

LIBRARY GUIDE ON OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

University of San Carlos - The Library System



WHAT IS OER?

"The term **"Open Educational Resource(s)" (OER)** refers to educational resources (lesson plans, quizzes, syllabi, instructional modules, simulations, etc.) that are freely available for use, reuse, adaptation, and sharing."

WHY OER?

OER is important because it provides affordable material to students, allows faculty to enhance their work, and provides faculty with content for classes. This short video illustrates the benefits of OER.

WHAT ARE THE USES OF OER?

1. As additional resources to an existing program or curriculum. For instance, instructors sometimes use an online open lesson plan to include an enrichment activity for learners or may provide extra practice material for the learner, struggling with the course or a particular concept.

Laboratory classes with limited space the instructor may incorporate online open videos to create a clear and comprehensive demonstration of a complex experiment.

2. Curate a huge collection of open resources into a digital library, making it easier for the instructor to search specific materials or lesson plans to be used in their online classes.

3. The shift from expensive and conventional textbooks, incorporating digital curriculum and creating an open resource.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF USING OER?

1. An educational platform open to everyone
2. Affordable learning, ideally free of cost
3. Before even signing up, learners can try out the course
4. Study times get flexible and not restricted to semester calendars or weekly timetables
5. Learners can learn and work in accordance with their pace
6. Accessible from anywhere and have no limited access to college or school
7. Provide access to a variety of study materials
8. A lot of intellectual capital is offered to be reused.

WHAT ARE EXAMPLES OF OER?

OPENCOURSEWARE

"OpenCourseWare (OCW) is a free and open digital publication of high quality college and university-level educational materials. These materials are organized as courses, and often include course planning materials and evaluation tools as well as thematic content" (Open Education Consortium, 2017, para. 1).

OPEN TEXTBOOKS

"Open textbooks are typically authored by faculty and published on the web with the support of universities or new commercial companies. This new business model enables free online access to textbooks" (California State University, 2012, para. 1).

LEARNING MODULES

A learning module is "a tool that provides course materials in a logical, sequential, order, guiding students through the content and assessments in the order specified by the instructor. Instructors can insert formatted text, files, web links, discussion topics, assignments, tests and quizzes, and soon, assessments. Content can be structured in such a way as to require students to complete content before they are allowed to proceed to the next content. It is also possible for instructors to set up a place for students to add content to the learning module" (University of Florida e-Learning, 2013, para. 1).

STREAMING VIDEO

"Streaming video is content sent in compressed form over the Internet and displayed by the viewer in real-time. With streaming video or streaming media, a Web user does not have to wait to download a file to play it. Instead, the media is sent in a continuous stream of data and is played as it arrives. The user needs a player, which is a special program that uncompresses and sends video data to the display and audio data to speakers. A player can be either an integral part of a browser or downloaded from the software maker's Web site" (TechTarget, 2017, para. 1).

OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

Open access journals provide "free, immediate, online availability of research articles combined with the right to use these articles fully in the digital environment. Open access is the needed modern update for the communication of research that fully utilizes the Internet for what it was originally built to do—accelerate research" (SPARC, 2017, para. 5).

ONLINE TUTORIALS

An **online tutorial** is a self-study activity designed to teach a specific learning outcome. They are usually delivered via a course management system but can also be made available via the Internet or on a DVD. There are two main types of online tutorials:

- **Recorded tutorials** are video or screencast recordings, typically of a subject expert presenting information and ideas or giving a demonstration.
- **Interactive tutorials** are a structured collection of navigable web pages. Individual pages can contain any combination of text, images, audio, video, self-test questions, and other interactive activities. Interactive tutorials can also contain screencasts.

Both types of online tutorials can be provided as supplementary learning materials or as an integral part of core activity. Because of the benefits they offer, online tutorials are becoming commonplace within both programs of learning and on number of support service web sites (University of Bristol Educational Support Unit, 2017, para. 1-4).

DIGITAL LEARNING OBJECTS

"Digital learning objects are small, modular, discrete units of learning designed for electronic delivery and use. To facilitate reuse with a minimum of effort, a learning object is "packaged" to include a lesson, an activity, and an assessment. The most reusable learning objects will have a learning outcome that is concrete and fundamental to a broad range of courses" (CSU Northridge Oviatt Library, 2017, p. 1).

WHERE CAN I FIND OER? (FIND OER)

Click this link: <https://start.me/p/QRDO7R/find-oer>

1. American Institute of Mathematics

Click this link: https://libraryguides.lib.iup.edu/oer/finding_oer

The American Institute of Mathematics was founded in 1994 by John Fry, co-founder of Fry's Electronics, and located in the Fry's Electronics San Jose, California location. Privately funded by Fry at inception, in 2002, AIM became one of eight NSF-funded mathematical institutes.

2. cK-12

Click this link: <https://www.ck12.org/teacher/>

The CK-12 Foundation is a California-based non-profit organization which aims to increase access to low-cost K-12 education in the United States and abroad. CK-12 provides free and customizable K-12 open educational resources aligned to state curriculum standards.

3. Creative Commons

Click this link: <https://creativecommons.org/>

Creative Commons is an American non-profit organization devoted to expanding the range of creative works available for others to build upon legally and to share. The organization has released several copyright-licenses, known as Creative Commons licenses, free of charge to the public.

4. Curriki

Click this link: <https://library.curriki.org/>

Curriki is an online, free, open education service. Curriki is structured as a nonprofit organization to provide open educational resources primarily in support of K-12 education.

5. FlatWorld Knowledge

Click this link: <https://catalog.flatworldknowledge.com/>

FlatWorld is a publisher of college-level textbooks and educational supplements founded in 2007 as Flat World Knowledge by Eric Frank and Jeff Shelstad. It was acquired at the end of 2016 by Alastair Adam and John Eielson and its company headquarters was moved from Washington, DC to Boston, MA.

6. Khan Academy

Click this link: <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

Khan Academy is an American non-profit educational organization created in 2008 by Salman Khan, with the goal of creating a set of online tools that help educate students. The organization produces short lessons in the form of videos.

7. MIT OpenCourseware

Click this link: <https://ocw.mit.edu/index.htm>

MIT OpenCourseWare is an initiative of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to publish all of the educational materials from its undergraduate- and graduate-level courses online, freely and openly available to anyone, anywhere.

8. Merlot

Click this link: <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/>

The MERLOT system provides access to curated online learning and support materials and content creation tools, led by an international community of educators, learners and researchers.

9. Open Michigan

Click this link: <https://open.umich.edu/>

Open Michigan enables the University of Michigan community to make the products of its research, teaching, and creative work available to the world beyond campus. We are the home for all things open at the University of Michigan—including expertise and services for open educational resources, open data, and open publications.

10. OpenDOAR

Click this link: <https://www.jisc.ac.uk/opendoar>

OpenDOAR is the quality-assured global directory of academic open access repositories. It enables the identification, browsing and search for repositories, based on a range of features, such as location, software or type of material held. Tools and support enable both repository administrators and service providers to share best practice and improve the quality of the repository infrastructure

11. Open Education Consortium

Click this link: <https://www.oecconsortium.org/>

The Global Network for Open Education.

12. OER Commons

Click this link: <https://www.oercommons.org/>

OER Commons is a freely accessible online library that allows teachers and others to search and discover open educational resources and other freely available instructional materials.

13. CMU Open Learning Initiative

Click this link: <https://oli.cmu.edu/>

The Open Learning Initiative (OLI) is a flagship project of The Simon Initiative. It provides textbook-replacement courseware built upon principles gleaned from decades of research in three CMU's strengths: cognitive science, computer engineering and human-computer interaction. OLI provides materials that can be used in face-to-face, online, or hybrid classes. It's a platform for delivering high-quality materials with the ability to facilitate groundbreaking research — in technology enhanced learning, data science, learning behavior and more.

14. OpenStax

Click this link: <https://openstax.org/>

OpenStax is a nonprofit ed-tech initiative based at Rice University. Since 2012, OpenStax has created peer-reviewed, openly licensed textbooks, which are available in free digital formats and for a low cost in print. Most books are also available in Kindle versions on Amazon.com and in the iBooks Store.

15. Open Suny Textbooks

Click this link: <https://textbooks.opensuny.org/>

Open Suny Textbooks is an open textbook publishing initiative established by State University of New York libraries and support by Suny Innovative Instruction Technology Grants and supported by Suny Innovative Instruction Technology Grants and Suny Seneseo.

16. UMN Open Textbook Library

Click this link: <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks>

Open textbooks are textbooks that have been funded, published, and licensed to be freely used, adapted, and distributed. These books have been reviewed by faculty from a variety of colleges and universities to assess their quality. These books can be downloaded for no cost, or printed at low cost. All textbooks are either used at multiple higher education institutions; or affiliated with an institution, scholarly society, or professional organization. The library currently includes 779 textbooks, with more being added all the time.

17. Open Yale Courses

Click this link: <https://oyc.yale.edu/>

Open Yale Courses is a project of Yale University to share full video and course materials from its undergraduate courses. Open Yale Courses provides free access to a selection of introductory courses, and uses a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike license.

18. Open Oregon State University

Click this link: <https://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/open/>

Ecampus Open Educational Resources works with OSU faculty to create online educational resources that can be accessed freely by students and teachers in digital media collections around the world. Examples of open educational resources (OERs) include full courses, course modules, syllabi, lectures, homework assignments, quizzes, classroom activities, pedagogical materials, games and much more.

19. Project Gutenberg (free ebooks)

Click this link: <https://www.gutenberg.org/>

Project Gutenberg is a library of over 60,000 free eBooks. Choose among free epub and Kindle eBooks, download them or read them online. You will find the world's great literature here, with focus on older works for which U.S. copyright has expired. Thousands of volunteers digitized and diligently proofread the eBooks, for enjoyment and education.

20. World Digital Library

Click this link: <https://www.wdl.org>

The World Digital Library provides free access to manuscripts, rare books, maps, photographs, and other important cultural documents from all countries

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libdirector@usc.edu.ph



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