Princeton Legacy Library: FAQ

What is the Princeton Legacy Library?

The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since our founding in 1905.

Using the latest print-on-demand technology, we are making these distinguished books available again for a new generation of readers and in areas of the developing world without previous access to these volumes. These paperback editions preserve the original texts of these important books, presenting them in durable paperback editions.

How many titles will be in this series? How were titles selected for PLL?

More than 3,000 out-of-print books are planned to become available through this program, with approximately 1200 that launched on 14 July 2014. We are planning subsequent batches for release through 2016.

Why is my book not in your PLL program?

The rights in some of our out-of-print books have reverted to the author. If yours is one of them and you would like to have your book back into print through the PLL program, please contact us at webmaster@press.princeton.edu and we will send you a contract that will restore publication rights to us so that we may consider inclusion of your book in later releases. If you are unsure of the status of your book please contact us if you wish your book to be considered for publication in the PLL. If the rights have not been reverted to you and your book is still not in the PLL, it may be because it was heavily illustrated or of an unusual format that our print on demand printers cannot as of yet accommodate. Please feel free to call us to discuss.

Why wasn’t I notified beforehand?

The PLL project is an ongoing undertaking, with more than 6,000 titles scanned and 3,000 titles slated for inclusion. This proved to be an enormous administrative and technical challenge that made it impractical to locate, notify and contact authors individually in advance of the launch of this program. However, we are in the process of sending notification letters to many of the authors at the most recent addresses in our database.
Why did you change the cover?

In most cases print-ready digital files for the covers were not readily available, and we may or may not have had the rights to reproduce the covers as originally published.

Since these titles are being made available as part of a series, an attractive new cover design for each book in the series was created by the distinguished graphic design firm, Chermayeff & Geismar & Haviv.

Can authors make corrections and update their affiliations?

Unfortunately, it is not possible to update affiliations, though updated contact information will be placed in our records and will be of great benefit to the Press and the authors, especially for important correspondence and to forward any royalties. Nor is it possible to update the existing content in these works, which is preserved in these editions. Please contact webmaster@press.princeton.edu

Will authors get paid royalties, and at what rate?

Yes, authors may receive the royalties specified in their existing contracts, as applicable.

What is Print-on-Demand (POD)?

Print-on-Demand uses digital technology to print high quality physical books in single or small quantities. Books printed in this fashion are virtually indistinguishable from conventionally printed paperbacks. These books can be printed very quickly, and shipped once printed, often within 48 hours of receipt of the order.

Where will these titles be sold?

These titles will be sold through the same channels as our traditional printed books: through our web site and through participating booksellers in the U.S. and around the world.

How were the prices determined?

The prices were determined by the Press using calculations specific to subjects and page count, with a minimum price established by the Press for all books included in the PLL program.
Will there be an ebook?

PLL titles will be sold as ebooks to libraries via the leading library suppliers in the United States and internationally.

Ebooks will not be available for sale through booksellers, but, working in conjunction with suppliers and certain retail partners, we should have the ability to monitor demand for ebooks and may make those available for retail sale on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Press.

I am a contributor, but my name isn’t on the cover, why? My name is misspelled on the cover, what happened?

Due to the enormous scope of the project and inaccuracies in our historical data, some errors may have been introduced that led to your name being left off the cover or typographical errors.

We apologize for any such error and can correct such errors on the covers as we are notified or otherwise become aware, and new covers are substituted. We will do so as quickly as possible. Please contact us at webmaster@press.princeton.edu

Can I get a copy of the PLL edition of my book?

We recommend you contact webmaster@press.princeton.edu for more information.