

## **Gateways to OER (and Complement to OER): Providing Library E-Book Versions of Titles Already Assigned**

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### **Explore Textbook Alternatives – Tool you can use or adapt**

<http://guides.emich.edu/texts>

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### **EMU's version of the Textbook Alternative Guide**

<http://guides.emich.edu/alt-texts>

Provides an example of how you can customize the Explore Text Alternatives tool.

Includes EMU's e-book form, and pages about the two grants

### **Final WIP Grant Report**

Making a 'Dent' in the Textbook Problem: Library E-Books for Course Readings

[http://commons.emich.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1020&context=lib\\_sch](http://commons.emich.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1020&context=lib_sch)

Includes grant evaluation details, sample emails to professors.

### **Research Links**

Links to research on college textbooks and alternatives, including Florida textbook study

<http://guides.emich.edu/alt-texts/research>

### **E-Book Troubleshooting Guide**

<http://www.emich.edu/library/services/access/ebooks.php>

### E-Book Formats That Work Especially Well

JSTOR E-Books

Project Muse E-Books

Wiley E-Books

### E-Book Formats That Work Well

ProQuest E-Book Central Unlimited E-Books

Gale E-Books

Sage E-Books (minor interface concerns)

### E-Book Formats That Work Well, but include Some Risk

ProQuest E-Book Central Non-Linear E-Books (some risk of running out of "uses")

Subscription E-Book databases (risk losing titles, no permanent ownership)

### E-Book Formats That Work OK

EBSCOhost Unlimited User E-Books (minor interface concerns, some technical issues)

ProQuest E-Book Central 1 and 3-user E-Books (student inconvenience when book is "busy")

EBSCOhost 1 and 3-user E-Books (student inconvenience when book "busy," minor interface & tech issues)

### E-Book Formats That Work OK and include Some Risk

EBSCOhost Concurrent Access (some risk of running out of "uses," minor interface & tech issues)

## **Recommended Best Practices**

We recommend the following best practices:

- a. continue to stock copies at the bookstore for those students who would prefer a print copy
- b. include the link to the book in your syllabus
- c. send an early email to students providing the link
- d. if you use a course shell in Canvas, include a link to the e-book.

## **Example Book info for students**

Global Tectonics - 3rd ed. by Philip Kearey

<http://portal.emich.edu/vwebv/holdingsInfo?bibId=1258365>

The link above goes to a library catalog record for the book. Use the link in the record to access the e-book. From off campus, you will be asked for your emich NetID.

This is a 3-reader e-book. If you are the 4th student trying to access the book, you will have to try again at a later time. You may not always be able to access the book. Thus, it will only be possible to rely solely on the e-book if you plan to read ahead.

When you are finished reading the book, close the browser window and the book will become available to another student. If you aren't actively using the book, the book will close automatically after no activity.

## **Example tips for students:**

Tips:

1. If you want to save the e-book as a favorite in your browser, save the catalog page. If you try to save a web address that you see after logging in, the link will not work later.
2. Library e-books often don't allow you to print or copy pages (some allow a limited amount of copying/printing).
3. Library e-books work well on computers, laptops, and some other devices that use a standard web browser. They might not work on some devices, such as phones.
4. If you have trouble logging in, the most common problems are:
  - a. You may need to set your browser to accept cookies.
  - b. If your emich NetID password has expired, you may need to change your password.

You may be able to get immediate help using the e-book from staff at the EMU Library Information Desk by calling 734-487-####.