What are Affordable Learning and Zero Textbook Cost Initiatives?

The Affordable Learning Initiative (ALI) aims to reduce costs for students by substituting low-cost or no-cost resources in place of paid textbooks. Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) is a term used to indicate that a course does not require enrolled students to purchase a textbook or required readings.

A Wakefield Research survey of 1,000 students from the US and Canada showed:
- 85% of students delay or avoid purchasing course materials due to cost
- 50% of students believe that delaying or avoiding purchase negatively impacted their grades

Libraries can support ALI and ZTC initiatives by providing institutionally subscribed resources to students and faculty, ensuring no out-of-pocket expenses for users. Such resources can include all library-licensed materials — books, electronic books, journals, articles for course instruction — as well as physical and electronic reserves.

How JoVE Can Support ALI and ZTC at Your Institution

JoVE is the world-leading producer and publisher of science video resources, which are designed to be used as primary or supplementary teaching materials.

1. **Institutional Subscription Model**
   JoVE facilitates library led institutional subscription models, allowing faculty and students to reduce expenses on teaching and learning resources.

2. **High-Quality Materials That Meet Learning Objectives**
   With over 13,000 high-impact animations and easy-to-understand demonstrations, JoVE supports scientific discovery at all levels, covering everything from the fundamentals to advanced methods and concepts.

3. **Supplementary Protocols and Text Materials**
   Videos are accompanied by supplementary text, downloadable text protocols, and quiz questions.

4. **Customer Success Support and Effortless Syllabus Mapping for Faculty**
   JoVE supports faculty by offering free one-on-one demos, training webinars, syllabus mappings, and more. JoVE’s materials are also already paired to open-source resources such as OpenStax Biology, Chemistry, and Psychology. (see mapped OpenStax books).

5. **Additional JoVE Video Features**
   - Quizzes [available for all Education content]
   - Playlists [a set of videos selected for a certain purpose and neatly organized in one place]
   - Seamless integration into any learning management system (LMS)
   - Easily used within any learning environment, supporting campus preparedness strategies

Click on the screenshot above to see what educators say about using JoVE videos in instruction.

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JoVE is the leading producer and publisher of video resources with the mission to increase the productivity of research and education in science, medicine, and engineering.

customersuccess@jove.com
www.jove.com