Open University Offers Free Access to Selection of Digital Library

Shachar Kachlon 17.03.2020 AshdodNet

This provision of access will allow tens of thousands of Israelis who are stuck in their homes, searching for ways to reduce expenses in this Coronavirus period, while still enjoying recreational culture.

The free digital books available on the Open University website are non-fiction and textbooks of the Lambda publishing company, in different fields of knowledge: History, political science and international relations, psychology, democratic studies, government and public policy, and archeology.

Maya Lahat-Kerman, the Director of the Department for Educational Development and Publishing in the Open University, said, “Our books are on the frontlines of education and consciousness expansion in Israel. In our university, higher education is always open to everybody, specifically these days we wanted to share our wealth; to provide everyone a little food for thought and to disconnect from the not-so-simple day to day life.”

Lambda is a combination of the two publishing companies of the Open University - Lambda Education and Knowledge Expansion and Lambda Non-fiction. In the university’s Lambda store, you can find the wide range of educational titles published by the Open University. These books serve dozens of teachers, students, and professors in all universities in Israel, and the general public of those seeking to know more in a diverse array of subjects. The Lambda books can also be purchased in all the large bookstore chains and private bookstores.

The finest researchers have partnered together for the writing of these books, which are outstanding on a high academic level, written in a clear manner and produced excellently.

The Open University’s educational method is based on self-learning combined with guided meetings and practice. To do so, the university publishes books which serve as part of the educational material in the different courses, and it is possible even to acquire these books outside the context of the coursework. In the Lambda catalog, you can find 1,500 titles in a range of subjects.

On the Lambda website you can search for and find textbooks of the Open University, organized according to a wide range of subjects, and in every subject you can find links to additional books within the same field of inquiry. As a result of the Coronavirus outbreak, 47,000 students of the Open University began their second semester studies this week, with all of the university courses being taught fully online.

Thousands of students joined in to synchronous live meetings in different courses, and the university’s digital systems have managed the heavy burden. In addition, the students benefit from an array of support which exists also in routine days: Telephone consultation, course websites containing digital study material, viewing of class recordings online, support in online forums and chats with members of the teaching staff and senior staff, allowing the students to hand in all assignments digitally, and receiving feedback and grades in the same way.