

To: Liz Clarke, Chair, T&LPC

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From: Rajiv Jhangiani, Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning
Laurie Morrison, Collections Librarian
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Date: February 24, 2025

Subject: **Preliminary findings from an undergraduate student course materials survey**

Background

In 2024, a research team that included the Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning, Laurie Morrison (Collections Librarian), Oya Pakkal (Ph.D. student, Psychology) and Dr. Wenting Rong (Ph.D. Student, Educational Studies) designed and conducted an online survey of Brock University undergraduate students to better understand their experiences with and perceptions of course materials (REB # 23-243 – JHANGIANI).

The survey, which was conducted online between March and December 2024, investigated questions including but not limited to the following:

1. What course material costs are incurred by Brock University undergraduate students?
2. How often is the cost of course materials a barrier to students' academic success?
3. Are course materials perceived as useful by students?
4. What is the impact of course material costs on students?
5. Is there a differential impact of course material costs on first generation students?
6. What strategies do students use to gain access to course materials?
7. What are students' preferred format(s) for course materials?

Highlights from this research will be presented to T&LPC members.