E-books in the Sciences - Gauging Faculty and Graduate Students Needs

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Toronto, Canada
Money spent on E-books

• By YUL: $132,000 in 2008-09 fiscal year

• CARL Libraries: $1,127,372 in 1999-00 to $6,048,491 in 2006-07- a 436.5% increase

• In 2007, CARL libraries acquired 2,890,369 electronic monograph items

• Electronic monographs currently represent approximately 13% of total monograph titles held by CARL libraries, and that number is expected to continue to grow over the next several years
Today’s discussion

• Reason for the survey
• Target audience
• Do they know about E-books? How?
• Which ones are they using?
• Preferred features
• Challenges & promoting E-books at YUL
Population Distribution: Science Graduate students & Faculty members

Graduate Students

- Full-time: 94.8%
- Part-time: 5.2%

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD): 55.2%
Masters: 43.1%
Postdoc: 1.7%

Full-time faculty and years of teaching experience

- 16: 0-5 yrs
- 9: 6-10 yrs
- 7: > 20 yrs
- 3: 15-20 yrs
- 1: 11-14 yrs
- 1: 11-14 yrs
Do you use E-books?

Graduate Students

- Yes: 44 (75.9%)
- No: 14 (24.1%)

Faculty

- Yes: 16
- No: 20
Are you aware that the libraries subscribe to various E-books from different content providers and/or publishers?

Graduate Students:
- Yes: 38 (65.5%)
- No: 20 (34.5%)

Faculty:
- Yes: 16 (52.8%)
- No: 19 (47.2%)
Graduate Students: Which of these E-books have you used?
Faculty: Which of these E-books have you used?
How do you find and access E-books?

- Library Catalogue 41.7%
- New books blog 0.0%
- New books title list 2.8%
- Peers 2.8%
- Library orientation 5.6%
- E-mail notification from the library 5.6%
- Posters and other promotional material 2.8%
- Library newsletter 0.0%
- Subject Research Guide 2.8%
- This survey 30.6%

Promote E-books!

- Graduate Students
  - Catalogue 39
  - Survey 10
  - RG 6
  - E-mail 6
  - Peers 5
  - New Books Blog 1

- Faculty
  - Catalogue 15
  - Survey 11
  - Other 12

- Other
  - Internet
  - Access is a problem
  - NIH Bookshelf
  - Web or by accident
  - Do not use e-books

Faculty

Graduate Students
Mathematics Aug. 21-31

Shape Analysis and Structuring
Available online through Springer E-books

A Theory of Shape Identification
Available online through Springer E-books

Mathematical Epidemiology
Available online through Springer E-books

The Frailty Model
Available online through Springer E-books

Mathematical and Statistical Methods in Insurance and Finance
Available online through Springer E-books

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- November 2008
- October 2008
- September 2008
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Table of Contents for Synthesis Lectures on Mathematics and Statistics. List of articles from both the latest and ahead of print issues.

The Geometry of Walker Manifolds

By info@morganclaypool.com (Miguel Brozos-Vázquez et al) on article


Comments

Posted on: Mon, Jun 1 2009 7:16 PM

A Gyrovector Space Approach to Hyperbolic Geometry

By info@morganclaypool.com (Abraham Albert Ungar) on article

List of E-books

E-books @ York University Libraries:

- Health Sciences, Biology, Kinesiology, Nursing
- Chemistry
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Computer Science & IT
- Physics
- Multidisciplinary
- Free E-Books
- Reference Handbooks & Encyclopedias
- Dictionaries

Health Sciences, Biology, Kinesiology, Nursing

- Anatomy Study Guide (through Primal Pictures)

  Primal Pictures provides a dynamic interactive multimedia overview of human anatomy from head to toe. It features three-dimensional animations that illustrate function, and biomechanics. It covers a detailed anatomy study guide and includes detailed notes and figures of the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, nervous, digestive, reproductive and endocrine system.

- Books@Ovid (Health)

  Description: Ovid delivers key medical, nursing, sports science and pharmacy texts from a variety of publishers to clinicians' desktops through the Books@Ovid database. YUL provides access to 71 full text online handbooks, drug guides, nursing care plans, diagnostic tests, clinical procedures and more.

- Canadian Health Research Collection

  This is a collection of monograph publications from Canadian research institutes, government agencies and university centres working in the area of health and medical research. The publications included are of a specialized clinical or technical nature.

- Cognet

  An interdisciplinary online collection in cognitive and brain sciences includes 7 MIT Press e-journals, over 400 online books, the MIT Encyclopedia of Cognitive Sciences and other reference sources. Covers areas of cognitive science such as psychology, linguistics, computational intelligence, philosophy, and neuroscience. Browse books by Title, Author or Topic in MITCogNet Library
How long do you spend reading a book online

Graduate Students

Faculty
How much of that E-book did you read online in one sitting?

- Faculty:
  - Browsed 13
  - Several chapters 6
  - Whole chptr 5
  - < one chapter 12

- Graduate Students:
  - Browsed book 17
  - Several chapters 11
  - Read one whole chapter 7
  - < one chapter 21

- Overall:
  - I read the whole book 3.4%
  - I read several chapters 19.0%
  - I read one whole chapter 12.1%
  - I read less than one chapter 36.2%
  - I browsed through the book 29.3%
Do you recommend or actively encourage your students to read E-books?

**Graduate Students**
- Yes, e-books are on my reading lists or handouts: 10.3%
- Yes, e-books are included as course reserve material: 5.2%
- No: 17.2%
- Not Applicable: 63.8%
- Other (please specify): 3.4%

**Faculty**
- Yes, e-book are included in a Learning Management System (such as WebCT or Moodle): 5.6%
- Yes, e-book are on my reading lists or handouts: 13.9%
- Yes, e-books are included as course reserve material: 0.0%
- No: 80.6%
Graduate Students: Features preferred in E-books

- Ability for more than one student to use an e-book at the same time
- Ability to email text
- Annotation
- 24/7 access
- Off-campus access
- Formatted citations in APA, MLA, etc.
- Capability to print/download sections of content, such as lecture notes in computer
- Capability to search for images, and also content within tables
- Highlighting within retrieved results of terms used to conduct search
- Hyperlinks to citations in books or links to other books
- Personal bookshelves
- Shared bookshelves
- Zoom and scale

Legend:
- Very important
- Important
- Somewhat important
- Not important
Faculty: Features preferred in E-books

- Ability for more than one student to use an e-book at the same time
- Ability to email text
- Ability to share notes
- Annotating
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- Off-campus access
- Formatted citations in APA, MLA, etc.
- Ability to print/download sections of content, such as chapters or parts of a page range
- Capability to search by keyword, such as “Notes” in Computer Science, and also contain within tables
- Capability to search for images, and also contain within tables
- Capability to plug data into tables that are “active,” i.e., manipulation of new data
- Collaborative tools
- Copying and pasting
- Downloading to hand held device
- Downloading to laptop
- Highlighting within retrieved results of terms used to conduct search
- Hyperlinks to citations in books of links to other books
- Personal bookshelf
- Shared bookshelves
- Zoom and scale

Legend:
- Very Important
- Important
- Somewhat Important
- Not Important
## Very Important & Important features: Desired by the academic community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very Important features in e-books</th>
<th>% Graduate students</th>
<th>% Faculty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability for more than one student to use an e-book at the same time</td>
<td>70.2</td>
<td>72.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to email text</td>
<td>41.5</td>
<td>20.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/7 access</td>
<td>73.2</td>
<td>74.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-campus access</td>
<td>78.9</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formatted citations in APA, MLA etc</td>
<td>31.4</td>
<td>25.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capability to print/download sections of content, such as chapter or page range</td>
<td>70.7</td>
<td>52.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copying and pasting</td>
<td>53.4</td>
<td>27.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downloading to laptop</td>
<td>53.6</td>
<td>47.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyperlinks to citations in books or links to other books</td>
<td>41.1</td>
<td>30.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capability to search by series, such as “Lecture Notes in Computer Science”</td>
<td>41.1</td>
<td>40.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some comments...

• Very good collection
• Life saver for mature students
• More promotion of E-books required (posters, e-mail, brochures)
• Difficulty in finding the print button on the E-book page. Interface issues
• DRM issues
• Solution/instructor manuals in electronic format desired
• More E-books in specific subjects: Comp Sci. and Engineering, Earth Sciences