### First Day (Barnes and Noble)

[First Day](https://ucf.bncollege.com/shop/ucf/page/help-links/CONTENT_SPOT_FIRSTDAY_1?displayPageId=Home&leftNavRequired=false) is a program out of Barnes and Noble, which is UCF's official bookstore provider. UCF's contract with Barnes and Noble states that B&N is the exclusive seller of course materials at UCF; however, there is some wording that indicates that other options can be explored in the name of affordability.

First Day is an example of an 'inclusive access' model, which means that students can opt-in to purchase course materials at a discounted rate until the add/drop date. Opting in quickens their access to the course materials. If they do not opt in, they are responsible to purchase the materials on their own.

Faculty should contact the UCF bookstore or their publisher representative if they'd like more information about this program.

* **Advantages:** Immediate access to course materials; discount on price.
* **Considerations:** Sometimes the discount is not terribly significant; faculty are not encouraged to explore alternative course materials which may save more money.

### Open Educational Resources

Open educational sources (OER) are materials that are free and openly licensed, giving users the legal permission to retain, reuse, revise, remix, and redistribute the material. The material can be different types such as text, images, videos, test banks, simulations, and other digital assets that are useful for teaching and learning. They can come in various file formats, but the most common are ePub, html, and .doc(x).

One common misconception is that as long as it's online and it's free to access, then it's an open educational resource. That is not true; OERs are openly licensed. By applying a license for the work, the creator of the resource can choose what kinds of permissions to give others who are using the resource.

Open licenses are created through [Creative Commons](https://creativecommons.org/). The most permissive one is CC-BY, which lets others distribute, remix, tweak, and build upon the original work, even commercially, as long as they credit the creator for the original creation. The most restricted one is CC BY-NC-ND, which only others to download the works and share them with others as long as they credit the creator, but they can’t change them in any way or use them commercially. To review the six different licenses, visit [About the Licenses](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/). This is a helpful page when you need to decipher what a particular license means.

Is your head spinning? Creative Commons has an awesomely simple [License Chooser](https://creativecommons.org/choose/), which guides the creator to choose the license that makes sense for them.

* **Advantages:** Absolutely free for student. Faculty can use existing content or adapt existing content to fit the personalized needs of students. Faculty can create brand new materials and share widely, receiving attribution through the open license.
* **Considerations:** There are so many resources to explore online. How to find the right one? Choosing an open resource as a textbook replacement can prompt a whole redesign of a course, which the faculty may not be inclined to do. Usually there are few created ancillary materials, so faculty has to take the time to create assessments.

#### (Just a few) Examples of OER

[American National Government](https://pressbooks.online.ucf.edu/amnatgov/) - Openly licensed book from OpenStax which has been adapted for UCF professors and is available through PressBooks

[An Introduction to the Theory of Numbers](https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/an-introduction-to-the-theory-of-numbers) - Located in the Open Textbook Library

[OER Commons working groups](https://www.oercommons.org/hubs/openstax) - Working groups are organized in OER Commons, where faculty can share supporting material they have created for the [OpenStax](https://openstax.org/subjects) textbooks, such as test banks.

### Library

The [UCF Library](https://library.ucf.edu/textbook-affordability) has an amazing wealth of resources which are free to the student (yes, some of the tuition costs factor in there, but in students' eyes, library resources are 'free').

Note there are two librarians very helpful in the affordability arena: [Katy Miller](https://library.ucf.edu/staff/miller-katy/), Textbook Affordability librarian, and [Sarah Norris](https://library.ucf.edu/staff/norris-sarah/), copyright expert.

The library does not carry publisher textbooks, but they do have a print textbook reserve collection. Faculty are encouraged to donate a print copy of their textbook so students can check it out for a limited time.

We have seen many instances in which the books faculty require are already digitally available in the library. Each eBook in the library has specific digital rights - for instance, sometimes only one user can 'check it out' at a time, which isn't helpful for a whole class. It's encouraged to consult with the [subject librarian](https://library.ucf.edu/staff/subject-librarians/) in order to see if permissions can be altered, in that case.

Librarians do not create brand new content, but they are adept at exploring library resources and making recommendations. Perhaps a publisher textbook is not available in the library, but there is an alternative book that fits the bill. Subject librarians can help with that.

* **Advantages:** We have a close relationship with librarians and a common goal to support faculty and students; the library has many resources.
* **Considerations:** They do not carry many publisher textbooks. They do not create resources.

### Affordability Counts

[Affordability Counts](https://affordabilitycounts.org/) (AC) is a recognition program, which was originally developed by Florida International University. Quite simply, a faculty member submits their course information on the AC website, and if the course materials cost $20 or less per credit hour (e.g., less than $60 for a 3 credit course) for each student, then their course is designated 'affordable', and they receive the AC digital medallion, which they can then display within their course. Their course will also be featured on the AC website, making it easy for other faculty to adopt the same or similar low-cost materials. UCF, as well as other state universities and colleges in Florida, have partnered with FIU to achieve larger reach, scale, and exposure through this program.