VitalSource®

Course Access FAQs

For Students



Course Access is a program that provides students with digital course materials by the first day of class. Instead of purchasing traditional textbooks separately, the cost of these materials is billed to your student account, offering a more affordable and convenient way to access your required readings and learning resources.

Q: How do I access my course materials through Course Access?

A: Your digital course materials will be available directly through your school's learning management system (LMS), like Canvas, Blackboard, or Moodle. Simply log in, navigate to your course, and follow the links to access your etexts or digital content.

Q: What are the benefits of Course Access?

A: Course Access ensures that you have all your required course materials from day one, so you can start learning without delay. It's also often more affordable than traditional textbooks, eliminates the hassle of shopping around, and ensures you have the correct editions and formats.

Q: Can I opt out of Course Access?

A: You can opt out if you prefer to purchase your materials separately. Keep in mind that by opting out, you may pay more for your textbooks and delay access to your materials. Your school will provide instructions on how to opt out and the deadline for doing so.

Q: Is Course Access less expensive than buying traditional textbooks?

A: Course Access is generally more affordable than purchasing traditional textbooks.

Q: Can I access my Course Access materials offline?

A: Yes. Once you've downloaded your digital textbooks via the Bookshelf app, you can access them offline, making it easy to study anytime, anywhere.

Q: What if I drop the course?

A: If you drop the course before the add/drop deadline, you will be automatically refunded the cost of the Course Access materials.

Q: How long will I have access to the materials?

A: Access duration depends on the course and the materials, but typically, you'll have access to your eTextbook for the duration of the course. Some materials may even allow extended access or downloads, depending on the publisher's policies.

Q: Who do I contact if I have trouble accessing my materials?

A: If you experience issues accessing your Course Access materials, first check with your school's technical support or bookstore.

Q: How do I know if my course is part of Course Access?

A: Your course syllabus or instructor will inform you if your class is part of the Course Access program. You may also receive notifications through your school's learning management system or bookstore website.

Q: How to I access the Bookshelf app?

A: Accessing your etexts is easy with the Bookshelf eReader. To download Bookshelf, go to:

- Google Play
- Apple App Store
- · vitalsource.com