



UPOU

as Publisher of Academic
Books and other Publications



UPOU as Publisher of Academic Books and other Publications

UPOU as Publisher: Responding to Disruptions

As an open learning institution, UPOU releases its books under a Creative Commons license so it is accessible to more people, including those outside the walls of academia. UPOU operates under an open access philosophy which allows a vetting process not just by selected reviewers but by the wider scholarly community making the review process more superior and relevant to the traditional review process. Since they are uploaded as e-books in the UPOU Networks — a repository for the university-produced open educational resources — their usage can be tracked and analyzed. This mode of publishing is part of UPOU's thrust to continue and innovate on the craft of academic publishing in the post-industrial age when knowledge product creation is no longer the sole domain of academia. UPOU, as a Constituent University of UP, prides itself in responding to technological and educational disruptions by performing the fundamental role of the university in the field of open and distance education - as knowledge generator and publisher of its knowledge products to serve the wider community of academics and practitioners.

Academic Publishing by UPOU: Pioneering in ODeL

UP Open University (UPOU) was established in 1995 with a unique mandate of offering and granting academic degrees by open and distance learning. As an institution of higher learning and as a Constituent University (CU) of the University of the Philippines System, the National University, UPOU has been vested with a leadership role enshrined in RA 10650 known as Open Distance Learning Act of 2014. For the past 25 years, UPOU has been pioneering in the areas of distance and flexible education, online learning, open educational resources, massive open online courses, quality assurance for online education, etc. Through its various pluridisciplinary programs, collaborative research, innovative practices and voluntary services to advance the field, UPOU has been recognized in the country as a Center of Excellence as early as 1997; in the region as President of the Asian Association of Open Universities (2017-2019); internationally as member of the International Centre for Distance Education (ICDE) since 1995.

Acknowledging that any self-respecting university should have as its core function the production and dissemination of knowledge, UPOU has seriously pursued a publication program by publishing its knowledge products including, but not limited to, learning modules, academic books, discussion paper series, monograph series, and e-journals.

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UPOU's publishing program is part of its mandate to generate knowledge, capture such knowledge and share the knowledge. As the country's leading institution in open and distance learning, UPOU sees its primary role in producing scholarly publications including books and journals that capture the philosophy, views, convictions, experience and practice of open and distance learning in general and more specifically in the context of open universities. These publications serve to fill a gap in the theory and practice of open and distance learning (ODL), UPOU's recognized niche.

Its organizational set-up, with an Office of Academic Support and Instructional Services tasked with development of learning modules through a quality circle approach, gives it a unique advantage of using its experience, mechanisms and standards to produce other forms of print publication. Its Multimedia Center, likewise, engages in the conceptualization and production of learning materials which are produced in audio and video formats as open educational resources.

UPOU faculty, REPS, and staff publish in WoS publications and other international peer-reviewed journals. In addition, they also author and publish in UPOU publications bringing with them the same standards of publication. The institutional knowledge generated by UPOU through years of teaching, research and public service have been captured and shared through various forums and formats including presentations in conferences, research and publications in print and multimedia formats.

As part of the UP System and the larger academic community, UPOU adheres to the same academic review process involved in academic publishing. Proposals for book publication are reviewed based on relevance, conceptual framework, and potential contributions to theory and practice in ODeL. UPOU book chapters and manuscripts are subject to peer review either by the book editors, external reviewers, and/or both

(<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cxfVTKQi7HE2zHkle0O1XbWsdegwgOkS/view>).

The Office of the Academic Support and Instructional Services (OASIS) undertakes the editorial and press work required in book publishing as in the flowchart.

(https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TZBPan2L8SDVZZE83MQAYrycmCsfQHi_/view).

UPOU is a registered book/e-book publisher as listed by National Book Development Board (NBDB) alongside the UP Press and other academic publishers

(<https://booksphilippines.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/NBDB-Registered-Book-Publishers-as-of-February-29-2020.pdf>).

UPOU as Publisher of Academic Books and other Publications

UPOU Publications: International and Local Distribution (regularly updated)

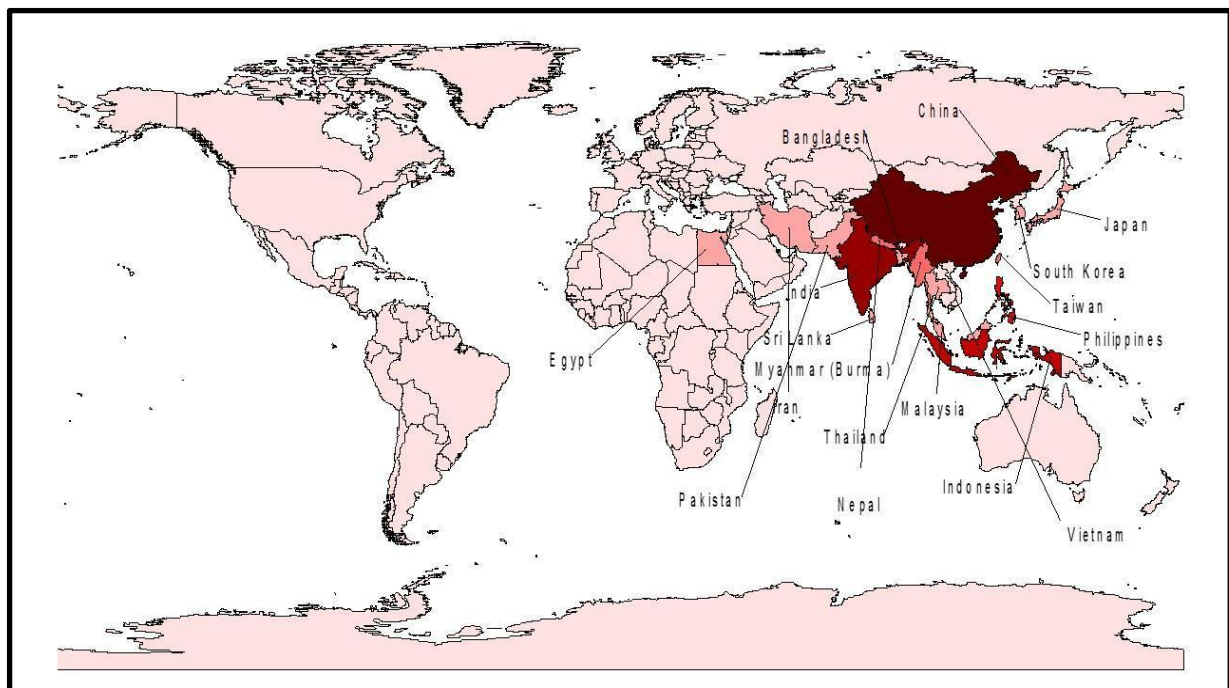
Since its inception UPOU has been publishing academic materials and resources including quality-assured learning modules, peer-reviewed books, and freely-available audio and video resources and an open-access journal (<http://ijodel.com>) which have been and are continuously used both in UPOU and other educational institutions all over the country and in the ASEAN region. For more than two decades now, UPOU has published academic books particularly in the field of open and distance e-learning (<https://networks.upou.edu.ph/upou-publication/>).

Table 1. Distribution of UPOU Publications as of August 2020

CATEGORY	DISTRIBUTION		TOTAL
	INTERNATIONAL	LOCAL	
ODeL publications			
– Requested/Donation	1536 (92%)	130 (8%)	1666
– Accessed/Viewed from UPOU Networks	No breakdown to date	No breakdown to date	4143
Discipline-based publications			
– Online bookstore	0	1469 (100%)	1469
TOTAL			7278

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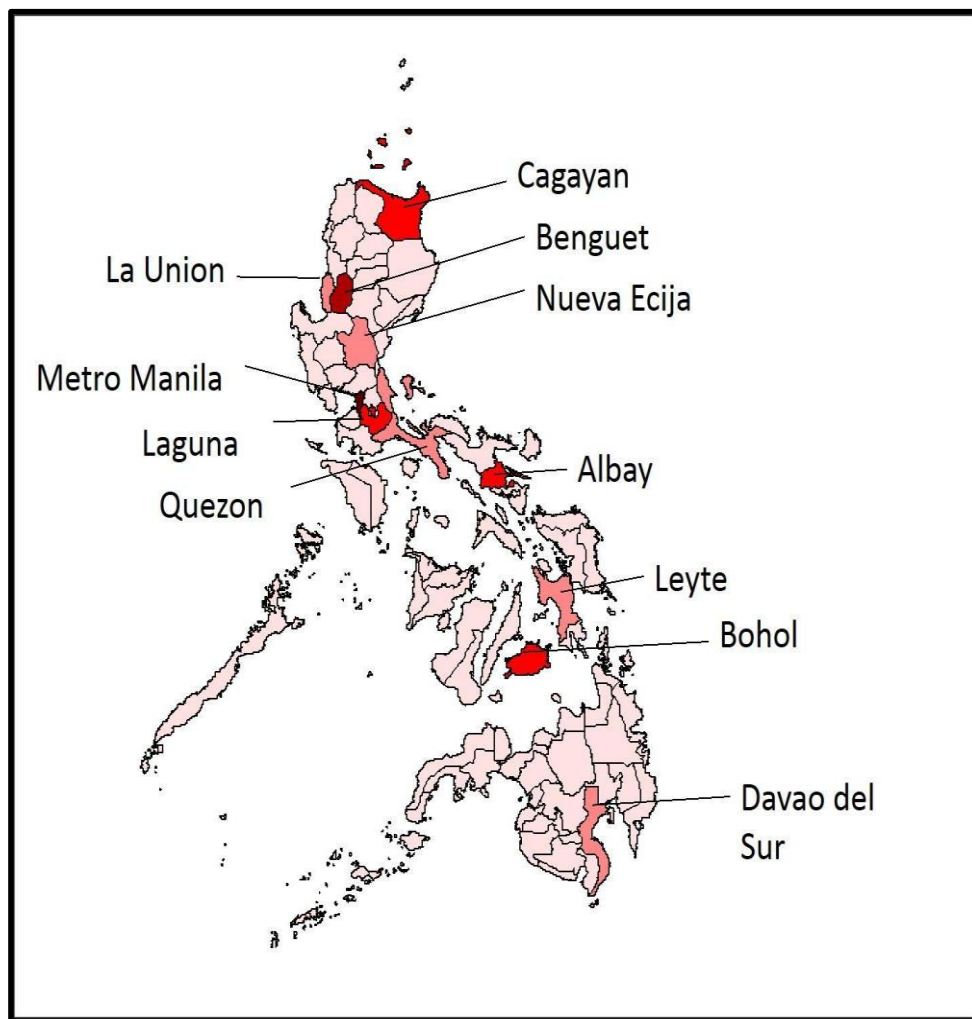
Figure 1. Spatial Distribution of UPOU ODeL Publications
(Note: the darker the color the greater the number)



a. International distribution of UPOU ODeL publications

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Figure 1. Spatial Distribution of UPOU ODeL Publications
(Note: the darker the color the greater the number)



b. National distribution of UPOU ODeL publications

Based on Google Scholar and ResearchGate data almost 58,000 reads have been recorded for UPOU publications which include discipline-based publications and ODeL publications.

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