



Academic Materials Survey

Fall 2020

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"Given the circumstances we're currently facing due to this pandemic, any measure that help cut down expenses is great relief for many students - especially those who have lost their jobs or have no source of income."

Introduction

The high cost of traditional commercial textbooks has nearly doubled since 2002. In addition to ever-increasing tuition fees and ballooning student loan debt, textbook costs are creating further obstacles and barriers for student success in the classroom. In fact, a majority of BC post-secondary students report that they don't buy their textbooks – this can have serious negative effects on learning outcomes. *(source BC Campus - <https://open.bccampus.ca/advocate-for-open-education/>)*

Open Educational Resources (OERs) are accessible, affordable and customizable teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain, which permits their free use and re-purposing by others. They increase access to knowledge and the quality of learning, both of which improve student success. These resources commonly include textbooks and open access journals, but can also include other materials used for learning and research like course materials, modules, videos, tests, software, and more.

Since 2012, open textbooks have saved students over \$23 million in British Columbia; more funding will result in more materials and more savings for students one class at a time! All it takes to expand the program is a commitment from instructors and administration to increase access to academic materials and make saving students money a priority, which ultimately leads to academic success. *(source BC Campus - <https://open.bccampus.ca/advocate-for-open-education/open-textbook-stats/>)*

Since 2015, the Douglas Students' Union has lobbied for more OER adoptions with the Open Textbooks Now! Campaign. The campaign has advocated for increased funding to support OER implementation at Douglas College and at the provincial level, along with raising awareness of open education and the benefits of OERs to students and faculty members.

In April 2019, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training Melanie Mark announced an infusion of an additional \$3.26 million to BCCampus for the creation and enhancement of OERs province wide. This is an historic investment that will launch the OER initiative in BC forward and create more access to quality academic materials that students across the province will benefit from.

BOOK ADOPTIONS AT DOUGLAS COLLEGE

2013-2020 TOTAL STUDENT SAVINGS

16,898 STUDENTS
SAVED \$2,079,017

2019-20 ACADEMIC YEAR

159 ADOPTIONS
4,273 STUDENTS SAVED \$518,195

FALL 2020

91 ADOPTIONS
2,325 STUDENTS SAVED \$293,203

WINTER 2021

TOTAL SAVINGS OF
\$355,888

By The Numbers

BY THE NUMBERS (AS OF AUGUST 2020 & TIME OF SURVEY)

Source: Open Douglas Working Group - <https://opendouglas.opened.ca/>

Open textbook adoptions have been tracked since 2013 at Douglas College. In 2013, there were 6 adoptions, impacting 352 students for a savings of \$50,700.

Since then, 16,898 students have saved a total of \$2,079,017 by the end of the 2019-20 academic year.

The Douglas College OER Incentive Grant started in the Winter 2018 semester. Since then, 49 faculty have been awarded the Grant as of the summer 2020 semester for a total amount of \$24,000.

2019-20 Academic Year

159 sections used OERs with total saving for students \$518,195

Fall 2019 – 32 classes (1598 students, \$191,033 savings)

Winter 2020 – 29 classes (1454 students, \$170,695 savings)

Summer 2020 – 18 classes (1221 students, \$157,195 savings)

Fall 2020 and Winter 2021

The fall 2020 semester showed the largest increase in OER adoptions since 2013 with 91 adoptions impacting 2325 students for a savings of \$293,203.

The winter 2021 semester showed another huge shift for OER adoptions., with a total savings of \$355,888 - which doubled the winter 2020 savings.

DSU Academic Materials Survey

In fall 2020, the Douglas Students' Union launched the Academic Materials Survey to gather data to inform the next phase of the Open Textbooks Now! campaign at Douglas College. The survey collected information from students on the following topics: how much they spent on textbooks, their experiences accessing academic materials for the fall 2020 semester, experience and perspectives on Open Educational Resources (OERs), and the financial impacts of high textbook costs in addition to tuition fees.

The Academic Materials Survey ran for 3 weeks in September and October 2020 and had a total of 484 student responses from the 6 academic areas at Douglas College. The survey was promoted through the Douglas Students' Union social media channels and sent out to the email distribution list of 1350 (students that signed up for email correspondence). The survey was hosted on Typeform and was accessed by mobile, tablet or computer - <https://ho309728.typeform.com/to/oWxUsfl9>

This report highlights the key findings in the following areas:

- Academic Expenses
- Access Codes
- Financial Impacts
- Alternatives to Traditional Commercial Academic Materials

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

1. Academic materials are a major financial barrier for students to access education and limit student success.
2. Academic material costs are more than anticipated, students are surprised by how expensive their required materials cost.
3. Students do not purchase required academic materials because it is cost-prohibitive.
4. Students make difficult decisions between required academic materials or other necessities (such as groceries, rent and savings for future education).
5. Digital Assessment Tools (access codes) are an emerging issue and are a financial barrier to academic success.
6. There is a clear need and demand for no or low cost academic material alternatives.
7. There are additional benefits to using alternative academic materials including environmental sustainability and increased accessibility.

"The cost is immense. It seems silly to me that REQUIRED academic materials are not included in the tuition cost. Regardless of the price, why charge twice? Its not like students have a choice if they want a good GPA..."

"Students are always bound by the cost of their education, for many, income limitations dictates which course they are able to take. This results in delays in graduation which causes further financial burdens.

Education should be delivered in a multitude of methods to ensure it is available for those who seek it."

NOTE:

The survey was designed to capture the unique experiences of students and therefore not all questions were mandatory and students could choose to skip and have the option to select more than 1 response depending on the question. This is reflected in the number of responses to specific questions (for example the responses to using alternatives to recommended academic materials is answered by students who indicated they did not purchase the recommended materials and responses to why students would choose an OER as an alternative to traditional textbooks).

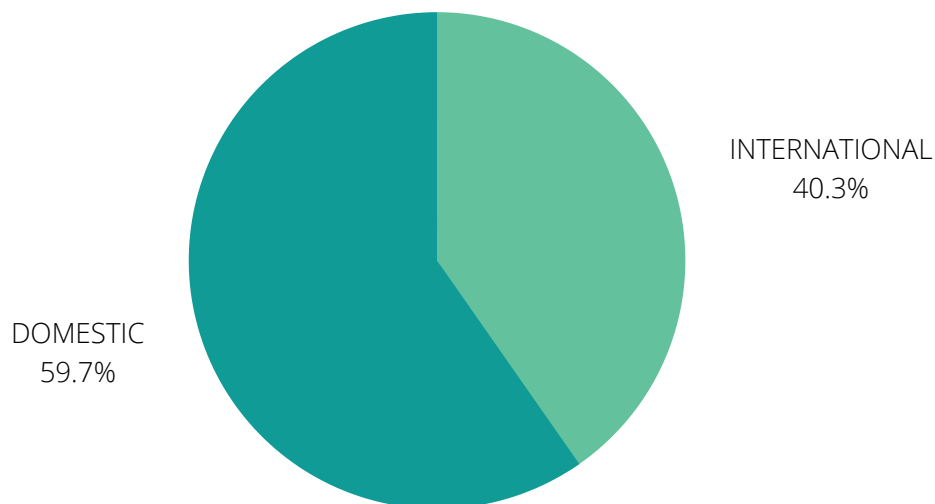
Section 1: Demographic Information

RESPONSES BY ACADEMIC AREAS

ACADEMIC AREA	# OF RESPONSES	
APPLIED COMMUNITY STUDIES	27	5.58%
COMMERCE & BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	192	39.67%
HEALTH SCIENCES	30	6.20%
HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES	138	28.51%
LANGUAGE, LITERATURE & PERFORMING ARTS	14	2.89%
SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGY	65	13.43%
UNKNOWN (RESPONDENTS DID NOT IDENTIFY AREA OF STUDY)	18	3.72%

FURTHER BREAKDOWN OF RESPONDENTS BY PROGRAMS CAN BE FOUND IN APPENDIX A

RESPONSES BY DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



"I don't like being forced to purchase high priced materials that can easily be substituted (ie. with older editions, and open resources which are just as good if not better). Currently due to COVID-19 and a 5 class course load, I am not working and this compounds the stress and inability to afford "mandatory" course materials."

FINDINGS

The majority of students who took the survey were 1st or 2nd year, showing that the financial burden of textbooks is evident right from the start of post-secondary education. International students surveyed represent approximately 40% of total students who took the survey, which slightly over represents the student population at Douglas College and demonstrates that academic materials costs are an important issue for international students and not just for domestic students.

"It's unnecessarily expensive to get learning materials, international students already pay an extreme amount in fees and tuition, they should consider adding books and other material in that cost."

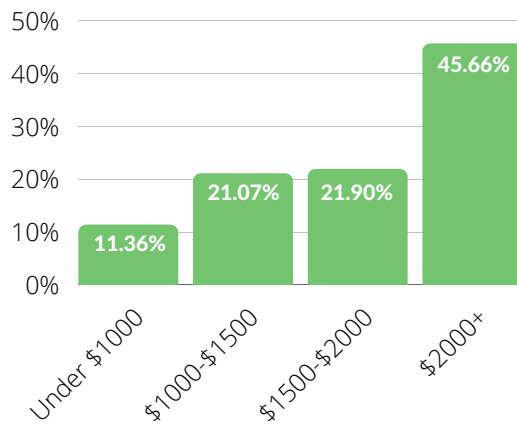
"It's such a dirty surprise to learn that you have to buy books separately."

Section 2: Academic Expenses

To understand the full academic costs for students, academic materials must be included in the calculation with tuition fees. Often, academic materials are not included in the calculation and discussions around educational costs; accounting for academic materials provides a bigger picture to the expenses that students face. However, this does not take into account expenses associated with cost of living (such as housing, food and transportation).

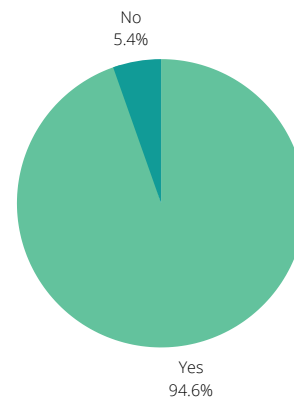
TUITION FEES FOR FALL 2020

Q2A: HOW MUCH DID YOU SPEND ON TUITION FEES THIS SEMESTER?



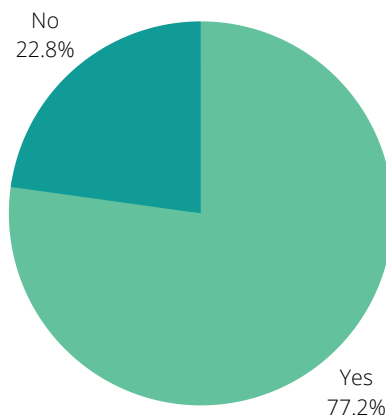
REQUIRED ACADEMIC MATERIALS

Q2B: DO YOU HAVE ANY REQUIRED ACADEMIC MATERIALS (TEXTBOOKS, MANUALS, NOVELS, ARTICLES, JOURNALS, ETC.) FOR YOUR COURSES?



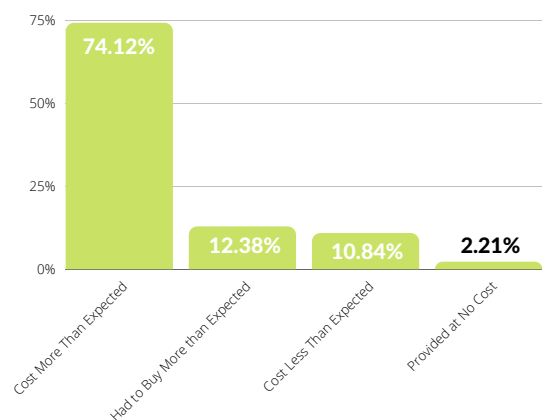
COST OF ACADEMIC MATERIALS

Q2C: WERE YOU SURPRISED ABOUT THE COST OF YOUR ACADEMIC MATERIALS?



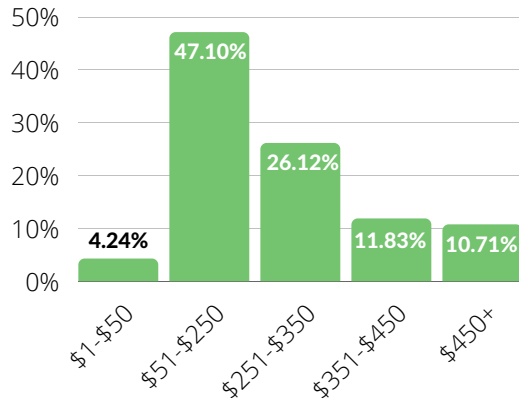
COST OF ACADEMIC MATERIALS

Q2D: WHAT WAS SURPRISING ABOUT THE COST OF YOUR ACADEMIC MATERIALS?



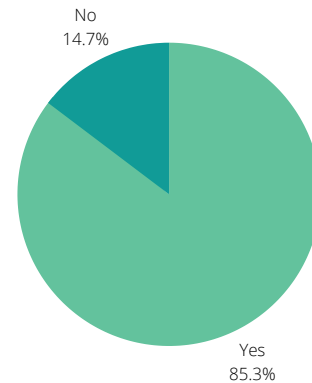
ACADEMIC MATERIAL COSTS

Q2E: HOW MUCH DO YOUR ACADEMIC MATERIALS COST THIS SEMESTER?



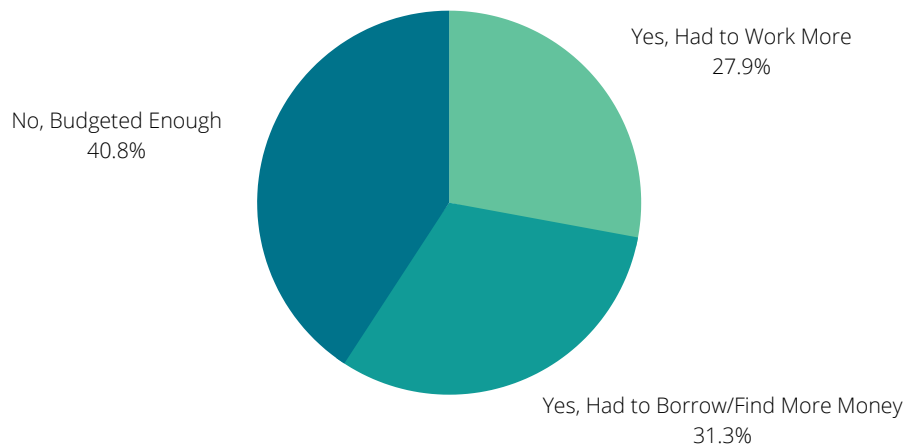
PURCHASING RECOMMENDED ACADEMIC MATERIALS

Q2F: DID YOU BUY THE RECOMMENDED ACADEMIC MATERIALS THIS SEMESTER?



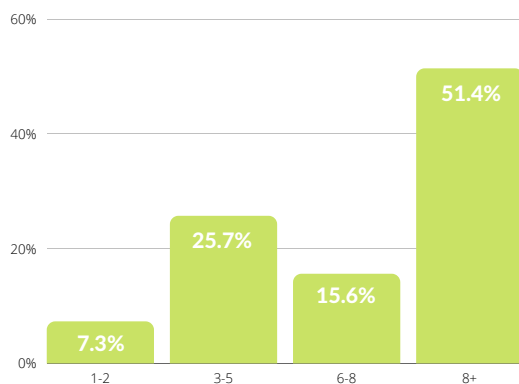
BUDGETING FOR ACADEMIC MATERIALS

Q2G: DID YOU HAVE TO WORK EXTRA HOURS OR BORROW MORE MONEY IN ORDER TO AFFORD YOU ACADEMIC MATERIALS?



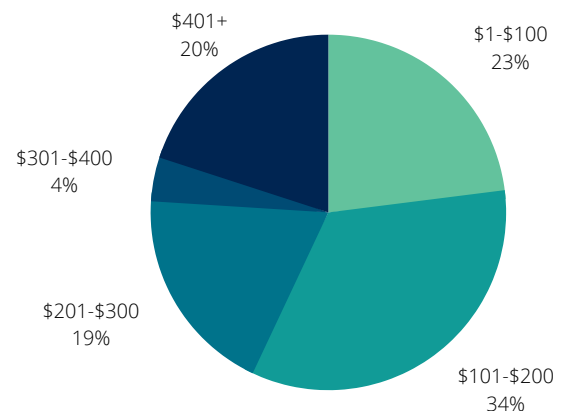
HOURS WORKED TO BUY MATERIALS

Q2H: HOW MANY EXTRA HOURS DID YOU HAVE TO WORK TO BE ABLE TO PURCHASE YOUR ACADEMIC MATERIALS?



MONEY BORROWED TO BUY MATERIALS

Q2I: HOW MUCH DID YOU HAVE TO BORROW OR FIND TO BE ABLE TO BUY YOUR ACADEMIC MATERIALS?



FINDINGS

67% of students who took the survey paid over \$1500 for their tuition, and 95% of students paid over \$51 for their academic materials.

Along with high tuition fees, having to spend a few hundred dollars on textbooks increases the financial burden on students.

Of the students surveyed, 95% required academic materials for their courses with 77% of students surprised by the costs. Of those students, 75% reported that their academic materials cost more than expected. This impacts their education and cost of living budgets (the need to re-budget already scarce resources), the amount they have to borrow from government and private loans, the need to forgo purchasing the academic materials, or the need to get creative about how to access the academic materials for free or at a very low cost.

Due to the costs being more than expected, students had to make some choices on how they proceeded:

- 15% of students did not purchase the recommended academic materials
- 60% of students either had to borrow funds or work to afford the academic materials
 - Of the students who had to work - 50% worked more than 6-8 hours
 - Of the students who had to borrow - 75% had to borrow more than \$100

Students report that the cost of academic materials are unexpected and unanticipated, increasing financial strain, burden and stress.

"It is quite terrifying having to pull in money to buy these things. Sometimes one's budget can cut close — sometimes too close."

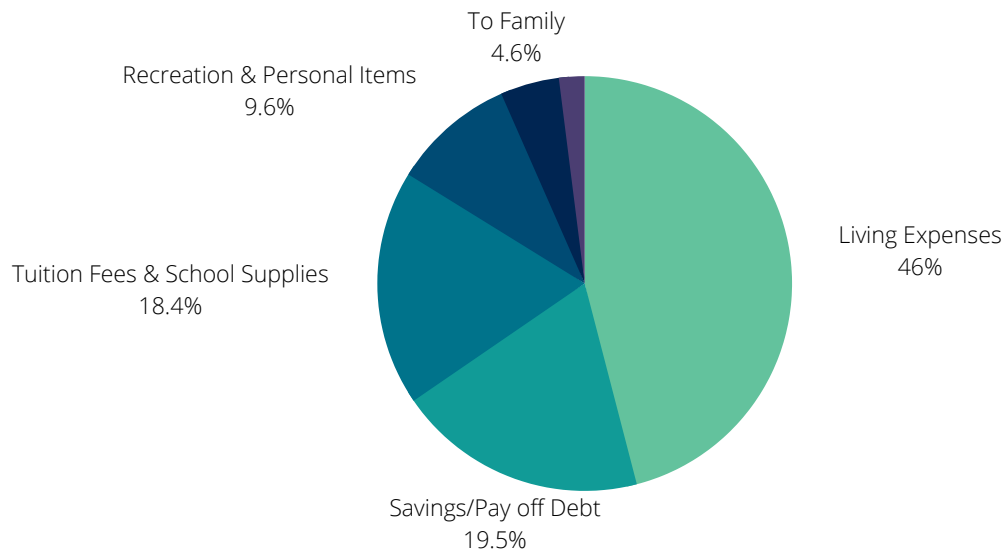
"Sometimes supplementaries [cost] up to \$200 CAD per course. When you pay \$7,500 for one semester - that's unfair."

Section 3: Financial Impacts

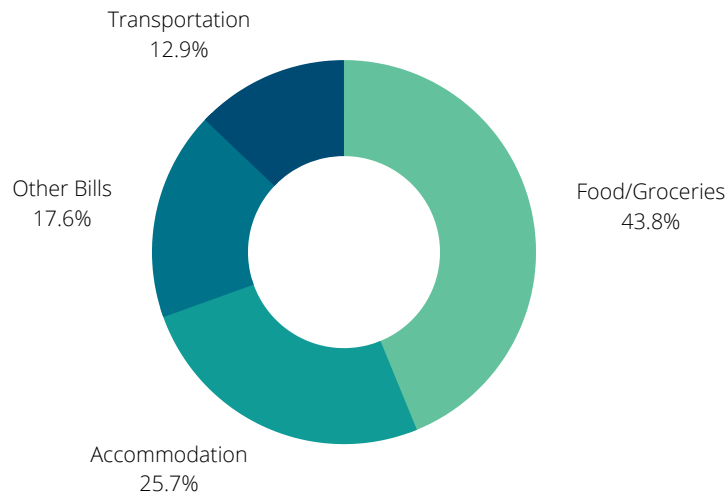
Students have limited budgets and access to funds. That means they will need to prioritize where they spend their money. Students' expenses outweigh resources and they will forgo various areas of spending. Often, students are not able to access the recommended academic materials because it is simply out of their budget. The next set of questions help us understand what students prioritize, how they allocate their limited budgets, and the financial impacts that they face.

WHERE MONEY WOULD HAVE BEEN SPENT INSTEAD OF ACADEMIC MATERIALS

Q2J: IF YOU DID NOT NEED TO BUY YOUR ACADEMIC MATERIALS, WHAT WOULD YOU USE THAT MONEY FOR?



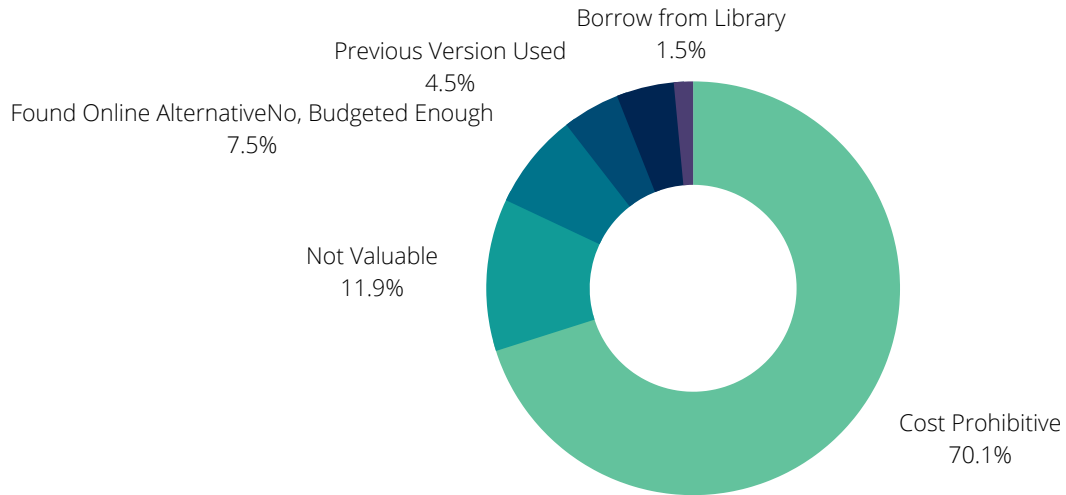
BREAKDOWN OF LIVING EXPENSES



FURTHER COMMENTS ON EXPENSES CAN BE FOUND IN APPENDIX B

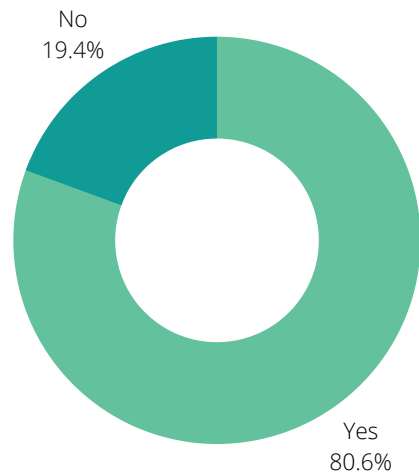
WHY ACADEMIC MATERIALS WERE NOT PURCHASED

Q2K: CAN YOU SHARE WITH US WHY YOU DIDN'T BUY THEM?



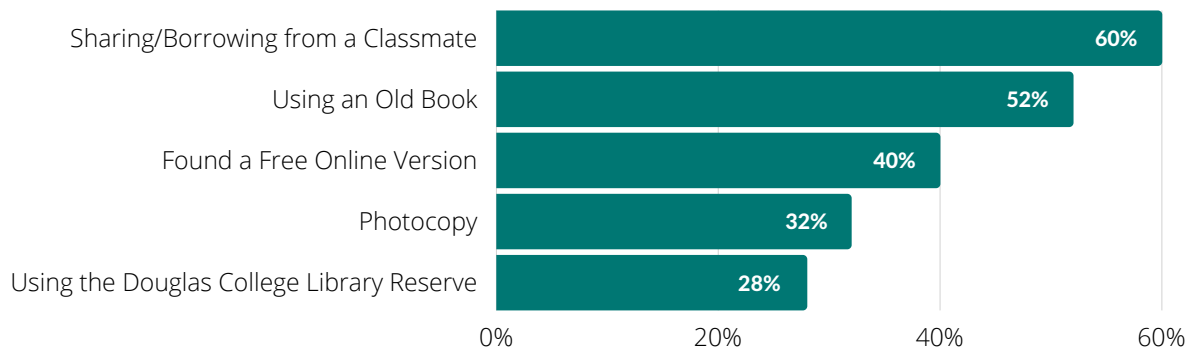
USING ALTERNATIVE ACADEMIC MATERIALS/RESOURCES

Q2L: ARE YOU USING ANY ALTERNATIVE ACADEMIC MATERIALS OR RESOURCES?



ALTERNATIVES BEING USED

Q2O: WHAT ARE YOU USING INSTEAD OF BUYING THE REQUIRED MATERIAL?



"Textbook costs are astronomical on top of tuition fees, I've been forced to take out student loans when I was hoping to rely on work and RESPS for my education costs."

"It's not fair that your grade can be affected if you can't afford to buy a textbook or access code."

FINDINGS

The unexpected cost of required academic materials makes financial planning very difficult for students. With limited resources and access to funds, students make difficult decisions on where they put their scarce resources. Academic materials cost more than expected and students rebudget from other cost of living necessities or dip into contingency savings.

46% of students report that the money they spent on academic materials would have been spent on living expenses. Further breakdown indicates that:

- 44% would have spent funds on food & groceries
- 26% would have spent funds on their accommodation & rent
- 13% would have spent funds on transportation
- 18% would have spent funds on other bills

38% of students report that the money spent on academic materials would have gone back into their education:

- 19% would have used funds to pay off student debt or save for contingency and emergencies
- 18% would have spent funds on tuition fees or school supplies

Of the students who chose to not purchase the recommended academic materials:

- 72% stated that it was cost prohibitive
- 12% found an online alternative or used a previous version of the material
- 12% determined that the academic material was not valuable
- 4.5% planned to purchase later in the semester once they have the funds
- 2% planned to borrow from the library reserve

Students are resourceful and creative and find ways to get around purchasing the required materials. This includes sharing/borrowing from a classmate, using a previous or used version, finding free versions online, photocopying and using the Douglas College Library Reserve.

Students already struggle with the financial cost of post-secondary education; adding expensive academic material on top of annually increasing tuition fees and cost of living, means that the financial burden continues to increase. Students have to make very difficult decisions, from re-budgeting away from necessities, working more hours and borrowing more money, or deciding to forgo the required academic materials - all of which increases anxiety, stress and takes away from students' ability to be academically successful.

Each decision comes with a financial, academic or health cost.

- Working additional hours means less time for studying & focusing on courses
- Borrowing money increases the overall students debt load
- Forgoing the academic materials means students are missing out on important information to succeed academically
- Re-budgeting puts students at risk for not making rent or forgoing eating healthy foods

"The money we spend on books is ridiculous. Some of the books don't even seek after one use, so they end up going in recycle.

The my lab code is just ridiculous. The assignments can be done on a paper too rather than spending 100\$!"

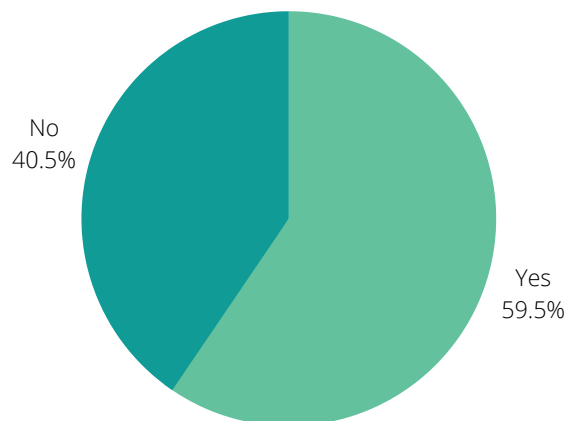
"Prices are always different and unfortunately I can't estimate how much I will spend every term."

Section 4: Digital Assessment Tools

In the past several years, students have highlighted concerns regarding mandatory assignments and quizzes through online modules that can only be accessed through Digital Assessment Tools (DATs), through access codes from new textbooks, or require a separate purchase. For students who rely on used textbooks or the library reserves, this creates an additional cost barrier. This is a concern because of the inherent unfairness for students that face financial barriers who cannot access these assignments and quizzes and therefore have to give up the opportunity to earn grades. There is also concern regarding the accuracy of the content and the lack of standards that quizzes and assignments are created (such as a 15 minute limit on a quiz that would take 2 hours to complete).

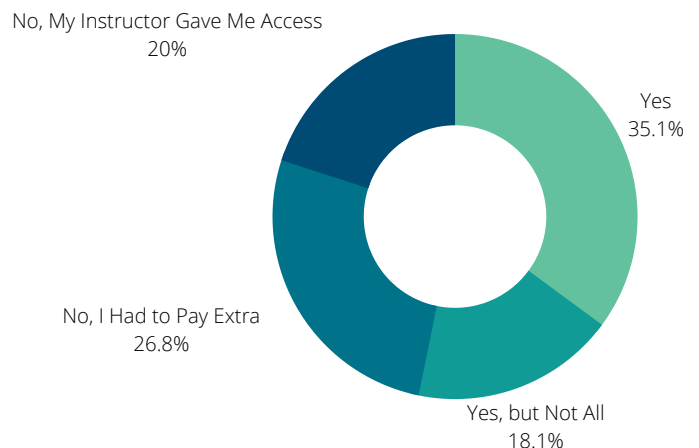
ACCESS CODE REQUIREMENTS TO ACCESS DIGITAL ASSESSMENT TOOLS

Q5A: DID ANY OF YOUR COURSES REQUIRE AN ACCESS CODE TO ACCESS ONLINE PORTALS FOR ASSIGNMENTS, QUIZZES & EXAMS?



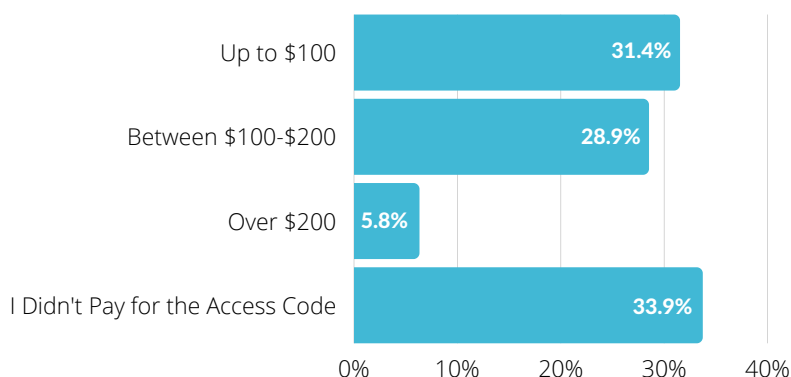
ACCESS CODES INCLUDED WITH ACADEMIC MATERIALS

Q5B: WERE THE ACCESS CODES INCLUDED WITH YOUR ACADEMIC MATERIALS?



COST OF ACCESS CODES

Q5C: HOW MUCH DO YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR THE ACCESS CODES?



"The very sad thing is about access codes, I had an access code worth 5% grades costing \$100 for just quizzes that makes no sense."

"It's been frustrating to pay for access codes to do assignments that make up 10-15% of my grade - they should be included in the tuition I pay!"

FINDINGS

60% of students surveyed report that they are required to use a Digital Assessment Tool (DAT) as part of their course. Out of these students, 66% had to pay additional fees to access the assessment.

- 34% had the access code provided to them at no cost
- 32% paid up to \$100
- 29% paid between \$100-\$200
- 6% paid over \$200

Digital Assessment Tools are utilized across many departments. While some are used as supplementary for practice, others are used as part of determining the final grade for a course (reportedly up to 20%).

Students report that it is unfair to pay an additional fee to access an assessment when they already paid their tuition fees for the course. For students who can not afford to pay for the access codes, they are forced to forgo the opportunity to earn marks and this impacts their grade and GPA negatively.

Digital Assessment Tools can be a good supplementary learning tool; however, many provided by publishers include errors in the content and the assessment algorithms that have major implications for the students being assessed.

There needs to be further research into the usage of Digital Assessment Tools at Douglas College and students' experiences with them to understand the academic and financial impacts of Digital Assessment Tools.

Section 5: Alternatives to Traditional Commercial Academic Materials

Students actively seek alternatives to traditional commercial academic materials and while there is some awareness of OERS, many students do not know that they are viable options that their instructors can choose as recommended academic material. Students are very resourceful and have found many alternatives but it takes time to search and often find used textbooks, previous editions (with content that is out of date or reordered), and sometimes illegal online copies. Students have expressed their desire to access low cost or free academic materials sanctioned by their instructors over what they find on their own.

The survey provided the following information about Open Educational Resources to students prior to this next set of questions which seeks to find out students' opinions on using academic material alternatives.

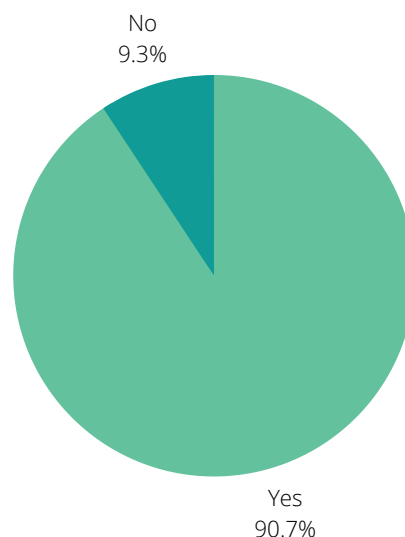
"Open Educational Resources (OERs) are alternatives to traditional, expensive textbooks.

OERs come in many forms: full courses, lesson plans, videos, games, textbooks and online simulations (just to name a few). Most commonly used at Douglas College are textbooks that come in a digital format at no cost or in print at a very low cost.

Faculty can use these customizable textbooks in place of traditional textbooks which greatly reduces academic material costs for students!"

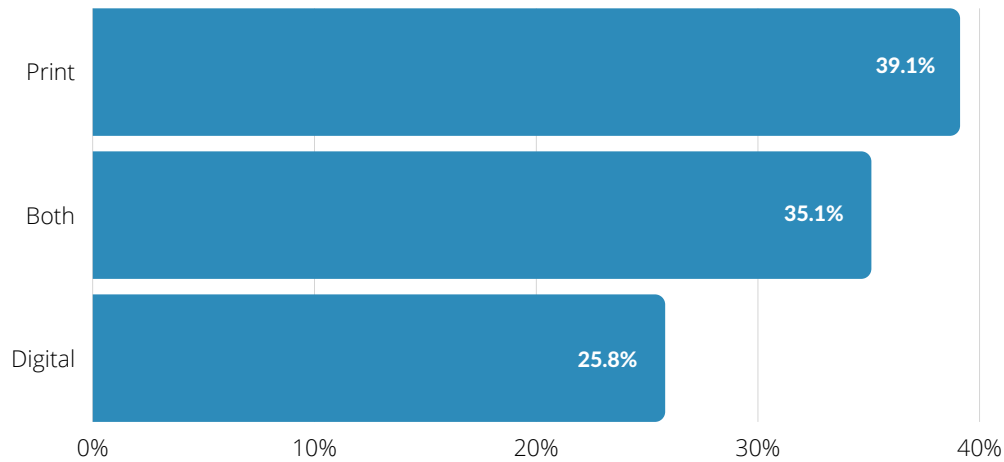
USING OERS AS AN ALTERNATIVE

Q6A: IF THERE WAS AN OER ALTERNATIVE FOR YOUR COURSES, WOULD YOU USE IT?



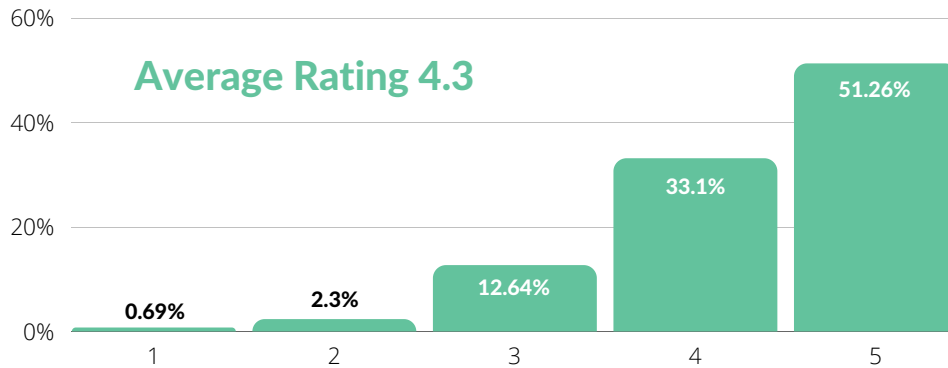
OER USAGE PREFERENCE

Q6B: IF AN OER WAS MADE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR COURSE, WOULD YOU PREFER A DIGITAL COPY OR A PRINT COPY?



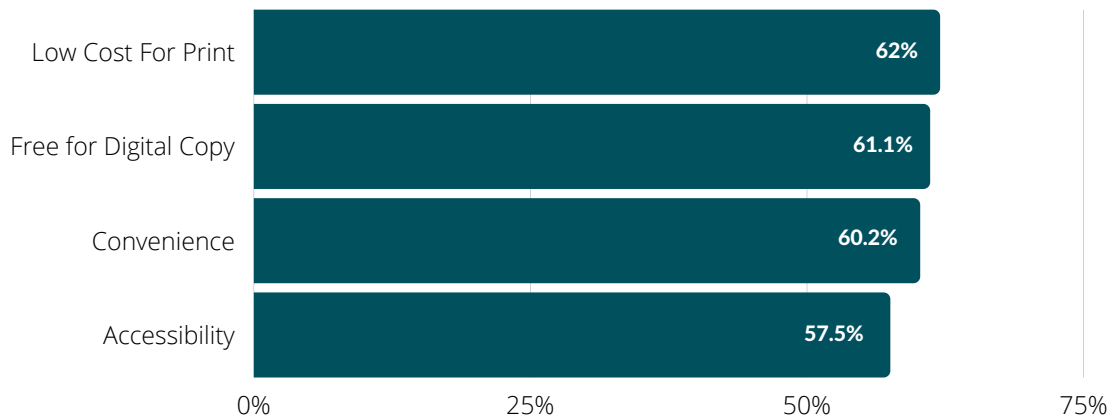
OERS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO TRADITIONAL ACADEMIC MATERIALS

Q6E: WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT OERS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO TRADITIONAL ACADEMIC MATERIALS? (RATE OUT OF 5, 1 BEING NOT VERY GOOD, 5 BEING VERY GOOD)



CHOOSING OERS OVER TRADITIONAL ACADEMIC MATERIALS

Q6F: NOW THAT YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT OERS, WHY WOULD YOU CHOOSE THEM OVER TRADITIONAL ACADEMIC MATERIALS? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)



"I absolutely do not understand why we are made to buy these expensive texts when instructors could choose to make an OER available to students for free and is a lot more convenient and consistent."

"It's a student dream. Nothing more could ease off the stress in student life."

FINDINGS

91% of students surveyed would use an Open Educational Resource for their courses if they were made available, demonstrating the demand for low cost academic materials. Students surveyed rated OERs as alternative to traditional academic materials 4.3 out of 5 (average), with 84% of students surveyed rating 4 or 5. (Rating out of 5, 1 being not very good, 5 being very good)

There are various ways that students can use OERs:

- 39% prefer a print copy
- 35% prefer having both print and digital copies
- 26% prefer a digital copy

There is still a high demand for print OERs at 74% that have operational implications for the Douglas College Bookstore and on campus on demand printing. The Douglas College Print Shop has the capacity to print OERs and can print large runs of each OER or by demand at low cost.

Students report they would choose OERs:

- 62% because of Low Cost for Print
- 61% because of Free Digital Copy
- 60% for Convenience
- 58% because of Increased Accessibility

While there were no specific questions about sustainability, students have commented that digital OER options are also a good choice for long term environmental and sustainability reasons. The option to view and access OERs on a digital device saves printing as well as increases convenience and accessibility.

As more students learn about the alternative options available, more students question the use of traditional expensive academic materials and the demand for OER options increase.

"Textbooks are very expensive and it would be nice if instructors/faculties took that into consideration when picking textbooks (some instructors acknowledge the price of textbooks and offer/support alternatives which is great). Which is why OER resources could be a future great alternative."

"[OERs] are amazing alternative to buying textbooks, really cheap and affordable if you do want a physical copy but the fact you're offered a free digital is amazing."

Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION 1:

Continue to spread awareness of the cost of traditional commercial academic materials to students and faculty members. Specifically the impact of expensive and unanticipated required materials that hinder academic success.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

Continue to gather feedback on student experiences and the impact of costly required academic materials.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

Lobby Douglas College to implement an Academic Materials Policy. Including limiting the cost of required academic materials and to publicize accurate costs of materials at the time of registration.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

Research the usage of Digital Assessment Tools at Douglas College and the impacts on academic success. Including costs, usage rates in each department, and alternatives.

RECOMMENDATION 5:

Lobby Douglas College to implement a Digital Assessment Tools Policy. Including limiting the costs of each tool, limiting the percentage DATs are calculated for final grades and a policy statement that articulates the colleges stance on charging students for assessments.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

Facilitate and encourage direct student and faculty dialogue of academic materials and impacts on students. Encourage exchange of perspectives and experiences to increase understanding.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

Continue work with the Open Douglas Working Group and faculty members to work towards increasing alternatives to traditional, commercial academic materials at low or no cost.

Appendix A:

Responses by Academic Area & Program

Q1b							
What are you studying/Which program are you in?		ACADEMIC AREA				# OF RESPONSES	
		APPLIED COMMUNITY STUDIES				27	5.58%
		COMMERCE & BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION				192	39.67%
		HEALTH SCIENCES				30	6.20%
		HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES				138	28.51%
		LANGUAGE, LITERATURE & PERFORMING ARTS				14	2.89%
		SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGY				65	13.43%
		UNKNOWN (Respondents did not identify their area of study)				18	3.72%
						484	
		DEPARTMENT				# OF RESPONSES	
		Applied Community Studies:					
		Child and Youth Care				8	
		Classroom & Community Support				3	
		Disability & Community Studies				2	
		Early Childhood Education				6	
		Social Work				2	
		Therapeutic Recreation				5	
		Youth Justice				1	
		Commerce & Business Administration:					
		Accounting				39	
		Business				59	
		Business Law				1	
		Commerce & Business Administration				3	
		Computing Studies & Information Systems				31	
		Economics				1	
		Finance				17	
		Hospitality Management				14	
		Marketing				19	
		Office Administration				8	
		Health Sciences:					
		Health Information Management				4	
		Nursing				21	
		Nursing - Psychiatric				5	
		Humanities & Social Sciences:					
		Anthropology				3	
		Criminology				32	
		Geography and The Environment				2	
		History				2	
		Humanities & Social Sciences				54	
		Interdisciplinary HSS				2	
		Interdisciplinary LLPA				7	
		Psychology				35	
		Sociology				1	
		Language, Literature & Performing Arts:					
		Communications				4	
		Creative Writing				1	
		English				1	
		ELLA				3	
		Intercultural and International Studies				1	
		Music				1	

	Stagecraft & Event Technology	2
	Theatre	1
	Science & Technology:	
	Biology	1
	Dispensing Opticianry	1
	Earth & Environmental Sciences	2
	Engineering	2
	Hearing Instrument Practitioner	3
	Science & Technology	39
	Sport Science	14
	Veterinary Technology	3
	Unknown Faculty/Department:	
	Bachelor of Arts	1
	BBA	3
	PBD	3
	Upgrading	1
	Math Upgrading	1
	Arts	1
	BCBA	1

Appendix B:

Student Comments

Q2j	
If you did not need to buy your academic materials, what would you use that money for?	
	A better laptop to handle online classes, mine is very slow
	A better place to live
	a camera
	a car to learn how to drive
	A good mattress.
	A Laptop for ease of schooling
	A new desk and supplies
	A new keyboard
	Academic materials for next semester
	Add it to my savings, since school is starting again I'm not working as much so I'm more strapped for money especially with Covid
	additional funds for tuition
	Additional supplies such as paper, pens and maybe a Douglas sweatshirt!
	Basic living expenses
	Bills
	Bills
	bills
	Bills
	Bills
	Bills or
	buy more food with better quality
	buy some accessories for my laptop.
	Buying some stuff for me that i needed
	Car
	Car insurance
	Car insurance
	car insurance
	Car insurance
	Car insurance & food expenses
	car insurance and personal expenses
	Car insurance food rent
	Car insurance or phone bill
	Car insurance/move out
	Classes or Food
	Clothes, Coffee and Transit Monthly Bus Pass
	coffee
	Coffee
	College parking pass (not applicable this semester), groceries, travel expense, etc
	Compass card as this semester we do not have U-pass
	couldve saved it for food or rent
	daily expenses
	Daily expenses? Being an international student, we already have to spend more than others, buy every basic things which are absolutely necessary, so would use it for that
	Day to day expenses
	Dentist and car insurance
	Down payment for a house
	Due to online learning, I spent much money in buying printer ink and papers in order to print out materials
	Electronic supplies, personal needs
	Entertainment
	Essential groceries
	family or own self
	Family support
	Family's living expenses
	Fees next semester

	food
	Food
	Food
	food
	food
	Food
	Food
	Food
	Food
	Food
	Food
	Food
	food
	food
	Food
	food
	Food & phone bill
	Food and future school expenses
	Food and living
	Food and necessities
	Food and paying off existing debt
	Food and rent
	Food and renting
	Food and savings for the future
	Food maybe?
	Food or bills
	Food or equipment for exercising
	Food or rent
	Food, bills
	Food, bills, ect
	Food, bills, savings
	Food, clothes, rent
	Food, clothing and touring
	food, clothing, other bills and expenses
	Food, gifts for friends/family, clothes, savings
	Food, healthier food
	Food, investing
	food, new chair, save it for next sem
	Food, rent, bills
	Food, rent, diapers
	Foods
	For a course next semester
	For clothes or technology
	For emergencies
	for family
	For food
	For food and rent
	For food and rent
	For groceries
	for my kids
	For my living mainly rent and food.
	for my savings to pay my tuition fees next semester
	For paying fee
	For rent
	for saving or for house rental

	For the academic tuition next semester
	Friends and family
	Gas and car insurance
	Gas money or insurance
	gas money/ insurance etc
	gas or clothes
	General bills
	Gifts, food, going out
	go on a vacation
	go towards new ipad for school
	Going to good therapy
	groceries
	Groceries
	groceries
	groceries
	groceries
	Groceries and paying of bills
	Groceries for my child and I
	Groceries for sure
	Groceries or other school materials
	groceries, medical needs, food, rent, phone bill
	Groceries, rent, and bills
	Groceries, rent, learning resources and meals
	Groceries, typical living expenses, bills
	Grocery
	grocery and appliances
	Grocery shopping
	grocery's
	Gym membership
	Healthier meals
	Help family with bills, or save extra money for next semester tuition
	Help parents with bills
	Helping my family out
	Household necessities
	I am working mother. For my child
	I did buy them, but if I didn't I would've use it to buy groceries
	I did need them and put the left over into my savings
	I don't pay for my own books
	I got scammed by CRA SCAMMERS so I had to arrange my tuition fees twice and other expenses. I borrowed \$4000 and depended on food bank.
	I need them for academic material only
	I only had to pay for one class but I'd save it for any upcoming expenses
	I only use the money to buy my academic materials
	I will definitely use that money for my compass card as for now its not covered under by college fees and its pretty huge amount 150-170\$.
	I will spend to bus and train. Cuz no Upass now
	I will try to save and use it towards my tuition fees to lessen the burden on my parents and/or towards my hobbies because i can just survive and not enjoy with pay from 20 hours each week
	I will use that money for my grocery and other necessities that are required.
	I would buy essential products for myself, pay for my own bills, etc...
	I would have bought some rain jackets and shoes as I'm new in Canada and whatever I have does not suits here.
	I would have extra money for grocery, self-care products, etc.
	I would have not touched the money and kept it in savings
	I would have out them into my savings for expenses such as my car, phone bills, groceries, and more.
	I would have used the money for more courses , i want to learn
	I would just save the money
	I would probably use it to pay bills/ subscriptions or, I would buy a new phone since it would cost more to fix it than to buy a new one
	i would put it into my savings for my future

	I would save it
	I would save it for any big purchase in the future
	I would save it for tuition for next semester
	I would save it. Or use it for loan repayment
	I would save the money for another semester
	I would send it to my family
	I would send that money to my family as this pandemic has affected the job of my mother.
	I would simply save for next semester
	I would use it for next semesters tuition
	I would use it to pay for my families phone bill
	I would use the money to pay for my living expense, like rent.
	I would've saved it for payment of fee, next semester
	I'd use it for savings!
	I'd save it for a house one day!
	Idk :D
	invest or groceries
	Investments or savings
	Just saving it up
	keep the money in my savings account
	Keeping up with my end of the deal between my parents by paying part of my tuition
	Laptop
	Living cost (especially rent)
	living expense
	Living expenses
	Living expenses
	living expenses
	living expenses (pay msp, rent, compass card, etc)
	medicines and rent
	Mortgage
	My dental surgery/ home expenses
	My education
	My other bills, like rent and mobile expenses
	New laptop
	Next semesters tuition, bills, and contribution to house hold bills
	Next term fees
	On my personal expenses
	Other academic courses like first aid, etc
	other stuff
	Other things
	Pay my msp and phone bills
	Pay my rent
	Pay off some part of my personal debts like credit card bills
	Pay rent for my place
	paying bills
	Paying bills and rent
	Paying off bills
	Paying off loans
	Paying rent
	Personal use
	Pet supplies
	probably clothes
	Probably eating out. most of the budget came from my monthly groceries.
	Probably personal purchases such as eating out or clothing
	Pursuing some small course online or from college
	Put aside to add on to next semesters tuition.

	Put in savings
	Put them in my saving account
	Registered for skilled online courses
	Rent
	Rent
	Rent
	Rent
	rent
	Rent
	Rent
	Rent
	Rent and food
	Rent and food
	Rent and groceries
	Rent and groceries. I havent eaten a full meal since I've worked through the pandemic and is not eligible for cerb.
	Rent and other expenses
	Rent, buy food and grocery stuff
	rent, food
	Rent, food, bills
	Rent, groceries
	Rent, groceries, self-care (massage therapy, bath products, etc.)
	rent, student loan, groceries
	Room renting
	Save
	Save for a car
	Save for future courses
	Save for future semesters of school
	Save for future tuition fees
	save for school
	Save for travelling
	Save it
	save it
	Save it because I have an expensive dental surgery coming up
	Save it for a future class
	Save it for emergency
	Save it for future ..
	Save it for future expenses like moving out someday
	Save it for future tuition fee
	save it for future tuition fees
	Save it for my next school semester
	Save it for next semester
	Save it for next semester
	Save it for next semester's materials
	Save it or buy something I love
	Save it up
	Save it up maybe, winter items, more ergonomic laptop stand/chair for these online classes
	save that money to pay for courses for next semester
	save the money to possibly move out
	Save up for future living situations
	Save up for next semester
	Save up to buy one of my goal achievements
	saving
	Saving
	saving
	Saving

[illegible]

	Shopping
	Sightseeing
	Snacks and other required materials
	stationary
	Study
	Stuff that I want/save it
	Tech equipments for online study: Printer, headphones. Or food.
	the next semester or leave it in my savings account
	Things for my room
	This is actually hard earned money of my parents and I borrowed from them so I will try to use that money in tuition fee so that from next time I will not ask money from and will try to manage and fin part time job to complete it
	To buy a car
	to pay my student loan
	To put towards my tuition fees for next semester
	To save for future needs.
	Towards a new laptop for online classes
	Transportation and medical
	Transportation to work
	Travel
	Travel with my family
	travel:)
	traveling
	Traveling around the world
	Trying a programming course online
	Tuition
	Tuition
	Tuition
	Tuition fees
	Tuition fees
	tuition fees for coming semester
	Tuition, insurance, rent
	Tution fee
	Udemy
	Vehicle Expenses
	Winter clothes
	Wouldn't have borrowed money
	Yoga
Q2k	
We know students don't buy the recommended academic materials for a variety of reasons. Can you share with us why you didn't buy them?	Because of Covid the dollar is very expensive, my country's money is very devalued so the books (and all other costs) are even more expensive to me than i originally planned. So I'm waiting to buy i few of the books, some i had no option but to buy because it is tied to a Teaching platform that the teacher uses and I needed before the 2nd class.
	Borrowed
	Broke and don't need them
	Can't afford
	Can't justify the cost
	Cost
	cost
	Cost too much. Not a good value for money
	costly
	Didn't want to buy the newest editions that teachers were pushing. Got the older editions for some books from friends
	Don't need them if I can just study through PowerPoint
	Expensive
	Expensive
	For the e-textbook, I found out that a free softcopy is available on some websites and I downloaded it. For the other course, I could use the book from last semester.

	Found other sources to get materials (rent online and buying older edition)
	Found similar resources through online sources
	gonna buy soon
	Haven't had time yet
	High cost
	I bought an alternative for a class because it was too expensive. There was a cheaper edition of the same book
	I bought e text
	I cannot afford the cost.
	I could not afford it.
	I could not afford them at the moment
	I did not buy the recommended academic materials because they are really expensive. For example, textbooks are really expensive, and I need to save money to be able to pay the tuition which is desperately expensive for international students, so I have decided to buy e-books if necessary.
	I didn't have enough money
	I don't know if I really need it and I'd like to buy it used but an unable to do so.
	I haven't bought them yet because every book is like \$100 and I don't have enough money right now
	I haven't bought them yet because I'm still looking for better price options.
	I heard that there will be a cheaper version from Douglas later
	I would be buying in coming week. Its expensive
	I'll buy what my professor requires
	it cost too much
	It costs me a lot of money which i need to save it for bills instead because there have been a lot of fees for international student to bear in this semester recently.
	It is not necessary
	it is too expensive and is only used for one semester
	It was just extra costly and I don't refer to textbooks a lot. It depends on the courses, like for maths you need to have book and I refer it a lot but for some courses you don't have to.
	It was provided for me
	it's expensive
	It's expensive, so I tried to borrow from the library
	most prof dont always use books to teach. Other materials for labs and requires to buy book with them are really expensive
	no money, wait for fund and work payment. I ALSO plan to study with ppt only for some courses.
	No money.
	Not enough money
	Other financial commitments
	price and responsibilities of paying bills
	Saved more money
	Still looking any alternative.
	struggling financially
	The cost. I may still buy material into the term.
	They are expensive
	They are too expensive
	They are too expensive
	They are too expensive. I can't afford them.
	They provide that for us
	Too expensive
	Too expensive
	Too expensive
	Too expensive
	Too expensive and even buying used from the bookstore is more expensive than buying them online through Facebook or other social media and bcwookworm. Probably will end up buying them but often my textbooks are available to download in PDF form online for free (even if it's an older version) and since I'm studying computer science most of what I need to learn can be found on the internet for free.
	Too expensive and I feel that I don't get the value for the money I spend. In addition, I don't like being forced to purchase high priced materials that can easily be substituted (ie. with older editions, and open resources which are just as good if not better). Currently due to COVID-19 and a 5 class course load, I am not working and this compounds the stress and inability to afford "mandatory" course materials.
	Too expensive, can't afford due to covid
	Too much money
	Useless, professors us only one source (book), and no time to twobooks for the same class.
	Very expensive
	was able to get them as pdfs from friends

Q6g	
Do you have any other comments or opinions about OERs?	Are OERs good replacement for required course materials?
	Basically, OER is one of good alternative to afford more information relates to course. however, for some courses, they request us to do assignment by using access code, and I'm not sure if OER would be able to cover this circumstance.
	bo
	Can be a good option
	Doesnt have business books
	Douglas needs to use them
	fc
	Free is not always best - I had one OER for a math course that was so incredibly frustrating to read and learn from that it brought me to tears weekly. In my opinion the instructor selected an OER that was either a bit too advanced for the course, or it was poorly made. For example, the lessons/modules within chapters were very short, had few examples, and some of the exercises/homework questions could not be solved using just the knowledge learned from the textbook. On the other hand, I am using a Physics OER and an Anthropology OER that seem to be MUCH better! The math one was from OpenStax, the PHYS and ANTH are from Pressbooks.
	Given the circumstances we're currently facing due to this pandemic, any measure that helps to cut down expenses is a great relief for many students especially those, who have lost their jobs or have no source of income.
	Good alternative
	good option
	Great
	Having access to these resources allows me to save for more important things in life
	Hopefully OERs has more text book at Csis courses
	How can I use OERs?
	I absolutely do not understand why we are made to buy these expensive texts when instructors could rather choose to make an OER available to students for free and is a lot more convenient and consistent (no different versions and no page number discrepancies)
	i didn't know about them until today
	I feel like they can also be used for supplemental learning
	I had one for one of my classes in the past. It was okay but didn't provide enough information for the course and so our instructor even though he was trying to help us by using it required us to buy another textbook as well. If we're going to have OERs they need to give us just as much information as the real source.
	I have not experienced it yet
	I hope all the materials used in the college will be accessible in OER to minimize the costs for buying textbooks
	I hope in the future more instructors use OERs so that students can put more of their money towards other parts of their life.
	I hope it has accounting and all other mandatory books
	I hope to see them someday help students
	I just hope this initiative by the DSU can be successful because many students like me will be able to study without worrying about to buy new or second hand materials
	I prefer print books always.
	I think all courses should use then. Great idea
	I think if instructors can put in the time to compile them then that would be great for them and students because they can pick out what they want in their oer and it's a great alternative for students
	I think it is a good resource for students as a learning tool without having to spend extra expenses on brand new course material
	I think it is a really smart way to access the course materials!
	I think should be affordable
	I think they are a great alternative to expensive textbooks
	I think they are a great idea
	I think they should be more widely spread in Douglas/ other academic institutions.
	I think this is a wonderful idea--Textbook costs are astronomical and on top of program costs, have forced me to take out student loans when I was hoping to be able to rely on work and RESP for my education costs.
	I think this would be great!
	I wish all of my professors use them
	I wish I had this so I could save money
	I wish more instructors used them
	I wish teachers would refer to OERs rather than buying so many additional materials
	I wish they were used more. I've been a student at Douglas College for 6 years and only in one course were OERs used.
	I wish this was a thing! Textbooks & codes cost too much
	I'd say its a relief for lots of students to have an OER in class, as it means they don't have to worry about spending money or having to sell the book later on once they no longer have any use for it.
	I'm a paperless student, so finding quality PDFs/ebooks is difficult and costly sometimes. Therefore, it is great to know about OERs
	If this will be available for my course like Psychology or Criminology
	Is OER going to available to students next semester? Because it can help us save a lot of money during difficult times. Thank you!

	It sounds like an effective and cost-friendly way for students to learn.
	It would be beneficial if more professors/instructors jumped on this ship and help us save that extra textbook money that we spend on access codes that exhaust within 180 days
	It would be great to not only help myself but future students
	It would be really better for the future options .
	It'd love if I had this option since the first semester, I spent more than a thousand bucks for academic materials so far!
	It's cheaper/free. And can get access to it anywhere. My phone, laptop & use it on my commute to work.
	It's great
	It's more convenient than buying multiple books for one course
	It's a nice initiative.
	It's an amazing alternative to buying textbooks, really cheap and affordable if you do want a physical copy but the fact you're offered a free digital is amazing
	It's great!
	its a great idea
	Its a student dream. Nothing more could ease off the stress in student life
	keep up the good work. We would like more support for educations.
	love the dsu
	Low cost
	lower cost, more environmentally friendly
	Make it available for business courses as well
	More convenient and better option
	More instructors should use them. One of my current required textbooks, we are only reading short sections of it. It would have made a great OER.
	More professors should use OERs
	Not an opinion but if we can get to know more details about it as how to access, if it can be used through out the semester, do we have to return it if we use print copies(I always prefer print copies as it is hard for me to continuously reading a digital copy) is the OERs work same as a library or not etc:
	OER is such an outstanding campaign, and it would be phenomenal for instructors to implement and use it, especially during this unprecedented time that we are in right now. This campaign is not only helping domestic students and international students save on the cost of textbooks, but it helps them have more money to pay rent and buy groceries as well. I am looking forward to seeing this campaign keep growing and more professors and schools using it.
	OER would be desirable if it were free and was still provided in the form of paper text books because it's better to read from a paper than the screen (as we stare at screens too often due to the present online format of learning)
	OERs are advanced and need of the time as a small change will bring a new style of studying
	OERs are good. However, if my instructor doesn't want to use a free textbook, Students have no choice. I hope you can convince all instructors to use OERs. Thank you!
	OERs are perfect for international students because we have a different currency, and we have to pay a lot for academic tuition.
	OERs for the win!!!
	Outstanding job they are doing
	REALLY NEED IT TO HAPPEN
	Resources should be cheap. Financial status shouldn't affect learning and pedagogy
	Save trees!
	sharing more ideas about the courses
	Should be implemented by our college ASAP! This publication houses make so much more than they should be.
	Should be implemented soon
	Some more books of finance and business can be added
	Some textbooks aren't available on OER for free.
	Some times is too expensive
	Sounds like something I would use.
	Still don't really know what it is so no
	Students are always bound by the cost of their education, for many income limitations dictates which course they are able to take. This results in delays in graduation which causes further financial burdens. Education should be delivered in a multitude of methods to ensure it is available for those who seek it.
	Thank you for helping to save expense of book if you are doing this project
	Thanks
	That's great
	The academic material are overpriced, for simple paperback. 200\$ plus. I e book the instructor had as required we haven't used and a reference was made but it was a wrong chapter. I wish I could ha e gotten a old version .
	The fact that they are available at no cost makes me happy knowing I am not spending all of my money without saving any for other purposes.
	The sooner it happens the better
	The very sad thing is about access codesm Sometimes we don't even need them. i remember when there was an access code worth 5% grades costing \$100 for just quizzes that makes no sense
	They are cheap and flexible to use

	They should be free
	This is a really nice way to help students with our low budget
	This would be a great alternative to try out to make it easier for students to access and save money while attending school
	use them more
	wanna learn more about it
	Where can we access the OERs?
	Why use expensive textbooks if you can get free ones? Money is an issue for a lot of us.
	Wish more profs would use OERs, it would help students save so much money
	Would help a lot financially
	Would like to get it
	Would love this to happen for all classes
	would love to see more utilization
	Would this be added to student fees?
	Yes OERs will be very helpful because the amount which I spent on buying textbooks will be saved and can be used on other living expenses.
Q7a	
Do you have any further comments or want to share any experiences with textbooks or academic materials with us?	
	A lot of time, the materials aren't necessary for courses
	Access codes are shit and expensive
	Access codes haven't been working for connect math for my entire class. Is there a backup option for people who can't access them but already payed?
	As a new student who had to start semester online and new to Canada, I had a hard time sorting out the materials. I actually sent at email to the bookstore asking some questions and never get a reply back. But somehow I was managed to get the text books and access codes. In the bookstore there were few materials was not available when i check everytime and used ones were always N/A though it was mentioned the prices in my book list for used ones. It would have been better if all the douglas students who wish to re sell their books can have one place catergorized properly mentioning course ID and the section so the next semester new students whoever wants can buy without searching in any other market places online sources etc:
	At least free textbooks due to COVID or discounts
	Being a student textbooks can be an additional cost on top of tuition which makes it hard for some of us to pay for. During the school year some of us are not able to work much so having this option of saving money would be great.
	Books should be included in The thousands of dollars we pay to college.
	Bookstore has been doing great job during pandemic. But I miss those long lines outside the bookstore.
	buying a new book is my last resort, if I can find a cheaper or free copy of the textbook I will get that instead. Sometimes there are copies of the book in the library and I just borrow that for as long as I need it.
	Buying Textbooks shouldn't be a hurdle for a student and with these high costs of the books it is actually difficult for students who are managing everything themselves to pay hefty amounts just for books and that too for online mode.
	coming from a country where textbooks are very cheap, this was a huge shock for me
	Conventional textbooks are way too expensive
	Doesn't everyone love paying for books only to use them for a select amount of chapters and readings :) :) :
	Douglas Bookstore is too expensive. Bookstore almost twice as publisher's price. I also spent days to trying to buy even online versions from Turkey. Finally my friend in US bought it for me.
	E-books are really easy to use and easy to purchase from bookstore:)
	Ensure professors are not working with publishers to push new textbook edition sales And making next textbook editions mandatory
	etextbooks are more handy for students in online courses
	Extra costs for Shipping for textbooks was tough
	For one of my semesters it was required to buy 4-5 textbooks for one class which was quite surprising and it took a chunk out of my bank account
	From my classes which required textbooks, most of them were used to solve exercises and not for reading text. If we only need to do questions can't a teacher provide us instead of pressuring us to buy books.
	Frustrating to buy new editions every time they come out, they're very expensive to purchase when you already have the edition previous to that but professors want you to use the newest edition
	Good survey :)
	Have to buy 2 same textbooks for different semester and different courses just to get the access code. wasted 100 dollars
	Help with finance for academic materials.
	I bought a print copy of the textbook from Douglas College bookstore online, but the shipping fees were charged. The costs of textbooks are still expensive and an expense.
	I bought a textbook with \$85 in the winter term. However, when the face to face course changed into an online course due to COVID-19, my instructor cut off the part which all content included in the \$85 textbook from his syllabus. The textbook was a total waste.
	I bought my textbook from douglas book store the price was around 130. but something went wrong so i did not receive a receipt, i had to purchase again but the day after the price before tax was \$189, so i can't buy.....
	I enjoy courses that have more open sources or don't rely completely on textbooks

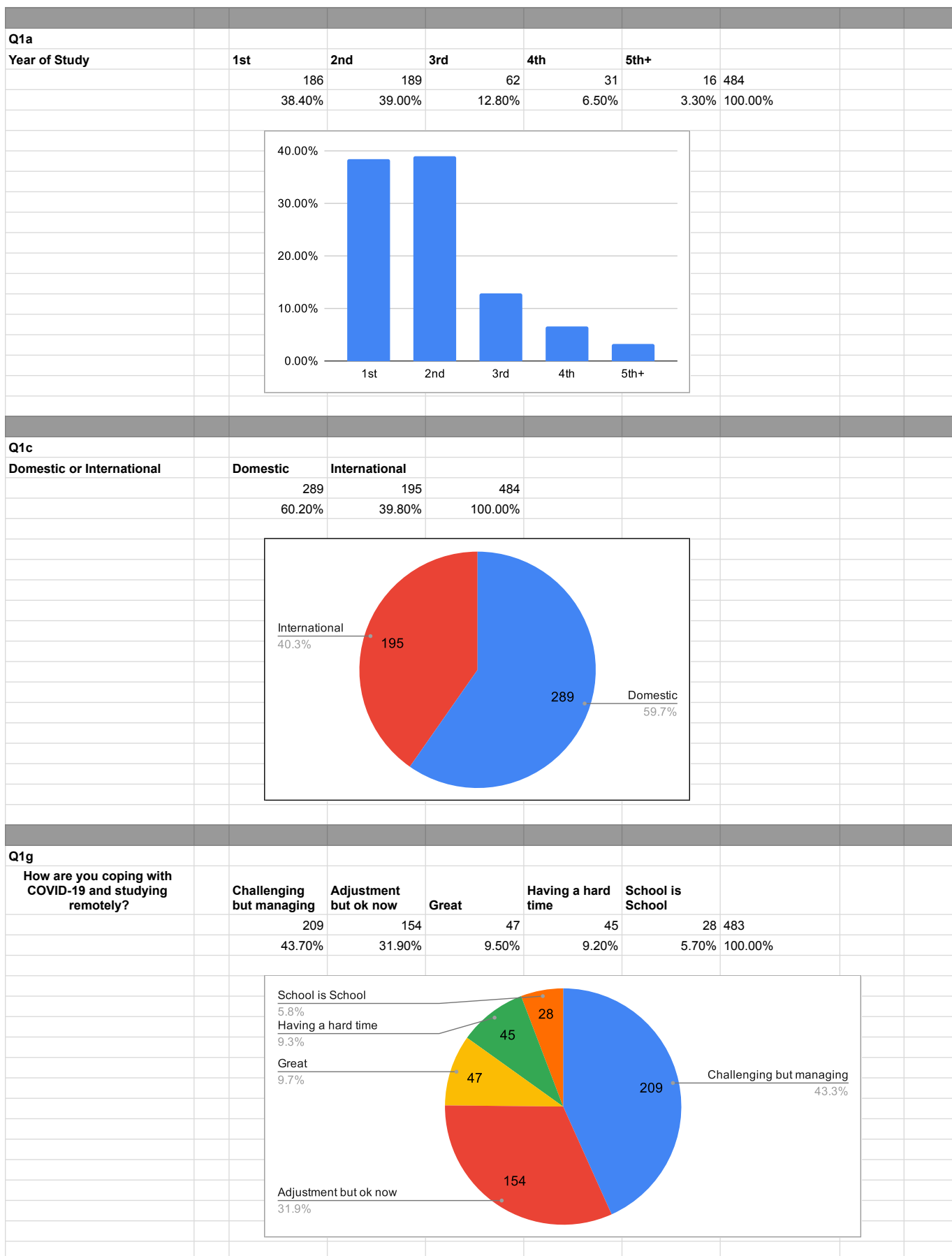
	I find promoting used textbooks on campus would help students be aware of alternative ways of saving money. For example, Books2Go is something I was not aware of before my friend told me about it. We need students helping each other out a little bit more on how to help each other out to be honest.
	I get that there are publishing houses who create the online applications that we have to purchase an access code for, but sometimes they're too expensive. If I had not jumped on the chance to access the library, I may have ended up spending more on my textbooks than my monthly rent and grocery expenses it would be great if OER can be supported by instructors and some middle ground can be reached with publishing houses so that purchasing their access codes, if there are no alternatives, won't burn a hole in our monthly budget especially when I have yet to begin my part time
	I had a hard time finding one of my textbooks and I'm still waiting for it to come in the mail.
	I had to buy a \$110 online access code and e- textbook that i don't even feel like using since i have never been able to study from digital sources. And the worst part is that this would only be accessible to me for just ONE semester!!
	I hate paying for it cause i pay \$7000+ already for tuition per semester! Books should be included
	I have been able to use some sites to download PDFs of textbooks, but would prefer a more "legal" and reliable way to get them!
	I have found that it is rare for any one textbook to be used in its entirety, course specific packages and resources are not just cost effective but also a better environmental solution.
	I have paid probably about \$1000 in textbooks already, and I'm only in the beginning of my third year
	I have printed a free textbook and it was MASSIVE. Last term I bought required book and it was three ring binder sheets and it was brutal, super thin pages ripped making it hard to resell.
	I just love to read print text but it is too much expense that now I don't read extra books
	I just want to learn, why is materials, that should be part of the course fee, so inaccessible that I had to decide between dating and learning?
	I just wish it was cheaper, I always try to budget but in general it's so expensive
	I just wish that the textbooks available at douglas college bookstore would be less expensive. It would make us feel happy that our college has our own bookstore where we can have access to atleast course textbooks at cheaper price.
	I know its hard for professors to use the same books because information is constantly evolving. However, it would be beneficial if books were more of a suggestion, a lot of times i buy expensive books just to find out i didn't really need it even when they said you would for tests. Kinda waste my money if it's not really essential... If they were a suggestion any old book on that topic would do, or any source of info would do in relation to the course.
	I know the college recommend to get books from your own library because obviously you also look for profits. However, I think the school should advise students to find in other apps those textbooks because they cost a lot and it affects greatly in our budget as well, if it is not suggested, we might just start the course with no extra support and might feel demotivated for the class.
	I like to have print and digital copies available
	I love the bookstores protocol
	I never had to buy any books for my bachelors degree because the teacher never required it, just recommended free articles and books to read and the school library had several copies.
	I never knew being a student could cost so much.
	I once had to pay \$250 for an outdated text that was never touched for the course. The prof in the start of the semester said it was required. I mostly stopped buying textbooks after that experience which affected my grades because I was worried about losing money I needed for living costs.
	I really enjoy the feeling of opening a textbook at the beginning of a term. I purchased textbooks for almost every semester and still keep them.
	I support this cause, but please improve technology OEMs. If YouTube can do it for free so can providers of OEMs.
	I think even the books are fine. Atleast we can get the old one but access codes are just a pain
	I think I am good for now
	I would prefer instructors who give us assignments through black board rather than we paying for a site to do our assignments online which is a waste of money and time.
	I've only had one class of 9 where I had an OER. It was Intro to Anthro by Jaime Yard. I feel she is progressive and relatable to students.
	I'm glad that I'm receiving emails from you guys about school events. Sometimes doesn't really feel like I'm in school right now haha
	If there is help for academic materials it would be great because during these times there are less hours at work and meeting every expense is stressful. I have had a tough September month buying expensive textbooks and other unavoidable expenses.
	Im sure if textbooks were included in tuition fees we wouldnt be advised to get such expensive options. I think because the students are paying out of pocket the instructors/school doesn't seem to care about how ridiculously priced they are when there are cheaper alternatives out there to learn the same material.
	In my first term at Douglas (Fall 2019) my books were very expensive. But each term after that has not been as pricey. Also professors that have created their own textbooks or resources....this is so much more affordable for students.
	In the nursing program we purchase e-textbooks through texidium. They're cheaper than print copies but we lose access to them by the time we graduate
	In this semester I had to buy an e-book for my Psyc class. I'm dont like it because i have to be in front of a screen and my eyes are not used to it.
	Is there any way I can get 2nd hand textbooks or academic materials in Douglas College?
	It can be frustrating to attend courses where "required" textbooks remain virtually unused. In this respect, it would be valuable to have less expensive required material, in case it is only supplementarily useful in the course.
	It costs a lot to buy textbooks, especially new ones. Difficult to go out and trade or buy used textbooks during covid
	It surely helps save money
	It was frustrating that we couldn't just go pick up our textbooks when we wanted and that shipping was so expensive.
	It was my first time last semester were I used digital books and I didn't like it at all. I probably would suggest an option where you can have both the digital and the printed version for the same price
	It's been frustrating to have to pay for access codes etc to do assignments. I would prefer it was included in tuition fees
	It's frustrating when a professor assigns textbooks and then we don't use them, especially if the textbook was expensive. It'd be less frustrating if the textbook was no cost.
	It's great to have textbooks to study, I'm kind of like a "traditional" student who needs textbooks to read before getting to learn from other materials
	It's unfair their so expensive

	It's unnecessarily expensive to get learning material, international students already pay an extreme amount in fees and tuition, they should consider adding books and other material in that cost. It's such a dirty surprise to learn that you have to buy books and what not separately. Not pleasant
	It's great that there is some attention to the expenses of students and the prices of academic tools/textbooks. It is quite terrifying having to pull in money to buy these things. Sometimes one's budget can cut close— sometimes too close.
	It's not fair that your grade can be affected if you can't afford to buy a textbook or access code.
	its good but way too expensive
	Its sooo expensive
	Let us resale our used books again
	Love OERs
	Make textbooks more cheape in Douglas Bookstore
	Most of my teachers have decided not to use textbooks this semester and are instead including the same info in their lectures
	new editions are a pain because you can't buy it used and it is just a money grab by the publisher
	New textbooks are overpriced.
	No everything is fine. I bought my books from amazon because hardcopy at bookstore are sold out i think so because when i first place the order on Douglas college bookstore it not responded then I try again . But at last I found my books on amazon and on reasonable price.
	Not only are textbooks EXPENSIVE but finding used versions is difficult and just as expensive thus, making obtaining textbooks a head ache
	nothing
	nursing textbooks are way too expensive
	One of my classes only had an etext option - this is absolutely unacceptable. If the publisher won't make one (this is the case - pearson) Douglas shouldn't even use them as a book source for that class (busn 3350) and should fight for hard copies to be made available for students. Etexts do NOT promote learning whatsoever.
	One platform only for all students instead of being a different one per subject
	Online aces codes should be free & e text through Blackboard. If a student wants to purchase a hardcopy, that's understandable.
	Overall, I really do prefer real textbooks to OER. I like having a physical book to read, I can flag pages, flip back between pages easily. I also really love science and it's great to see my textbooks on my bookshelf. But I also love the portability of online textbooks. The worst option ever is loose leaf textbooks!! Why should I pay over \$100 for a book that isn't even bound into a real textbook?? That is the real crime here.
	Paid over 500 for textbooks it was wild
	Payed for my textbooks, but I can't get them because I need my student ID. I was not told of this
	Prices are always different and unfortunately I can't estimate how much I will spend every term
	Prices keep going up
	Print alternative always
	Regular printed textbooks cost too much and the digital ones you only have access to the material for maximum of a year. Access codes should be sold separately but usually we are forced to buy the textbook or digital copy in order to get it.
	Shipping takes way to long with UPS and they are difficult to navigate with CS. If teachers base exams and assignments of Library resources, their own powerpoints and lectures, why do we buy expensive texts books?? Almost every semester I never have to open my text - rarely.
	Should be cheaper
	Since I've started my college life, I have spent around 800 CAD to get aces codes or buy books.
	SO EXPENSIVE
	So expensive
	Some instructors required textbooks, but we rarely use it.
	Some of the times, in my experiences, professors make it required to purchase the expensive textbooks, when a lot of the times, it is not needed.
	Some professors are starting to use free textbooks (open tax) and i really find it quite helpful
	Some profs would say textbook is needed but actually not if they just provide enough materials
	Sometimes I feel the slides provided by the professor Are enough and textbooks are not needed
	Sometimes instructors don't cover all chapters. I feel it's a waste of money if we're covering only a few chapters from a textbook.
	Sometimes supplementaries worth up to \$200 CAD per course. When you pay \$7,500 for one semester - that's unfair.
	Stop using the ereader Adobe Digital Editions it is awful
	take in consideration the cost it is too high
	Teachers required you to have the books before class but it took a long time if you bought them from the bookstore
	Text books shouldn't be as expensive, students are already struggling
	textbook should not be mandatory since instructors follow only slides
	Textbooks and even inline textbooks are so expensive- OER textbooks would save so much money
	Textbooks are expensive especially now during this pandemic when I have to really budget for necessities
	Textbooks are expensive in canada
	Textbooks are expensive, that's why I had to get the e-book version :(As for tuition fees, that is also high. I have to sometimes borrow from my parents :(
	Textbooks are so expensive. All Students can't easily afford them
	Textbooks are very expensive and it would be nice if instructors/faculties took that into consideration when picking textbooks (some instructors acknowledge the price of textbooks and offer/support alternatives which is great). Which is why oer resources could be a future great alternative.

	Textbooks are way too expensive! This semester my options were to pay \$150 for a loose leaf copy of a textbook or pay \$60 for a 180 day e-book subscription. It was a 2020 textbook so used copies were not an option. And that's just for one course!
	Textbooks can be quite expensive, as well as the used books that are sold in the bookstore.
	Textbooks can be really expensive in the Douglas Bookstore, so sometimes I use other websites to buy them.
	thank you
	Thank you for giving us options to save money for textbooks and other materials
	Thanks for advocating for low tuition, we appreciate your hard work in standing up for us as I do not have any experience with running these campaigns for student support. Thank you!
	The access code was more expensive than expected
	The bookstore should offer more coursepacks
	The cost is immense. I am able to pay for them because my tuition has been mostly covered by scholarships and savings. It seems silly to me that REQUIRED academic materials are not included in the tuition cost. Regardless of the price, why charge twice? Its not like students have a choice if they want a good GPA...
	The Douglas' bookstore is helpful because when you buy materials from other sources, sometimes the material is wrong than the expected for the course.
	the materials sometimes did not need for course
	The money we spend on books is ridiculous. Some of the books don't even seek after one use, so they end up going in recycle. The my lab code is just ridiculous. The assignments can be done on a paper too rather than spending 100\$
	The multiple options for choosing corse materials before the semester started was difficult when it says choose one and you don't know what would be more beneficial for the class
	The online textbook resources include some barriers (print accessible, copy/paste for large texts/pictures)
	the only struggle these days is the delivery of books, one gets really anxious when they dont arrive on time
	The text books are really slow to come
	There should be a maximun value allowed for instructors to set the course materials. International students already carry the burden of paying 3 times the regular tuition costs.
	There should be more availability of books in the library. Also, to give at least 50% off when returning the books in the bookstore. I have three books which was told to me that I can return but they said as it comes with access code we cannot take and some of them we cannot take as they are in the form of a spiral book.
	They are expensive
	They are expensive
	They are expensive
	They are expensive so some actions should be taken cope it up with the fees only.
	They are super expensive
	They are too expensive!
	They are too expensive. On one side, we are stuck in our homes and paying so much for online studies, when we are not even accessing the college resources. And on the other side, we have to buy so many online memberships in order to pass the course.
	They're ridiculously expensive for already expensive tuition fees. Textbooks need to be more affordable if teachers are going to make them a requirement.
	This semester will be my first semester where the instructor said that he will ask us to use material from a specified page in the textbook during midterm and final, so the newest (2020) edition of the textbook is an absolute must and it makes me sad since I had all of the previous courses no textbook (or an older edition) just fine
	to many extra programs, like mylab
	Too expensive
	Very costly and hard on pocket
	We print out too much materials at home and that costs us lots of money
	why are so expensive
	Wished the loose leaf textbooks came with binder or coil
	Wished we had to option to opt in or out of the Upass
	with online schooling, more teachers are requiring access codes which is increasing cost and are harder to use than physical books
	Yeah

Appendix C:

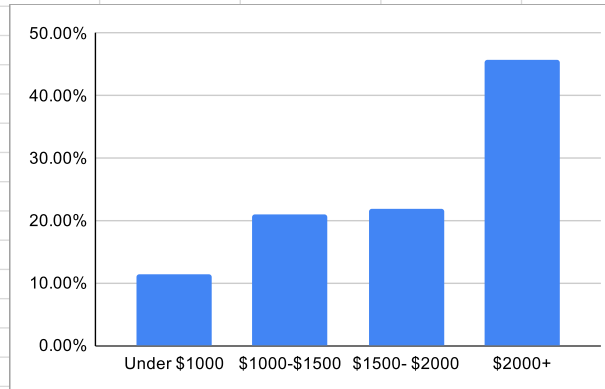
Survey Questions and Results



Q2a

How much did you spend on tuition fees this semester?

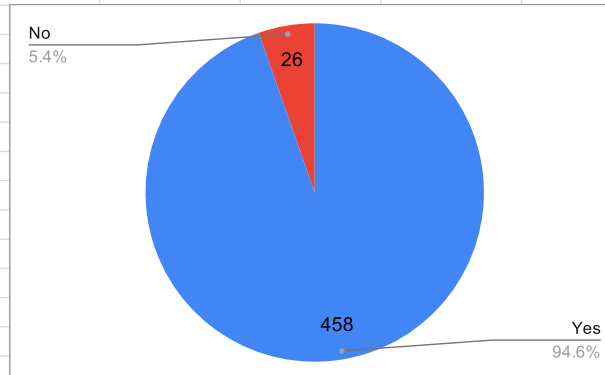
	Under \$1000	\$1000-\$1500	\$1500- \$2000	\$2000+	
	55	102	106	221	484
	11.36%	21.07%	21.90%	45.66%	100.00%



Q2c

Do you have any required academic materials (textbooks, manuals, novels, articles, journals, etc.) for your courses?

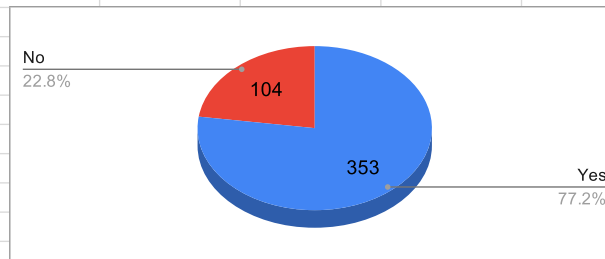
	Yes	No	
	458	26	484
	94.60%	5.40%	100.00%



Q2c

Were you surprised about the cost of your academic materials?

	Yes	No	
	353	104	457
	77.20%	22.80%	100.00%



Q2d

What was surprising about the cost of your academic materials?

Cost More than Expected

Had to buy more materials than expected (ex. lab materials)

Cost less than expected

It was provided for me at no cost

335

58

49

10

452

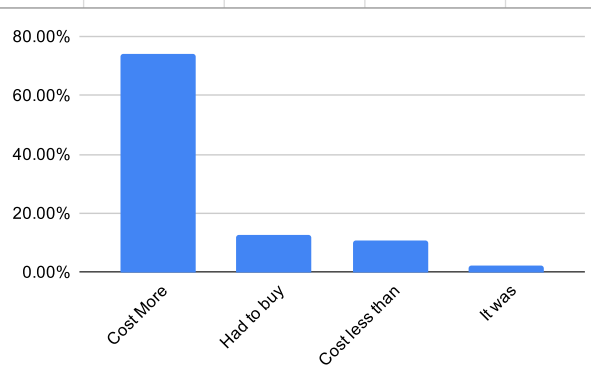
74.12%

12.83%

10.84%

2.21%

100.00%



Q2e

How much do your academic materials cost this semester?

\$1-\$50

\$51-\$250

\$251-\$350

\$351-\$450

\$450+

19

21

117

53

48

448

4.24%

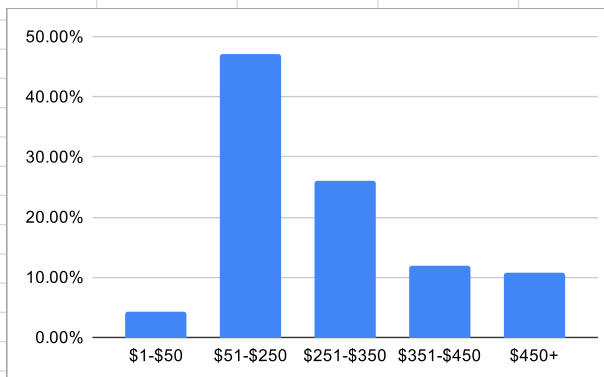
47.10%

26.12%

11.83%

10.71%

100.00%



Q2f

Did you buy the recommended academic materials this semester?

Yes

No

390

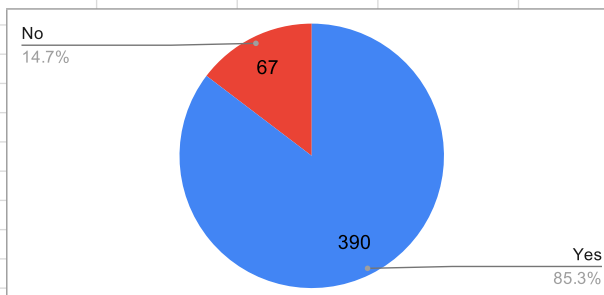
67

457

85.30%

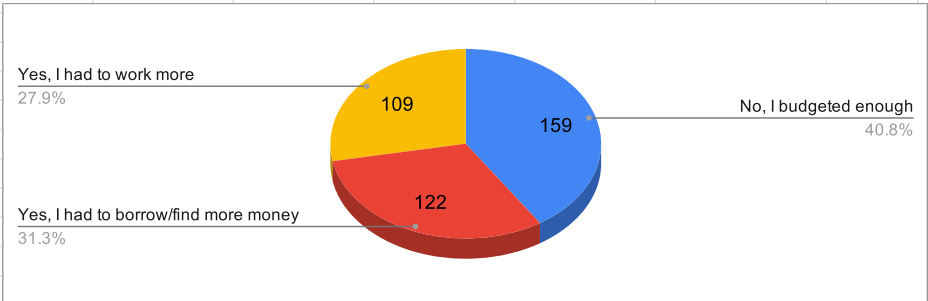
14.70%

100.00%



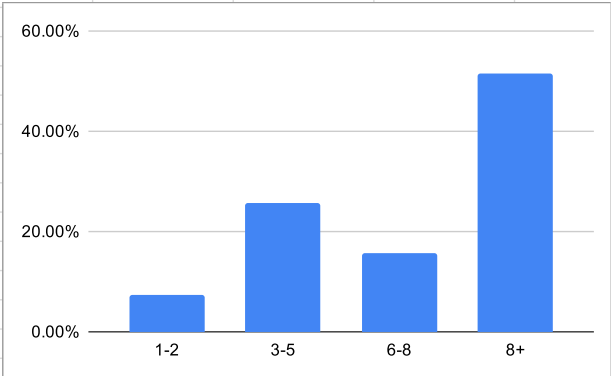
Q2g

Did you have to work extra hours or borrow more money in order to afford you academic materials?	No, I budgeted enough	Yes, I had to borrow/find more money	Yes, I had to work more			YES		
	159	122	109	390		231		
	40.40%	31.20%	28.40%	100.00%		59.60%		



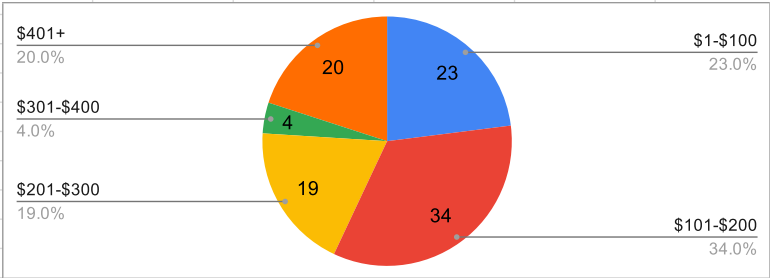
Q2h
Yikes! How many extra hours did you have to work to be able to purchase your academic materials?

	1-2	3-5	6-8	8+	
	8	28	17	56	109
	7.30%	25.70%	15.60%	51.40%	100.00%



Q2i
Oh no! How much did you have to borrow or find to be able to buy your academic materials?

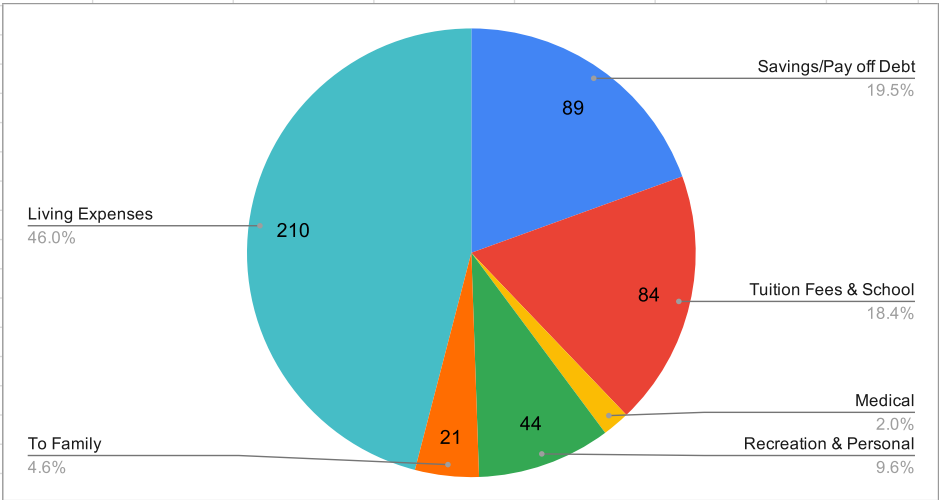
	\$1-\$100	\$101-\$200	\$201-\$300	\$301-\$400	\$401+		
	23	34	19	4	20	-> \$401-\$500 = 7	-> \$601-\$700 = 1
	23.00%	34.00%	19.00%	4.00%	20.00%	-> \$501-\$600 = 1	-> \$900 = 1



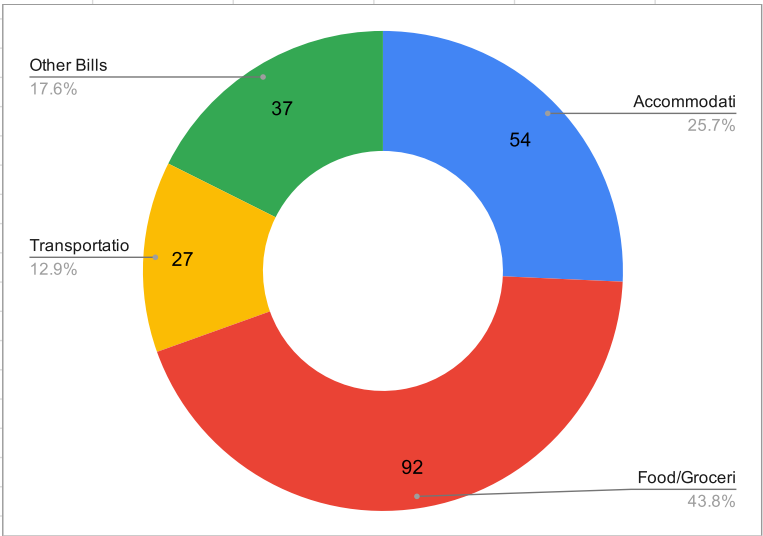
Q2j

If you did not need to buy your academic materials, what would you use that money for?

	Recreation	Transportation	Medical	Academics	Expenses	food, rent, family, other bills, savings		
	21	6	9	69	299			
	5.20%	1.49%	2.23%	17.08%	74.01%			
	Savings/Pay off Debt	Tuition Fees & School Supplies	Medical	Recreation & Personal Items	To Family	Living Expenses		
School Related	89	84	9	44	21	210	457	
37.86%	19.47%	18.38%	1.97%	9.63%	4.60%	45.95%	100.00%	
	*emergencies				*send home, children			

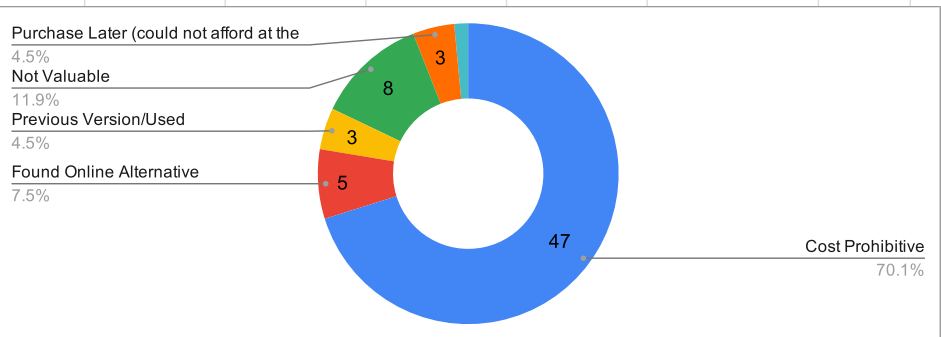


Accommodation	Food/Groceries	Transportation	Other Bills	
54	92	27	37	210
25.71%	43.81%	12.86%	17.62%	100.00%
	*healthier food			0



We know students don't buy the recommended academic materials for a variety of reasons. Can you share with us why you didn't buy them?

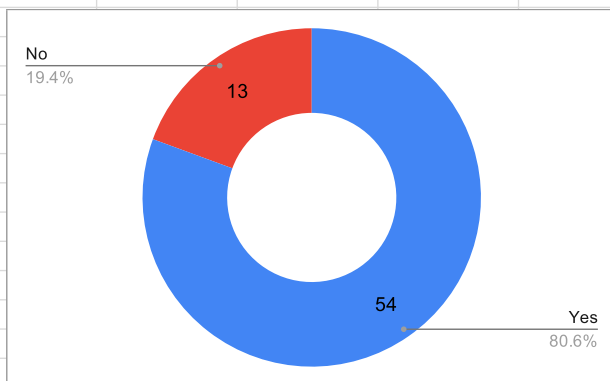
Cost Prohibitive	Found Online Alternative	Previous Version/Used	Not Valuable	Purchase Later (could not afford at the beginning of semester)	Borrow from Library	
47	5	3	8	3	1	67
72.31%	7.69%	4.62%	12.31%	4.62%	1.54%	103.08%



Q2I

Are you using any alternative academic materials or resources?

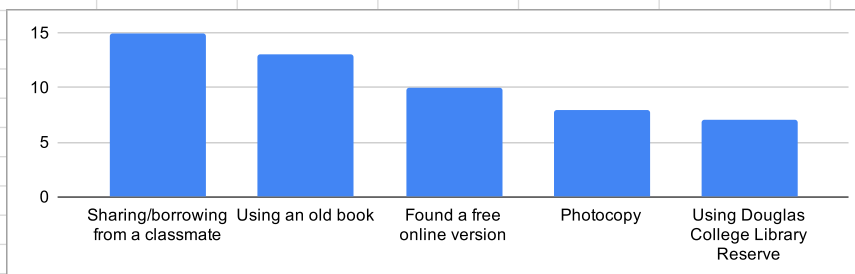
Yes	No	
54	13	67
80.60%	19.40%	100.00%



Q2o

What are you using instead of buying the required material?

Sharing/borrowing from a classmate	Using an old book	Found a free online version	Photocopy	Using Douglas College Library Reserve	
15	13	10	8	7	53
60.00%	52.00%	40.00%	32.00%	28.00%	* Does not add up to 100%



Q3a

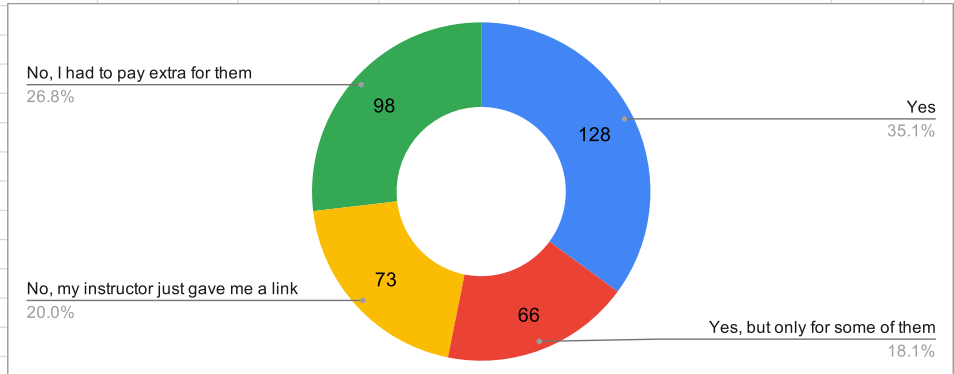
[illegible]

	Assigned an OER	Materials on Blackboard	Links to websites & online resources	Emailed docs to me			
	3	3	2	1	9		
	75.00%	75.00%	50.00%	25.00%	* Does not add up to 100%		

[illegible]

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

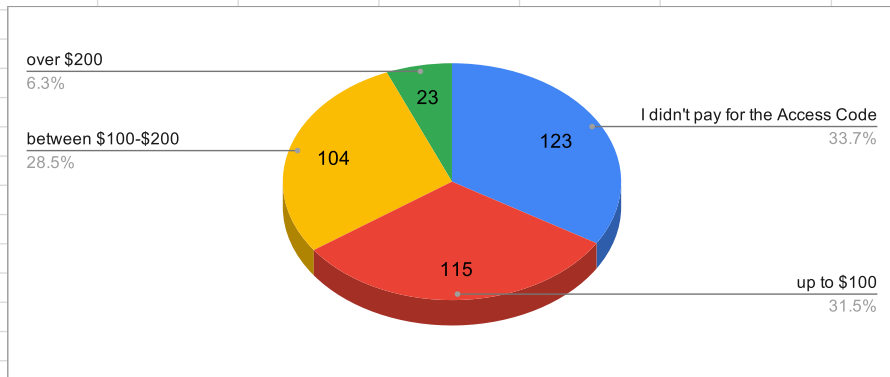
Were the Access Codes included with your academic materials?	Yes	Yes, but only for some of them	No, my instructor just gave me a link	No, I had to pay extra for them				
	128	66	73	98	365			
	35.00%	18.30%	20.00%	26.70%	100.00%			



Q5c

How much do you have to pay for the Access Codes?

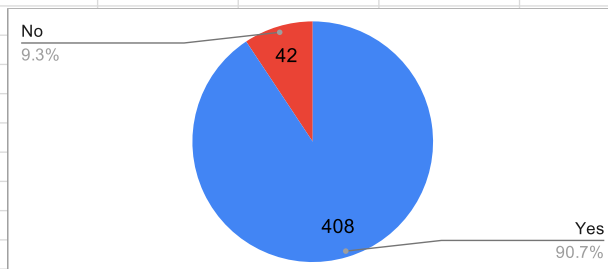
I didn't pay for the Access Code	up to \$100	between \$100-\$200	over \$200		
123	115	104	23	365	
33.90%	31.40%	28.90%	5.80%	100.00%	



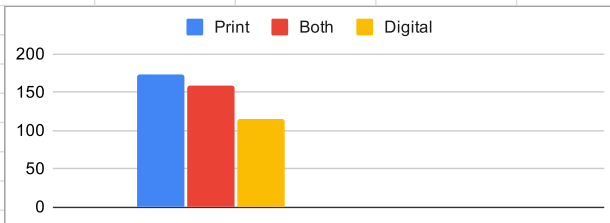
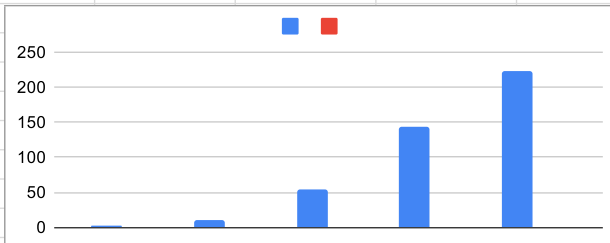
Q6a

If there was an OER alternative for your courses, would you use it?

Yes	No	
408	42	450
90.80%	9.20%	100.00%



Q6b

If an OER was made available for your course, would you prefer a digital copy or a print copy?									
	Print	Both	Digital						
	174	159	115	448					
	39.10%	35.10%	25.80%	100.00%					
									
Q6e									
What do you think about OERs as an alternative to traditional academic materials?									
	1	2	3	4	5				
	3	10	55	144	223	435			
	0.69%	2.30%	12.64%	33.10%	51.26%	100.00%			
	Average Rating 4.3 out of 5								
									
Q6f									
Now that you know more about OERs, why would you choose them over traditional academic materials? (Select all that apply)									
	Low cost for print	Free for digital copy	Convenience	Accessibility					
	277	274	267	256	1074				
	62.00%	61.10%	60.20%	57.50%	* Does not add up to 100%				
	