

User Guide for Spartan Bookshare

a. About Spartan Bookshare

Spartan Bookshare is an efficient and cost-effective bookselling platform that connects thousands of San Jose students. Spartan Bookshare provides students the ability to expedite their search for textbooks by connecting with them other students on campus. In addition to this, consumers are provided with immediate responses and feedback on product availability. Spartan Bookshare allows sellers and clients to meet on campus in risk-free zones, which removes all shipping costs from final price. Finally, Spartan Bookshare creates easy access to school materials and values your time, money, and safety.

b. Getting Started

i. Registering

In order to use Spartan Bookshare, San Jose State students must register. To register, click the Register button at the top right hand corner of the home page. Next, fill out the information needed. Students will need to supply a username, profile picture, San Jose State email address, and a password. If you are missing a field, or the information supplied is not satisfactory, you will not be allowed to register.

If you have supplied sufficient information, you will then be logged in and directed to your profile page. From here, you are able to use the full functionality of Spartan Books.

ii. Logging In

If you are registered, click the Login button at the top right corner of the home page. From there, supply your username and password. If your credentials are incorrect, an error message will appear. If your credentials are correct, you will be logged in and directed to your profile.

c. Functionality

All of the below features are only available to logged in users.

i. Posting a Book for Sale

To post a book for sale, navigate to your profile page. From your profile page, click the List a Book for Sale button. This will take you to a page that has a form that prompts you for a title, photo to display, author, ISBN, subject, the class(es) in which the book was used in, a short description, and a price. All the fields must be filled in in order for a book posting to be successful. When finished filling in all the information, clicking the List Book button will post the book listing to the website.

You can confirm that your book was posted successfully by going back to your profile page and clicking on the View your Books for Sale button. You should see your new posting in the table.

ii. Deleting a Book Posting

To delete one of your book listings, navigate to your profile page. From there, click the View your Books for Sale button. If you have listings, they will be displayed in a table format. From there, you may click the Delete button on any listing to delete it.

iii. Favoriting a Book

If you are on the homepage, you may click on the listing which you would like to favorite. You will be directed to the posting page for that book. From there, you may click on the heart button to favorite the book.

If you are on the browsing page and see a book you would like to favorite, you may click on the heart button on the far right side of the listing in order to favorite it.

iv. View Your Favorites

To view your favorite books, navigate to your profile page. From there, you should see a section called Your Favorites at the bottom, under your profile information. If you have favorited any books, they will appear in a table format.

v. Messaging a Seller

You may message a seller prior to purchasing a book. In order to do this, you may either navigate to a book posting or click the mail icon next to a book posting in the browser table. This will take you to a messaging page where you may send the seller a message. If this is your first time messaging the seller, an automatic message will be sent: "Hi there! I'm interested in buying <book title>". If you have already messaged this seller, you may continue chatting freely.

Similarly, when you decide to purchase a book, clicking the Purchase Book button will direct you to a messaging page where you may send the seller a message.

To access your messages at a later time, simply click the mail icon at the top right hand corner of the website.

vi. Purchasing a Book

To purchase a book, navigate to the desired book posting page either through the browse page or homepage and click Purchase Book. You will then be directed to a messaging page where you may communicate with the seller and arrange payment method and meetup time/location.

FAQ

I am a graduated San Jose State student. Can I use this service to sell my textbooks?

If you still have a valid San Jose State email address (@sjsu.edu) you may use this service. It is not possible to register with emails outside the San Jose State domain.

How can I pay for a textbook?

Spartan Bookshare facilitates communication between students looking to buy and sell textbooks. The payment method is up to the buyer/seller to decide.

I am a San Jose State professor. Can I use this service?

Yes, in fact, we encourage professors to use this service.

Do I need to make a buyer-specific or seller-specific account?

No, you may purchase and sell books with a single account.

How long is my Spartan Books account valid for?

Your account will be valid as long as your San Jose State email address is valid.

Am I allowed to negotiate the price of a textbook?

Yes, the messaging functionality between buyers and sellers is meant to also allow price negotiation to occur if desired.

Am I allowed to back out of a sale if I feel uncomfortable?

Yes, and if you feel as though the opposite party is acting inappropriate, you may reach out to the school to request disciplinary action.