeses struggle to maintain their dignity and familial love in an increasingly uncertain world, which has a frequently harrowing future outlook. In this heartfelt and stimulating book, you can join them in their search for hope, security, and support, in a political and social environment that seems to work against them and their entire 'social class' at every turn.

**why college textbooks are so expensive: *Are college textbooks priced fairly?*** United States. Congress. House. Committee on Education and the Workforce. Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness, 2004

**why college textbooks are so expensive: *The College Textbook Publishing Industry in the U.S. 2000-2022*** Albert N. Greco, 2023-05-17 This book explores the college textbook publishing industry, from its inception in medieval universities, through the late 20th century, to the present day which has led to an existential crisis for some publishers. The various sections in this book offers a comprehensive analysis of the substantive developments, problems, and concerns about a myriad of major issues that confronted the higher education textbook sector after 2000. Chapters incorporate highly reliable textbook statistical sources as well as a review of some marketing theories utilized by these publishers (e.g., understanding the threat of substitute products; the sale of used and rental texts; the sale of new digital textbooks).

**why college textbooks are so expensive: *The Uncertain Future of American Public Higher Education*** Daniel M. Johnson, 2018-12-19 This book addresses the costly non-sustainable policies, programs, practices, and priorities currently driving the tuition crisis in American public higher

education. In this era of growing competition among public colleges and universities for more students and higher rankings, their leaders and governing boards have lost sight of student-centered missions in favor of more and greater non-education related amenities, facilities, programs, and practices that have added substantially to the cost of a college degree without increasing its quality. This book is an appeal to all interested taxpaying citizens, public officials, governors, governing boards, and university presidents to take a second look at these costly decisions and begin a new era of placing the higher education needs and interests of students above all. We have created this tuition crisis; now we must solve it.

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** Textbooks in Academic Libraries Chris Diaz, 2018-12-03 Shortly after the syllabi are posted, and long before the beginning of the term, interlibrary loan departments at academic libraries will have filled or rejected innumerable textbook requests. While it would be unwise if not impossible to buy and circulate every textbook at a college or university, there are many academic libraries who are selectively adding textbooks to their collections. And the practice seems to be gaining momentum. In this volume, the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) and editor Chris Diaz gather case studies that pull together creative approaches and best practices for print textbook reserve programs. This book discusses such topics as results and analysis from a detailed survey of a state university's core-course textbook reserve program; funding sources for starting or piloting a program; using aggregated enrollment, grade, and textbook cost data to identify high impact courses; identifying course-related books that are in the library's collection or fit an existing collection policy; workflow for using bookstore data with ILS and purchasing systems; and using LibGuides and Google Sheets to publicize textbook holdings, and how a back-end database supports discovery for students and reporting for reserves staff. A textbook reserve program can be one way of helping students who are struggling with the high cost of textbooks, and this book spotlights a variety of examples that can be used as models.

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** Advanced Yoga Practices Support Forum Posts of Yogani, 2005-2010 Yogani, 2011-01-10 A large eBook containing all AYP Support Forum posts by Yogani over a six year period. About 2,000 posts are included, providing extensive commentary on spiritual practices and experiences in Q&A mode, supplementing the AYP instruction books. Links to all posts, forum topics and referenced sources are included.

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** A Freshman Survival Guide for College Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders Haley Moss, 2014-06-21 Chatty, honest and full of really useful information, Haley Moss' first-hand account of the college experience covers everything students on the autism spectrum need to know as they begin their Freshman year. She shares tips and advice on getting ready for college, dorm life, making friends, and what to expect from classes, professors and exams.

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** Crash Course in Library Budgeting and Finance Leslie Edmonds Holt, 2016-08-22 Concise, informative, and well-indexed, this book helps readers get the big picture as well as the considerable number of details involved in managing the finances for a library. For all libraries, money is critical to decision-making about technology, staffing, and collections. As a result, informed budgeting is critically important for any library to succeed. This book explains library finance in a practical, engaging way, using examples of real situations in different types of libraries to teach key points. Written by authors with years of experience in budgeting and financial planning within a variety of library settings and in teaching library management or fundraising at the university level, Crash Course in Library Budgeting and Finance makes it painless to learn how to properly manage money in any library environment. The book addresses the entire process of financial planning, from a general, conceptual overview of library budgeting to the details of generating and spending income, and describes best practices for implementing financial controls. Subjects covered include building construction and capital projects, fund raising, capital campaigns, moving to fee-based services, extending and developing earned income, financial best practices, and assessment and evaluation. The authors also make

recommendations regarding when and how to share relevant financial information throughout the organization and with constituents throughout the book.

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** *The Culture and Commerce of Publishing in the 21st Century* Albert N. Greco, Clara E. Rodriguez, Robert M. Wharton, 2007 This is the definitive social and economic analysis of the current state and future trends of the American book publishing industry, with an emphasis on the trade, college textbook, and scholarly publishing sectors. Drawing on a rich and extensive data, the thoughtful analysis presented in this book will be valuable to leaders in publishing as well as the scholars and analysts who study this industry.

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** *Microeconomics in Context* Neva Goodwin, Jonathan M. Harris, Julie A. Nelson, Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar, Brian Roach, Mariano Torras, 2022-12-26 *Microeconomics in Context* lays out the principles of microeconomics in a manner that is thorough, up to date, and relevant to students. Like its counterpart, *Macroeconomics in Context*, the book is uniquely attuned to economic, social, and environmental realities. The *In Context* books offer an engaging coverage of current research and policy issues from economic inequality and climate change, to taxes and globalization. Key features include: Up-to-date discussions of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on inequality, labor markets, and beyond Analysis of recent trade issues and the implications of Brexit Presentation of policy issues in historical, environmental, institutional, social, political, and ethical contexts—an approach that fosters critical evaluation of the standard microeconomic models Clear explanations of basic concepts and analytical tools, with advanced models presented in optional chapter appendices A powerful graphical presentation of various measures of well-being in the United States and other countries, including income inequality, tax systems, educational attainment, and environmental quality A focus on human well-being from a multidimensional perspective, including traditional economic metrics and factors such as health, equity, and political inclusion A full complement of student and instructor support materials online. The book combines real-world relevance with a thorough grounding in multiple economic paradigms. It is the ideal textbook for modern introductory courses in microeconomics. The book's companion website is available at: [www.bu.edu/eci/micro](http://www.bu.edu/eci/micro)

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** *Keeping College Within Reach* United States. Congress. House. Committee on Education and the Workforce. Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training, 2013

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** *Enhancing Higher Education Accessibility Through Open Education and Prior Learning* Stevenson, Carolyn N., 2021-02-05 Institutions of higher learning are providing access to free and low-cost open resources to support students with prior college-level learning during every step of their educational journey. This unconventional approach to education removes traditional barriers to college credit by placing learners in an open environment, which encourages accessibility to higher education and fosters independent and critical thinking. By providing learners with free resources, more learners have the resources needed to be successful in college. Prior learning assessment is an excellent way for students to demonstrate the skills and knowledge gained throughout the course of their lives. By developing a portfolio of artifacts that support prior learning outside of the classroom, learners reduce the time and money needed to complete a degree. Open educational resources, prior learning assessment, and competency-based learning offer the potential to provide access to higher education to those who may not have the opportunity to earn a college degree. As the costs of higher education continue to rise, these flexible, open approaches to learning can bridge the equity gap and provide more opportunity to earn a college degree. *Enhancing Higher Education Accessibility Through Open Education and Prior Learning* provides a comprehensive resource book on open resources and prior learning in order to provide access and equity to higher education. The chapters pull together resources and case studies that exemplify alternative means to higher education. Highlighted topics within this book include remote e-learning, online fundraising, smart learning and assessments, effective learning, and faculty mentorship. This book is essential for curriculum designers; administrators; policymakers; government executives; professors and instructors in higher

education; students; researchers in adult education, competency-based education, social justice, and open educational resources; and practitioners interested in open educational resources and accessibility in higher education.

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** *Enhancing Education Through Open Degree Programs and Prior Learning Assessment* Stevenson, Carolyn N., 2018-05-11 The rising cost of tuition, increasing competition, and mounting student loan debt has caused educational leaders to rethink degree programs and resources for learners. As such, open educational resources, prior learning assessment, open degree plans, and competency-based learning have gained popularity in the field of higher education. *Enhancing Education Through Open Degree Programs and Prior Learning Assessment* is a critical scholarly resource that examines teaching and learning materials that learners may freely use and reuse without charge. Featuring coverage on a broad range of topics such as open educational resources, prior learning assessment, and competency-based learning, this book is geared towards educators, professionals, school administrators, researchers, academicians, librarians, and students seeking current research on equity and access to higher education for all learners across the globe.

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** *How NOT to Write a Book* Traci Shoblom, 2011-10-12 In this hilarious insider's look at the publishing industry, book reviewer Traci Shoblom shares the ten most common mistakes authors make. In *How NOT to Write a Book*, readers will learn the Do's and Don'ts of writing in every genre. Readers will discover the elements of a romance novel, whether anyone will read their memoir, how to distinguish between fantasy and science fiction, what spell check won't tell you, how a book reviewer sees their book, and more.

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** *U.S. News & World Report* , 2004

**why college textbooks are so expensive:** *How To Earn More Than \$100 Making Memes in 4 Simple Steps* Malik Jordan, 2020-04-02 "A useful, short, affordable book that teaches you how to earn more money with memes has finally been written!" -Malik Jordan My name is Malik McCotter-Jordan, but you can call me Malik Jordan. I am the author of this book. *How To Earn More Than \$100 Making Memes in 4 Simple Steps* is quite frankly nothing but a short book showing aspiring professional funny meme creators how to make money on fiverr.com. Most authors overpromise and under deliver when they write their book introduction. That is not what I am about to do. In this introduction I will tell you how to earn more than \$100 making memes in 4 simple steps. My advice will be practical and straight to the point. Let's Be Honest Book introductions are basically a form of marketing to get people to buy the book. In this book introduction I am going to be very transparent with you. I'll be so transparent with you that you may lose interest in this book and choose not to buy it and that is fine with me. Did I write this introduction to market it to you and to get book sales? The answer is yes, but I do not want just anyone to buy this book. I want this book to be bought by people who are serious about earning money with memes. Why I Wrote This Book's Introduction I wrote this book's introduction to get sales and weed out the people who would be wasting their time if they bought this book. I am not like all of the other writers out there. I am not desperate for your money. This book is not for everybody and I knew this before I even began writing it. This is not the book for you if you do not already know how to make memes. This book is for people who already have experience in making memes. This book is for people who would like to know how to go about earning money with their already established meme creating abilities. This book does not teach you how to make a meme. This book doesn't take more than a week to read and it isn't expensive at all. This Book Is Cheap! For just the low price of \$2.99 you can learn how to earn more than \$100 making memes. According to CollegeBoard.com, the national average for college textbooks is \$1,137 per year. You purchasing this book will be an inexpensive investment in your future and if you practice the 4 SIMPLE steps in this book it will pay for itself. 3 Reasons Why This Book Is So Cheap The first reason why this book is so cheap is because most people who would be interested in a book like this are millennials. Millennials are the poorest generation so far. That's why I made this book \$2.99 and not \$14.99 when I self-published it. The second reason this book is so cheap is because it is SUPER short. Usually when you hear advice that is straight to the point it is

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