

## **Library Resources : Position Paper**

### Reference Books

- Monash University Library is an e-preferred Library. When a title is available in both electronic format and print format, the electronic format will be purchased / subscribed.
- Print will still be purchased only if no alternative is available.

### Textbooks

- The Library is moving away from dependency on single resources such as prescribed textbooks and aiming to provide students alternative and diverse resources including OERs and will no longer purchase / subscribe to textbooks.
- In almost all cases, the business models of the publishers for e-textbooks, if available, are not sustainable. If a specific resource is required due to accreditation purposes, students may need to purchase their own copies and when approved by the Head of School, the library will consider buying a limited number of print copies.

### Library e-resources

- The Library has a host of e-resources made available via Australia and accessible to all Monash staff and students. The statistics, as of 31 December 2020 stands at:
  - 2,002,890 electronic books\* (Please Refer to “About e-textbooks” section below)
  - 150,319 electronic journals
  - 2,307 online databases

For latest statistics please refer to [this page](#)

These Library collections should be explored to identify discipline specific resources to support students in their units of study.

### OER resources

- Library resources can be complemented by Open Educational Resources (OERs). OER items come attached with Creative Commons licences and allow for free use, remix, adaptation and distribution of these resources. OERs can be textbooks, open courseware, slides, articles, videos and others.

It is important to check the creative common licenses before adopting or adapting OERs. Please refer to the [OER Awareness Module](#) and [How to Search for OERs flyer](#) to learn about OERs, Creative Commons Licence and where to search for OERS.

### **\*About e-textbooks**

Access to ebooks differs based on the publisher's business model. [Check Monash ebook Libguides](#)

- Some provide unlimited concurrent user access to the book, some only a limited number (can be 1, 3 or 5 concurrent user/s ) to access the book at any one point of time.
- Some books allow full download in PDF content, some only a limited number of pages.
- Some books can be downloaded for a few days and require special software to do so. E.g., Adobe Digital Editions, Bluefire and Aldiko Book Reader.

Please contact the Library if you have any queries about searching library resources or OERs.

Contact: [mum-lib-contact@monash.edu](mailto:mum-lib-contact@monash.edu)