



eTexts and Library Resources

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Agenda

Overview

Benefits

Challenges

Outlook

Questions

Overview

Why eTexts?

“

The cost barrier kept

2.4 million

low and moderate-income college-qualified high school graduates from completing college in the previous decade.

— The Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance
<http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED529499.pdf>

”

Why eTexts?



- ~50% of community college students were **food insecure**
- 46% were **housing insecure**
- 12% were **homeless**

— 2018 Still Hungry and Homeless in College study Available at:
<http://wihopelab.com/publications/Wisconsin-HOPE-Lab-Still-Hungry-and-Homeless.pdf>



Why eTexts?

“

The average borrower owes more than

\$28,650

in student loans (class of 2017).

North Carolina = **\$26, 526**

—<http://ticas.org/posd/map-state-data>

”

eTexts at WCC

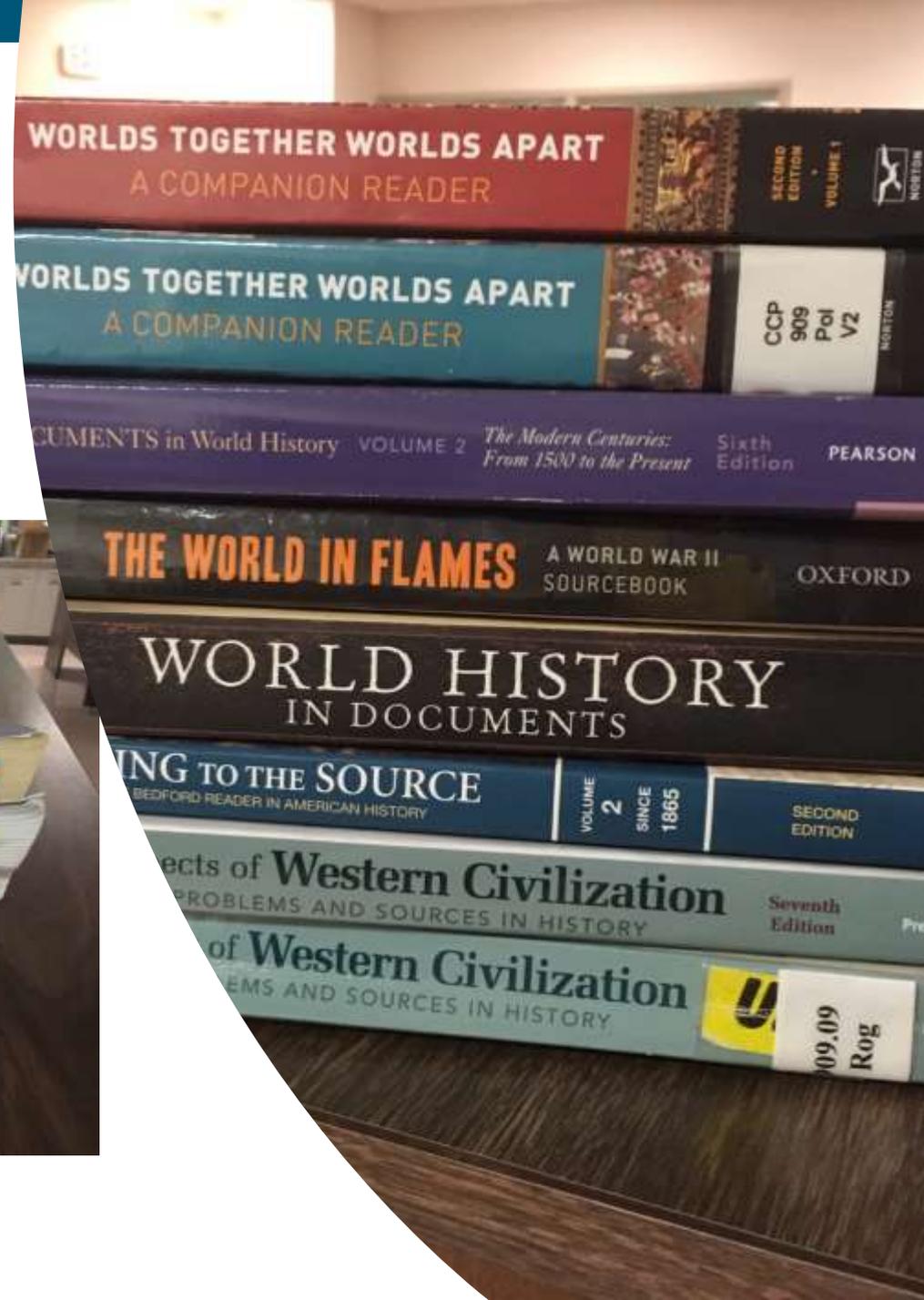
- Average cost of textbooks for full-time WCC student in 2019: \$1,700
- WCC FTE Spring 2019: 2,254
- CCP FTE Spring 2019: 498
 - CCP students within our service area pay a small materials fee but don't pick up the full cost of textbooks
- World History
 - Issues with publishers (discontinued favorite texts; new editions only available as loose-leaf)
 - World History is a core class
 - Primary source based
 - Willing instructors

World History eText Project

- Began June 2017
- Implemented August 2017

Three Months?!

How We Began . . .



Sources for Primary Texts



Library Databases (eBook Central, EBSCO eBooks, eLibrary, etc.)



Google Search

1. Well-formatted, authoritative texts (Fordham U's *Sourcebooks*, Yale's *Avalon Project*, presidential libraries, LOC)
2. Poorly formatted texts digitized via optical character recognition ((Archive.org, *Project Gutenberg*, *HathiTrust*)



eBook Vendors (ProQuest, EBSCO, EmeryPratt)

Sources for Streaming Video



NC LIVE (Films
on Demand/PBS)



YouTube,
Biography.com



Kanopy

Supplemental Images (Maps, Photos, etc.)

- Creative Commons
- Google Images



Ritual Wine Storage Jar (Zun) with Masks, Dragons, and Bovine Heads

Source: Wikimedia Commons (Public Domain)

Source URL: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ritual_Wine_Storage_Jar_\(Zun\)_with_Masks,_Dragons](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ritual_Wine_Storage_Jar_(Zun)_with_Masks,_Dragons)

World History eText Project

- Regular meetings with instructors
- Shared content on [LibGuide](#) and shared Office 365 folders
- Instructor uploaded finished product to [Moodle](#) master course

Benefits

World History eText Project

- Since 2017 844 students have benefited from this project
- The first year students saved over \$60,000
- Instructors have control over course content
- Strengthened relationships among faculty and librarians
- Increased use and awareness of library resources
- Instructors encouraged to adopt etexts

Challenges

World History eText Project

- Time!
 - Locating resources, especially appropriate translations
 - Editing documents for ADA compliance
- Money
 - Purchasing/subscribing to ebooks and streaming videos
 - Wishlist—Copyright Clearance Center
- Vendor Quirks
 - Films on Demand constantly dropping titles
 - PBS videos moved to FOD interface
 - Licensing issues (vary by material)
- Technology
 - Moodle updates can interrupt code
 - Broken links / removed YouTube videos

Outlook

I can't really compare and contrast any hard data on this at the moment, as I do not have my older grade books on me (and there may be a lot of factors to account for that might have an effect on grades other than the transition to OER). **However, I think that, generally speaking, the change has been anywhere between neutral to positive in its outcomes.**

For the most part, students do not seem to mourn the loss of the traditional textbook, nor do they find using the online resources problematic. **I haven't received any complaints about the OER format, nor have I witnessed a noticeable downgrade in the overall quality of student work.**

Although I haven't had many students go out of their way to tell me they appreciate not having to pay the costs of additional textbooks, or that they are glad to not have to lug around another book, I am sure many do indeed feel this way.

--Jonathan Fowler, History Instructor
WCC

American History eText Project

- Began June 2018
- Implemented August 2018
- 479 students benefited

More Instructor Involvement

Subsequent / Future eTexts

- Personal Health and Wellness
- English 111/112
- Introduction to Psychology
- Film Studies

Questions?

Thank You

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