


2021

# How to Make Core Textbooks More Affordable for Students: A Pitch from the Textbook Affordability Program at George Fox Library

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### Recommended Citation

Bruxvoort, Jenny, "How to Make Core Textbooks More Affordable for Students: A Pitch from the Textbook Affordability Program at George Fox Library" (2021). *Faculty Publications - George Fox University Libraries*. 32.  
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# How to Make Core Textbooks More Affordable for Students

A pitch from the Textbook Affordability Program at  
George Fox Library

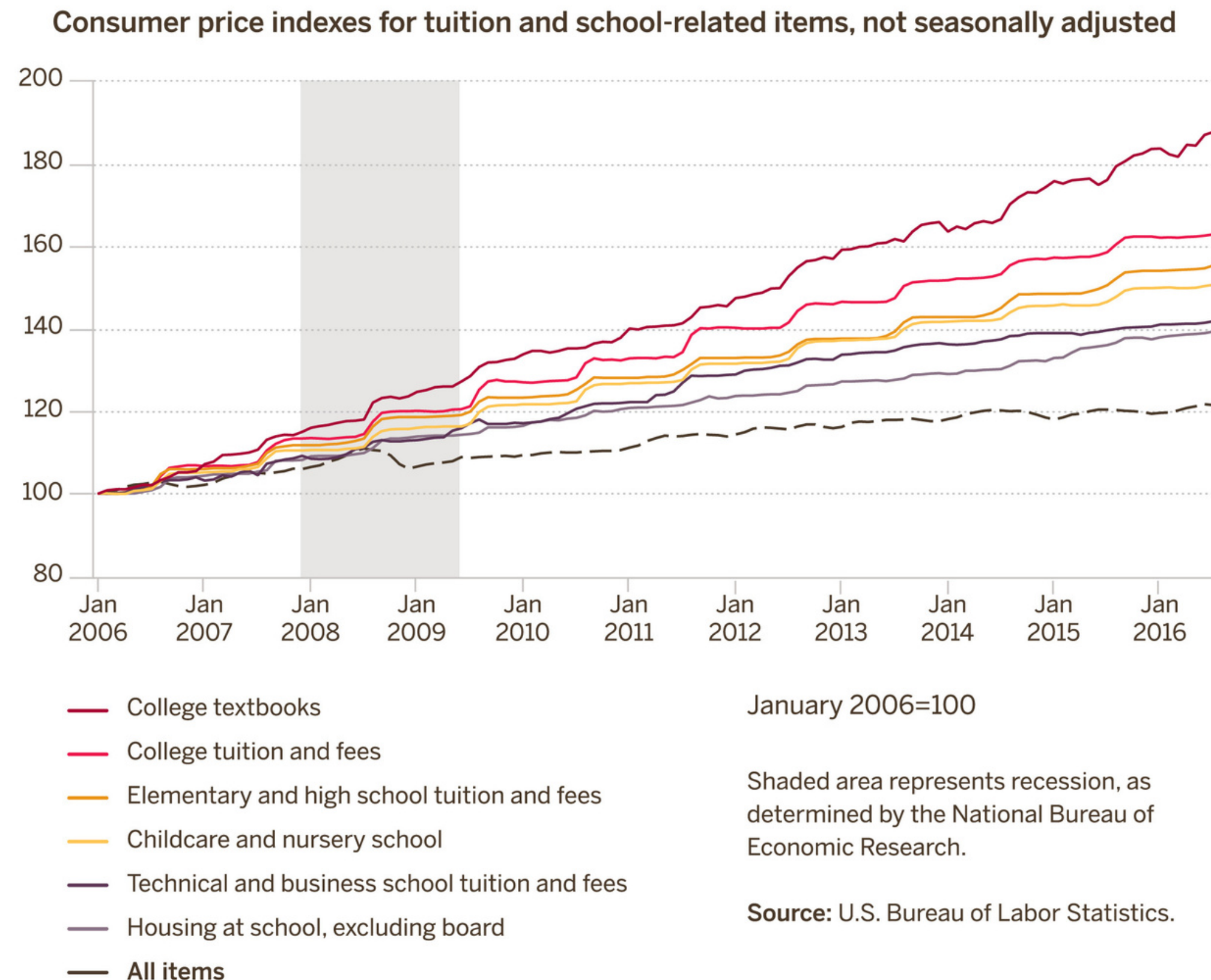
# BE AFFORDABLE

## OUR CHARGE

Our high-quality Christian education is not measured by whom we exclude, but rather by whom we include and how well they succeed in an increasingly changing world. Lifelong learning is the key to the future and affordability is our greatest tool for student access. In order to expand who gets to experience the Be Known promise, we must make sure that we are doing all we can to be affordable to the changing demographics of diverse students graduating from high school. **We have to be committed to a future where we implement resourceful solutions that enhance educational quality while reducing cost per graduate, thereby lessening student debt and increasing value over time.**

# TEXTBOOK COSTS ARE RISING EVEN FASTER THAN HIGHER ED AS A WHOLE

BLS DATA FROM  
2006 TO 2016





# THE IDEAL & KEY STRATEGIES

No textbook costs to students in the Cornerstone Core – a reduction in the cost of a student's education without reducing the cost of tuition

Achieved through:

- use of high-quality open educational resources (OER)
- strategic library ebook acquisitions

# CORE CLASSES THAT HAVE DONE THIS

**COMM 100**  
**THEO 101**  
**THEO 102**  
**PSYC 150**





# ADP ACHIEVED A MORE MODERATE VERSION OF THIS \$20 BY 2020

All GE classes in the ADP program at George Fox have a total textbook cost of no more than \$20 as of 2020. This was achieved in collaboration with the Textbook Affordability Program at GFU Library.



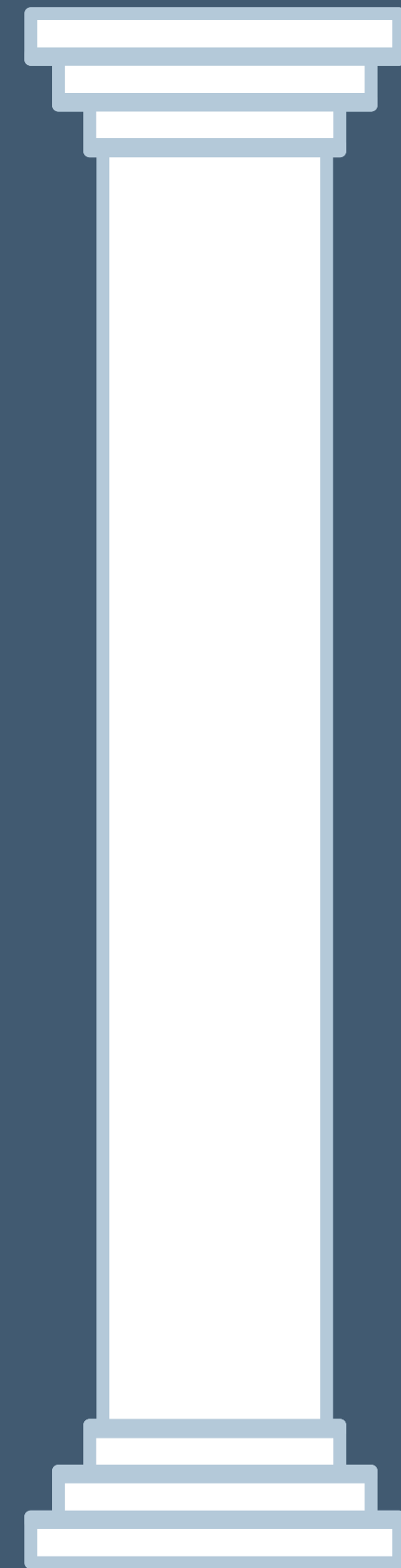


# **OVER A MILLION DOLLARS SAVED IN ONLY 3 YEARS**

The Textbook Affordability Program at George Fox has been incredibly successful, already saving students over \$1,000,000 as of October 2019.

<http://bit.ly/GFUTextbooksMillion>





# TWO PILLAR APPROACH

## OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

High-quality, freely available general education online textbooks written by leading scholars. Books often also available in print for a fee.

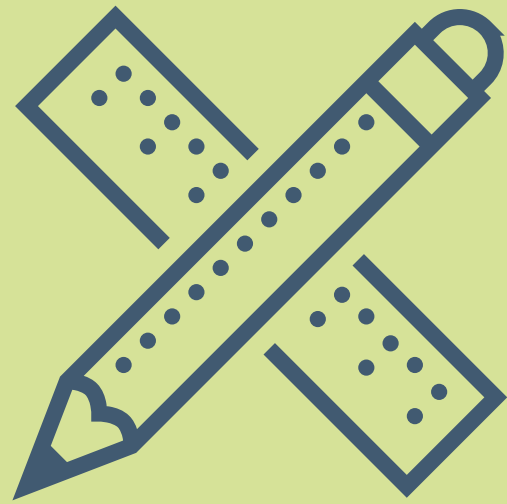
## LIBRARY ACQUIRED EBOOKS

One-time purchases of course-required, traditionally published ebooks that are able to be used by all students on campus simultaneously. Students could purchase books in print if desired.



# WHY DO THIS NOW?

## PERFECT OPPORTUNITY

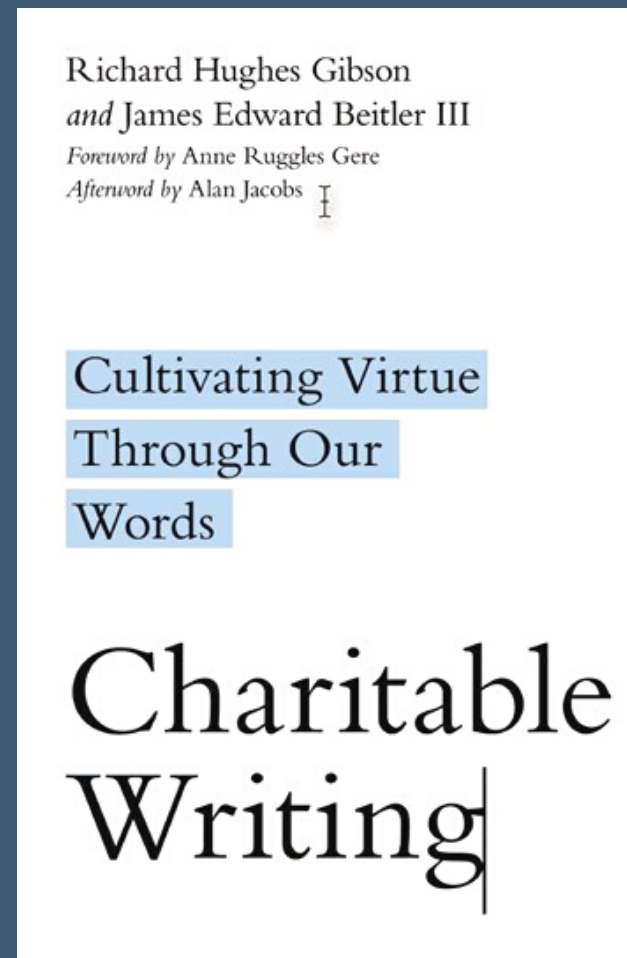


Designing All  
New Classes  
From Scratch



Increased  
Ebook & OER  
Quality and  
Availability

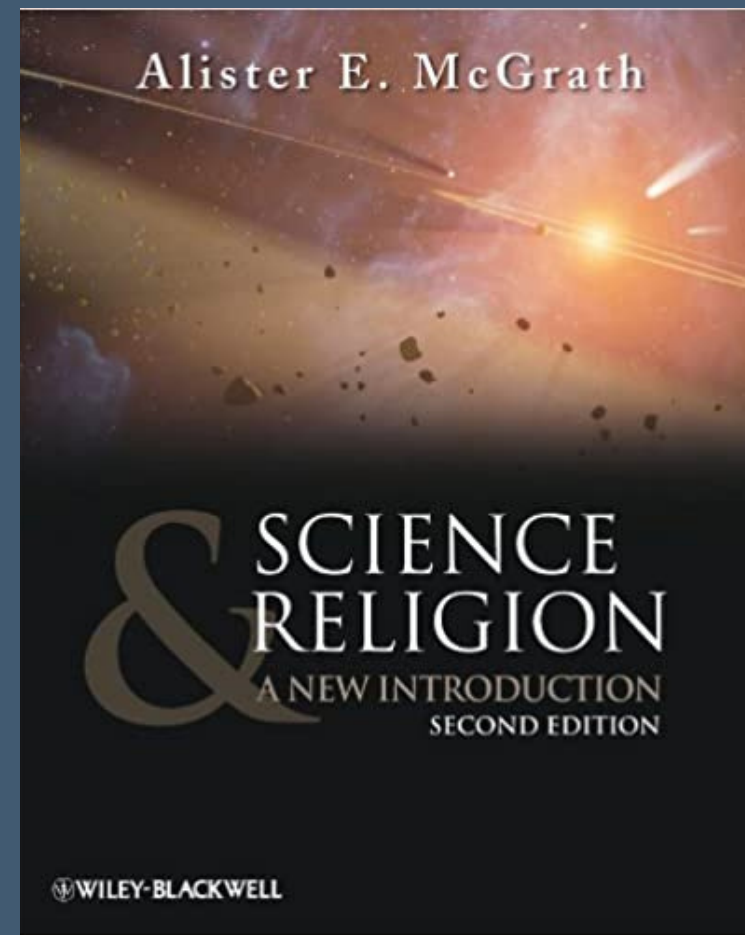
# What This Could Look Like for You



## WRIT 1XX

### Caring for Words

Library Ebook purchase of \$33 total would save each student \$22. This is the book Wheaton College uses for a comparable course.



## GSCI 1XX

### Faith and Science

Library already owns this Ebook. No additional cost to the university or students. Can purchase new editions as they become available.

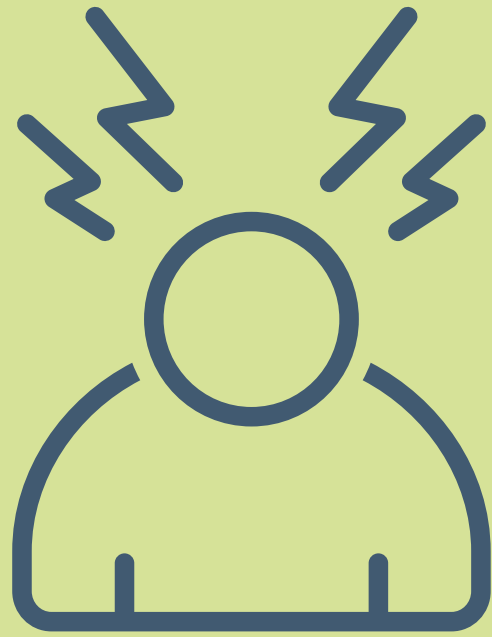


## HIST 1XX

### The Modern and Postmodern World

Brand new Open Textbook (OER) written by faculty in Minnesota. Free to use for all students.

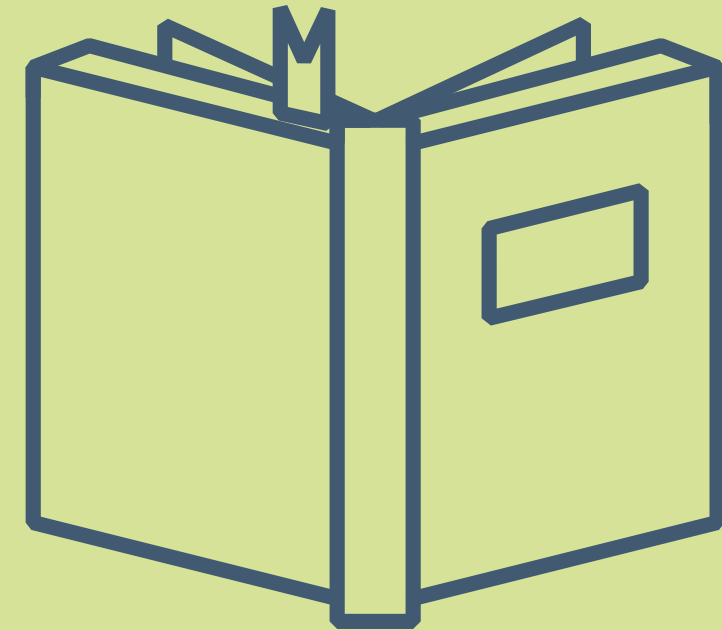
# WHAT WE'RE AVOIDING



Big Increase  
in Faculty  
Workload



Using Poor  
Quality  
Resources



Forbidding  
Print Copies  
of Books

# Other Textbook Affordability Goal Options

**Each course brings  
textbook costs under  
a set dollar amount**

**We aim for a low  
average textbook  
cost in the Core  
(ex: many courses  
free but others under  
\$X depending on  
course needs)**

**You write your own  
open textbook to join  
those written by other  
GFU Faculty (this  
would be a long term  
goal)**



# LIBRARIANS

## WE ARE EQUIPPED AND EXCITED TO HELP WITH THIS



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Learn more about the Textbook Affordability Program at:  
<https://libguides.georgefox.edu/OpenText>