# Introducing Indiana Publishing: Grey Literature

Script: Graduate Students

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## Title Slide

Hi, I’m Adam Mazel, Digital Publishing Librarian.

And welcome to my presentation.

I’m here to introduce you to a new library publishing service that is meant to help grad students called, “Indiana Publishing: Grey Literature.”

## What Is Indiana Publishing: Grey Literature?

So, what is “Indiana Publishing: Grey Literature”?

Well, Indiana Publishing: Grey Literature is a publishing service for texts created by the IU community that are not publishable by scholarly or commercial presses but that are nonetheless worthy of the affordances of a publisher.

It is free for you, so you don’t have to pay to use it

It is also free for readers, meaning that our publications are available to readers worldwide for free without cost or copyright restrictions.

When you publish with us, you retain your copyright, so you can reuse your publication and republish it elsewhere.

Our publications are branded with the IU logo, which certifies a certain level of legitimacy.

Lastly, it is digital first, meaning that our publications are always digital, though we will probably soon offer print-on-demand for the publishing of physical copies.

## Who We Publish

Now, I’ll briefly discuss who we publish.

Indiana Publishing: Grey Literature exists to publish texts created by members of the IU community.

This includes **graduate students**!

If a work has authors from different institutions, then at least one of those authors must be affiliated with IU.

## How We Publish

We publish via one of two digital publishing platforms depending on the needs of the text.

* There is Quarto, on the left, which is well suited for STEM-based publishing, as it has extensive support for math equations and code and data visualizations.
* And we also use IU’s Pressbooks instance, on the right, for other genres, such as conference proceedings.

## How We Publish

Our manuscripts are published in multiple formats to facilitate access and accessibility

* HTML
* EPUB
* PDF

## What We Publish

So now I’ll explain what type of documents we publish.

First, we exist to publish texts that are not publishable by scholarly or commercial presses:

This ranges from manuscripts that can’t find a publisher because they not expected to sell or they don’t meet the standard publication format by being too long or too short, to genres that are not appropriate for the many presses that do peer review, such as conference proceedings, to multimedia and / or digital scholarship projects that are not appropriate for the many presses that are print based.

## What We Publish: Genres

Of those manuscripts that cannot find a publisher, the genres that we are most interested in publishing are:

* Books
  + And this includes both Non-Fiction, such as scholarly monographs, edited collections, memoirs, and the like
  + And Fiction, such as novels, poetry and story collections, and so on.
* We’re also interested in publishing what I’m calling, “companions,” or digital projects that accompany and extend traditional print publications, perhaps by integrating multimedia
  + This might be of particular benefit if you are thinking of creating a side project to your dissertation, one that involves multimedia, data visualizations, GIS, or other forms of digital research.
* In addition, we’re interested in publishing the proceedings of conferences held at IU
  + So if you are holding a graduate student conference, we would love to work with you to publish the proceedings.
* And lastly, we’re open to publishing technical reports and white papers, if those are scholarly outputs that you or centers you work with are creating

## What We Publish: Criteria

Now, I want to mention our criteria for publication.

So while we do want to lower the barriers to publishing, we also do some quality control.

On the one hand, we do not offer peer review and our manuscripts are not vetted by external readers to qualify for publication.

Instead, manuscript acceptance is determined by an application. This application is on the Indiana Publishing: Grey Literature website, and, in addition to basic questions, it asks you to explain how your manuscript has impact or value—in other words, to make the case for why their manuscript should be published by this service, rather than by yourself.

We’re particularly interested in manuscripts that employ digital affordances, such as multimedia or data visualizations.

And we especially welcome manuscripts connected to a historically excluded group—either its author, topic, or audience.

## How We Help

So now I’ll explain how this service can help graduate students. And I’ll do so by explaining how we contribute to IU’s extant publishing services.

So, before this publishing service existed, grad student authors of manuscripts that were not publishable by presses were limited to self-publishing, which usually took the form of either:

* depositing their manuscript in IU’s repository, IUScholarWorks
  + This is where your theses and dissertations will be preserved and published
* creating their manuscript in PressBooks

These two self-publishing options, however, have limitations:

They may be unfamiliar.

Similarly, you be uncertain about specific aspects of publishing, such as how to choose the right image format.

Likewise, everyone’s manuscripts can benefit from support, from editorial help to accessibility support.

And so on.

## How We Help

So that’s where Indiana Publishing: Grey Literature comes in. We facilitate the publishing process for graduate students who work with us by advising on publishing, enhancing their publication, and above all doing most of the publishing work for you so you don’t have to.

Here’s a little bit of how we help, which I’ll explain in the form of our workflow:

* After we acquire a manuscript, we schedule a copyright consultation with the author(s), me, and our copyright librarian, to advise the author on copyright, permissions, and open licensing.
* Once that is complete, the manuscript’s non-textual media—images, videos, etc.—are assessed to ensure the aptness of the file format, resolution, size, etc.
* Then, the publication is built. The text is edited to standardize its style and format, metadata is created, the citations and bibliography are formatted, and so on.
* Simultaneously, the manuscript is assessed for accessibility and remediated as needed
* Next, the publication is made discoverable in part through Search Engine Optimization.
* Bibliometrics are then enabled so you can know your reader counts
* Penultimately, the publication is preserved in ScholarWorks and the Internet Archive
* Lastly, the publication is publicized via library news and library publishing listservs.

And this is only some of how this service can help your manuscript.

## How We Help: Goals

We’re also planning to develop our service. In the future, we want to offer the following:

* Print on Demand for physical copies
  + This will probably be offered in the very near future
* Greater discoverability
  + Getting our publications into the IU Catalog
* IU Integration
  + More IU branding, including IU web domains
* Graphic Design to offer book cover creation

## The End

So that is how we hope to help graduate students publish their work, whether scholarly or creative.

We hope you will use this service, and we encourage you to apply!