

Collecting Self-Published Authors at the Public Library

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Description

Stephen King started it! Now midlist authors, genre authors, comics artists and more have turned to self-publishing, both in print and via ebooks. Why the shift? How can collection developers find the gold nuggets in the sludge? What can they acquire in which formats, and at what price? Topics include:

- ✓ Which authors tend to choose self-publishing and why
- ✓ Where to find reviews and other collection-development guidance on self-published works
- ✓ Acquiring self-published print
- ✓ Acquiring "indie" ebooks
- ✓ Helping patrons self-publish

Readings

There are no textbooks for this course. I do strongly recommend the checkout or purchase of Walt Crawford's Librarian's Guide to Micropublishing.

All links mentioned or discussed in this course will be made available at <http://pinboard.in/u:dsalo/t:selfpubcourse>. (If I miss one, please let me know!) This does not mean, however, that learners must read every link on that list.

Grading and due dates

This course is pass-fail. To pass, you need to:

- ✓ look at the material linked to from the weekly course pages
- ✓ participate meaningfully in the assigned discussion for Week 1
- ✓ post at least one new review source for information on self-published and indie books for Week 2
- ✓ post one example of libraries assisting patrons with self-publishing for Week 4

Weekly topics

Week 1: Why self-publishing?

Week 2: Where, oh where have my CHOICE cards gone?

Week 3: Acquisitions and cataloging

Week 4: Public library as self-publishing facilitator