



Digital Course Materials

Textbooks aren't necessarily those large, heavy books you might think!

Many of the course materials adopted by faculty may have a digital equivalent and/or use some sort of digital courseware.

This brief document's purpose is to provide a quick overview of the digital course materials you may purchase with the OSU Beaver Store as an option or as the required material your faculty requests.

General parameters of digital material:

- Most digital material you will encounter are not downloadable. Almost all will require you to access the material from the content provider's website. You will have to create an account on each content provider's website to access.
- Most digital material has a limited access duration. Meaning you will definitely get through the specific course or the course sequence but you will not have unlimited or "lifetime" access. One way to think of digital material is that they are essentially a rental.
- Digital material whether an ebook or courseware is not a static PDF. The digital material available to you is a dynamic medium with numerous tools embedded that will assist you in your studies and provide additional material. A sample of these tools can be viewed here: <https://solve.redshelf.com/hc/en-us/articles/360006089374-RedShelf-Tutorial-Videos-collected> (RedShelf is an ebook provider the Beaver Store uses)

General definitions with digital material:

- **Courseware:** This is a term that combines the words "course" with "software". It is software containing educational content, instruction and instructional strategies. Courseware you purchase from the OSU Beaver Store is a learning and course management tool and it's a reality of the modern education system.
 - o All publisher courseware has an ebook available along with the ancillary material for the course management.
 - o The faculty who use courseware will create a course on the site that is tied to the course being taught here at OSU. You'll acquire an access code from the Beaver Store and then use that code on the publisher's courseware site.
 - o Most of these courseware sites will be accessed through your course Canvas page.

- Here at OSU the common courseware you will encounter after purchase with the OSU Beaver Store are all based on the content publisher's material:
 - Pearson Higher Education: *MyMasteringLab* or *Revel*
 - McGraw-Hill: *Connect* or *ALEKS*
 - Cengage: *MindTap*
 - Macmillan: *Achieve*
 - John Wiley: *WileyPlus*
 - WW Norton: *InQuizitive*

- **Ebook:** This is an electronic version of a printed textbook that can be read on handheld devices, tablets or laptop/desktop computers. The advantage of ebook is that you can access the material anytime and anywhere...& not as heavy as a printed textbook!
 - You will often see the OSU Beaver Store list both the print book and the ebook in your course with a general note indicating that you only choose one option, not both.
 - A purchase with the OSU Beaver Store will either provide you with access instructions if purchased in-store or will notify the ebook provider to contact you with instructions if purchased through our web order portal.
 - Most ebooks are 40-60% less expensive than the equivalent print version. Almost all ebooks have a limited access duration. The OSU Beaver Store normally offers the 180 day access so students can easily get through a term's work.
 - As noted above the ebook is a normally dynamic medium that provides helpful tools that enhance the reading and learning experience of students.
 - Ebooks are generally not offered as a download. You will access the ebook through an account you create with the ebook platform.
 - Here are the two ebook platforms the Beaver Store contracts with:
 - RedShelf: <https://osubeaverstore.redshelf.com/>
 - VitalSource: <https://osubeaverstore-store.vitalsource.com/>
 - You can view a sampling of some of the functions of these ebooks by look at tutorials provided by RedShelf here: <https://solve.redshelf.com/hc/en-us/articles/360006089374-RedShelf-Tutorial-Videos-collected->

Always feel free to contact the OSU Beaver Store if you have questions with the course materials you have purchased. You can contact us through our LiveChat line available on the Academics page of our website (<https://beavs.com/LiveChat.asp>) or through email (textbooks@osubeaverstore.com).

Textbooks aren't only those big heavy tomes but can be lightweight digital which are still packed with the necessary information for you to succeed in your class!