Evolving Knowledge for Research Communities

Open Plus Books is a brand-new book format created by Taylor & Francis and F1000, that fuses the traditional print and Open Access books model with the Open Research publishing model.

What are Open Plus Books?

Open Plus Books enables book authors and editors to publish a book open access first on the open research platform within just a few days of submission. Each chapter is a standalone piece, enabling chapters to be published as soon as they are accepted. Chapters can be revised, and additional chapters can be added, at any time. Published content should include underlying data and interactive figures, enabling visualization, interaction, reanalysis, replication, and reuse. When the author has finished updating and amending the chapters, the book will be published in its entirety in both print and open access formats under either the Routledge or CRC Press imprint.

Challenging Thinking in Scholarly Publishing

Open research is the most efficient and impactful way to advance research and share knowledge. All authors, regardless of output format, should have the option to not only publish and share their work rapidly and openly but also to be able to update it and add to it. For scholarly publishing to better support the rapid dissemination of research to the widest possible audience, publishers should be challenging thinking about publishing and exploring how it might work differently in a transition that doesn’t break what is good currently.

Our partnership with open research publisher F1000, has provided the perfect opportunity to collaboratively re-evaluate our current approach to book publishing and shift the boundaries of what is considered to be a book, from something that is static and rarely updated to a model that is rapid and dynamic.

Features and benefits of Open Plus Books

- **Rapid Publication**
  Chapters are published Open Access on the Open Research platform within days of submission and acceptance. Individual chapters can be published as soon as they are complete: no need to wait for all chapters to be delivered.

- **Dynamic**
  Books are no longer static publications, but dynamic and evolving. Authors and book editors can add additional chapters at any time to reflect developments in research, thinking, and knowledge. The format is suitable for authored and edited books as well as conference proceedings, handbooks, and encyclopedias.

- **Updateable**
  Authors can use the “versioning” functionality on the platform to keep chapters up to date through timely new versions, such as updates to data, standards, codes, policy, research. All versions of the text are linked and can be accessed via the book page on the platform.

- **Underlying Data and Interactivity**
  Where applicable, chapters can include underlying data and interactive figures, enabling visualization, interaction, reanalysis, replication, and reuse. This also supports scholars getting credit for their contributions to research. Publications on the platform benefit from support for code syntax highlighting, so code is fully readable in the body of the chapter.

- **Flexible**
  Authors, not publishers, decide when they want to make updates or amendments, and when they want to the book published in print. Further updates can be included in subsequent editions of the print and open access book.

- **Open Peer Review**
  Authors can choose post-publication invited open peer review via the Open Plus Book+ option. Chapters can be revised following review. After receiving two approved status reviews, chapters will be indexed automatically in bibliographic databases.

- **Evolving Knowledge**
  Book chapters sit in a Gateway – or hub – on the platform, which can be disciplinary, interdisciplinary, or multidisciplinary. Gateways can become landmark collections of related research such as book chapters, journal articles, data sets, slides, posters, guidelines, white papers, and other documents. They can be created on behalf of authors, research communities, organisations, departments, societies, and funders looking to make their research output highly visible and impactful.

- **Supporting Research Communities**
  Gateways enable and encourage collaboration within and between research communities to evolve knowledge in single disciplines and across disciplines. The opportunity to comment on content and/or to contribute additional content to a Gateway enables members of a community to build upon new ideas quickly. Barriers to collaborative research are reduced through data sharing, transparency, and attribution.

- **Author Care and Support**
  Authors and editors will receive high-level of support and engagement from proposal to publication from the Routledge and CRC Press editorial teams.