



Orange Grove Texts Plus

The University Press of Florida (UPF) and the [Orange Grove Digital Repository \(OGR\)](#), an initiative of the Florida Distance Learning Consortium, have formed **Orange Grove Texts Plus (OGT+)**, a unique, 21st century public/private collaboration that builds on the strengths of a traditional publisher, a digital repository, and a print-on-demand printer to offer high-quality, affordable, adaptable, and accessible textbooks to faculty and students in an electronic world.

According to the 2005 U.S. Government Accountability Office report, "In the last two decades (1984-2004), college textbook prices have increased at twice the rate of inflation. Increasing at an average of 6 percent per year, textbook prices nearly tripled from December 1986 to December 2004." Nationally, colleges report an increase in textbook costs of about 19 percent over three years, from academic year 2003-04 to 2006-07. Full-time students pay an average of \$898 per academic year for textbooks. In Florida, the cost of textbooks often exceeds the cost of tuition -- particularly for students majoring in math, physical sciences, and computer science.

During the past two legislative sessions, the Florida legislature passed legislation aimed at reducing textbook costs and exploring the use of open access textbooks. The OGT+ collaboration builds on these mandates. It uses existing public resources to increase access to high quality instructional materials and to significantly reduce the cost for certain types of textbooks.

The goal of **Orange Grove Texts Plus** is to:

- reduce the cost of textbooks and related instructional materials for high enrollment general education courses **by at least 40%**
- empower faculty to offer the best possible textbooks and instructional resources for their courses
- allow students to interact with their textbooks and instructional resources in the format that they choose:
 - order a print-on-demand textbook in black and white or color
 - print all or part of the textbook at no cost
 - download the textbook
 - access the textbook online at no cost

Currently, the OGR contains over 130 open textbooks with a Creative Commons copyright license (www.cclean.org). More resources are being added on a continuing basis. Faculty may choose to use an open access textbook "as is" and, in the future, can develop a custom textbook from one or more open textbooks and any personally developed resources. Integrated Book Technology, a trusted partner of the University Press of Florida, is providing the interface to order a print copy of open textbooks by either an individual or a bookstore. Students will also have the option to view or print materials at no cost. This model will ensure that all students can afford textbooks for their general education courses.

With the launch of Orange Grove Texts Plus, other scholarly works published by the University Press of Florida will be immediately available for viewing and as a print on demand purchase from within OGT+, with more titles added on a continuing basis. Eventually, OGT+ will include books from UPF's backlist of more than 1600 titles, including many books developed to recover, investigate and disseminate the culture and history of Florida. Booksellers and wholesalers will be

able to order books from this imprint on a non-returnable basis according to a standard discount schedule specifically designed for the imprint.

For more information on Orange Grove Texts Plus, including resources on open access publishing, textbook affordability in Florida, or on the University Press of Florida, please contact Stephanie Williams at (352)392-1351, ext. 243, or sw@upf.com . If you are interested in authoring open textbooks, or offering your materials as open access, please contact John Byram at John@upf.com

For more information regarding The Orange Grove Digital Repository, please contact Susie Henderson, Repository Director, 850-922-3359, shenderson@distancelearn.org