
East Bridge University

Digital Library & Digital Academic Resources Policy

1. Introduction

The Digital Library has been established as a centralised digital academic resource system to support the teaching, learning, research, and scholarly engagement activities of East Bridge University (EBU). As a globally oriented online university serving working professionals and international learners, the Digital Library is designed to provide continuous, flexible, and accessible academic resource support within a fully digital learning environment.

The Digital Library functions as an integrated academic support ecosystem that enables students, faculty members, researchers, and doctoral scholars to access curated institutional materials, open-access scholarly resources, academic databases, eBooks, and research literature from any location and across multiple devices.

This policy establishes the principles governing access, organisation, usage, maintenance, and academic integrity within the Digital Library.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- Enrolled students
- Faculty members
- Authorised institutional personnel
- External academic assessors and contributors authorised by the University

The policy governs all digital academic resources, repositories, databases, links, downloadable materials, and research support systems integrated within the Digital Library.

3. Guiding Principles

The Digital Library shall operate according to the following principles:

- Accessibility
- Academic integrity
- Research support

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- Digital inclusivity
 - Ethical resource usage
 - Open scholarly access
 - Lifelong learning
 - Flexibility in online education
 - Student-centred digital learning
 - Responsible information management

The Digital Library shall support East Bridge University's commitment to globally accessible online education, independent learning, and scholarly engagement.

4. Academic Domains

The Digital Library shall organise resources under the following academic domains:

- Education and Teaching
- Business and Management
- Information Technology
- Health Science
- Communications and Media
- Liberal Studies, Arts, and Humanities

Additional domains, interdisciplinary categories, and specialised research sections may be introduced based on academic and institutional requirements.

5. Organisation of Resources

5.1 Subject-wise Organisation

All academic materials shall be organised subject-wise rather than course-wise in order to:

- Improve discoverability
 - Support interdisciplinary learning
 - Facilitate independent study
 - Enhance long-term academic usability
 - Enable structured digital navigation
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5.2 Categories of Resources

Resources within the Digital Library may include:

Resources

Institutional reading materials, internally developed educational content, and videos developed to help students.

eBooks

Fully accessible academic books obtained through:

- ▶ open-access repositories,
- ▶ public domain collections,
- ▶ educational licensing arrangements,
- ▶ or legally accessible academic platforms.

Research Articles

Freely accessible scholarly articles, peer-reviewed journal papers, and academic publications that do not require additional institutional login credentials.

External Academic Resources

Curated links directing students to:

- ▶ academic materials,
- ▶ educational websites,
- ▶ multimedia learning resources,
- ▶ and scholarly platforms.

6. Open-Access Scholarly Integration

The Digital Library may integrate academic and research materials from recognised open-access repositories and scholarly platforms, including but not limited to:

- **CORE**
- **Project Gutenberg**
- **Directory of Open Access Books**
- **ERIC**
- **ResearchGate**

The integration of such resources is intended to:

- support independent learning,

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- expand research accessibility,
 - encourage scholarly engagement,
 - and strengthen research literacy among students and researchers.

7. Research Literacy and Scholarly Enquiry

A dedicated research support section titled Research Literacy and Scholarly Enquiry shall be maintained for doctoral scholars and advanced researchers.

This section may include materials related to:

- Meaning, Nature, and Types of Research, and Research Methodology
- Citation and referencing
- Research ethics
- Academic databases and repositories

The University may periodically expand this section to support evolving doctoral and research requirements.

8. Access and Availability

8.1 User Access

The Digital Library shall be accessible to authorised users through the student LMS.

8.2 Accessibility

The Digital Library shall strive to provide:

- continuous access to academic materials,
- compatibility across multiple devices,
- support for remote and international learners,
- accessible digital navigation,
- and inclusive learning support wherever reasonably possible.

The University shall endeavour to improve accessibility features for students with diverse learning needs and disabilities.

8.3 Availability of Resources

Resource availability may vary depending on:

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- licensing conditions,
 - repository access permissions,
 - copyright limitations,
 - and source availability.

The University reserves the right to update, replace, restrict, or remove resources when necessary.

9. Copyright, Fair Use, Intellectual Property, Citation and Academic Integrity

The Digital Library operates in accordance with the East Bridge University Online Library Disclaimer and Usage Guidelines.

The Digital Library:

- does not claim ownership of third-party copyrighted materials unless explicitly stated,
- provides access to resources for educational and research purposes,
- and promotes responsible academic use of digital materials.

Wherever possible, resources shall be linked from:

- official publisher websites,
- recognised academic repositories,
- open-access databases,
- and authorised educational platforms rather than directly hosted on the system.

Users are expected to comply with:

- copyright regulations,
- licensing agreements,
- fair use provisions,
- and academic integrity requirements.

All curated academic resources and externally referenced materials shall, wherever applicable, be properly cited using recognised academic referencing standards, including APA referencing style.

Users of the Digital Library are expected to:

- acknowledge sources appropriately,

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- avoid plagiarism,
 - use academic materials ethically,
 - and comply with institutional academic integrity policies.

Important: Any misuse of academic materials may result in disciplinary action.

10. Student Support and Digital Learning Integration

The Digital Library shall function as part of the broader online learning ecosystem of East Bridge University.

The Digital Library may support:

- asynchronous learning,
- independent study,
- online assessments,
- LMS-integrated learning,
- research-based assignments,
- and self-directed scholarly engagement.

11. Continuous Development and Review

The Digital Library shall be periodically reviewed and expanded to reflect:

- evolving academic programmes,
- technological developments,
- emerging research requirements,
- student learning needs,
- and developments in digital education.

Future developments may include:

- institutional repositories,
- AI-supported academic search systems,
- multimedia learning collections,
- faculty publications,
- student research publications,

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- interactive learning resources,
 - and expanded scholarly database integration.

This policy may be revised periodically based on institutional requirements and developments in online higher education.

12. Conclusion

The Digital Library represents East Bridge University's commitment to digitally enabled, globally accessible, research-oriented, and student-centred higher education. The Digital Library is intended to foster academic engagement, research literacy, independent learning, and responsible scholarly practice within an inclusive online learning environment.

— *End of Policy* —