

OER Toolkit



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This isn't a complete list, but it should help you start or expand OER usage!

URLs are working as of Feb. 27, 2020.

About OER

- “Defining the ‘Open’ in Open Content and Open Educational Resources” (5R’s) (by David Wiley), <http://opencontent.org/definition>
- Open Education (SPARC), <https://sparcopen.org/open-education>
- 2018-2019 Connect OER Annual Report (SPARC), <https://sparcopen.org/news/2019/sparc-releases-connect-oer-annual-report-for-2018-2019>
- Open Educational Resources (William and Flora Hewlett Foundation), <https://hewlett.org/strategy/open-educational-resources>
- Open Education Information Center (Open Education Global), <https://www.oeglobal.org/resource>
- OER World Map, <https://oerworldmap.org>

OER training resources

- OER Starter Kit (Abbey Elder of Iowa State University), <https://iastate.pressbooks.pub/oerstarterkit>
- “OER Training: 2018 Workbook” (William Meinke of University of Hawai'i Outreach College), <http://pressbooks.oer.hawaii.edu/oertraining2018>
- “Creating Open Educational Resources” (free course from Open University), <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/education/creating-open-educational-resources/content-section-0?intro=1>

Textbook affordability

- “*The Evolution of Affordable Content Efforts in the Higher Education Environment: Programs, Case Studies, and Examples*” ebook, edited by Kristi Jensen and Shane Nackerud, 2018 (licensed CC BY), <https://open.lib.umn.edu/affordablecontent>
- “Automatic Textbook Billing: An Offer Students Can’t Refuse?” by Kaitlyn Vitez, U.S. PIRG Education Fund, 2020 (licensed CC BY), <https://uspig.org/feature/usp/automatic-textbook-billing>

Finding OER

Search tools

- Openly Available Sources Integrated Search (OASIS), <https://oasis.geneseo.edu> (It currently searches open content from 97 different sources. See search widget code at <https://oasis.geneseo.edu/about.php>.)
- Mason OER Metafinder (MOM), <https://mom.gmu.edu> (It searches 21 sites, including HathiTrust, Internet Archive, Project Gutenberg, and the Digital Public Library of America.)
- MERLOT expanded search, <https://www.merlot.org> (Once you do a search in MERLOT, select the Other Libraries tab and it will expand the search to 74 other sites and repositories. It also includes the option to filter by Creative Commons license. Not all MERLOT content is OER.)
- Cool4Ed’s ISBN search, <http://www.cool4ed.org/findetextbooks> (Scroll down the Cool4Ed web page to find it – it’s in the middle at the bottom of the page. Input a commercial textbook’s ISBN into the search box. Results provide links to related open textbooks in MERLOT.)
- Creative Commons’ new CC Search for images, <https://search.creativecommons.org>

- Creative Commons' old CC Search, <https://oldsearch.creativecommons.org>
- Google Advanced Search, https://www.google.com/advanced_search (see Usage Rights filter)
- Google Advanced Image Search, https://www.google.com/advanced_image_search (see Usage Rights filter)

Repositories and referatories

For higher education

- Open Textbook Library has about 700 open textbooks, <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks>, and MARC records for them, <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/discovery>
- OpenStax, <https://openstax.org/subjects>
- Lumen Learning, <https://lumenlearning.com/courses>
- BCcampus OpenEd, <https://open.bccampus.ca/browse-our-collection/find-open-textbooks/>
- Cool4Ed, <http://www.cool4ed.org>
- LibreTexts, <https://libretexts.org>
- Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (CALI), <https://www.cali.org/the-elangdell-bookstore>
- OpenSUNY Textbooks, <https://textbooks.opensuny.org/browse-oer>
- Math textbooks evaluated and approved by the American Institute of Mathematics, <https://aimath.org/textbooks>

For vocational training

- SkillsCommons, <https://www.skillscommons.org>

For primary & secondary schools

- Amazon Inspire (K-12), <https://www.amazoninspire.com> (Note: The Amazon Inspire Beta is coming to an end and will no longer be available after the 2019-2020 school year.)
- CK-12, <https://www.ck12.org>
- OpenStax Advanced Placement textbooks, <https://openstax.org/subjects/ap>

For all ages

- OER Commons, <https://www.oercommons.org/oer>
- MERLOT, <https://www.merlot.org>

Other OER content

- Pixabay images, <https://pixabay.com>
- Flickr images, <https://www.flickr.com> (can filter by CC license)
- Wikibooks, https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Main_Page
- Project Gutenberg, <https://www.gutenberg.org>
- Smithsonian Open Access, <https://www.si.edu/openaccess>
- NASA space videos and images, <https://www.nasa.gov> (see Galleries)

Open pedagogy

- Open Pedagogy Notebook, <http://openpedagogy.org>
- "A Guide to Making Open Textbooks with Students" (Rebus Community), <https://press.rebus.community/makingopentextbookswithstudents>
- 2019 Open Pedagogy Webinar Series (Open Education Consortium and State University of New York) features recorded webinars, <https://sunycpd.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/webasp19/spring19/Agenda>

Creative Commons

- Creative Commons, <https://creativecommons.org>
- Creative Commons licenses, <https://creativecommons.org/licenses>

- Creative Commons downloads (logos, buttons, and icons), <https://creativecommons.org/about/downloads>
- Creative Commons Certificate for librarians (10-week course), <https://certificates.creativecommons.org>; all certificate resources (CC BY), <https://certificates.creativecommons.org/about/certificate-resources-cc-by>. A print version of the materials is being published with ALA: [*Creative Commons for Educators and Librarians*](#) (licensed CC BY)
- Creative Commons license remix chart, https://wiki.creativecommons.org/wiki/Wiki/cc_license_compatibility

Advocacy

- OER Champion Playbook (Lumen Learning), <https://lumenlearning.com/champion-playbook>
- Student Government Toolkit (Student Government Resource Center), https://studentgovresources.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/SGRC_Making_Textbooks_Affordable_Toolkit.pdf
- “OER Mythbusting” (SPARC), <https://sparcopen.org/our-work/oer-mythbusting>
- OER State Policy Tracker (SPARC), <https://sparcopen.org/our-work/state-policy-tracking>
- Resources for textbook affordability campaigns + textbook cost reports (U.S. Student Public Interest Research Groups), <https://studentpirgs.org/campaigns/sp/make-textbooks-affordable> and <https://studentpirgs.org/sp/our-textbooks-research>
- OER Student Toolkit (BCcampus), <https://opentextbc.ca/studenttoolkit>

Measuring impact

- OER Adoption Impact Calculator (Lumen Learning), <http://impact.lumenlearning.com>
- COUP [Cost, Outcomes, Usage, Perceptions] Framework (Open Education Group), <https://openedgroup.org/coup>

Research

- Achieving the Dream’s 2020 “OER at Scale: The Academic and Economic Outcomes of Achieving the Dream’s OER Degree Initiative,” <https://www.achievingthedream.org/resource/17993/oer-at-scale-the-academic-and-economic-outcomes-of-achieving-the-dream-s-oer-degree-initiative>
- Florida Virtual Campus’ 2018 Student Textbook and Course Materials Survey, <https://dlss.flvc.org/colleges-and-universities/research/textbooks>
- “2018 Babson report: Freeing the Textbook: Open Education Resources in U.S. Higher Education,” <https://www.onlinelearningsurvey.com/reports/freeingthetextbook2018.pdf>
- “The Impact of Open Educational Resources on Various Student Success Metrics” (University of Georgia, 2018), <http://www.isetl.org/ijtlhe/pdf/IJTLHE3386.pdf>
- Open Education Research Hub, <http://oerhub.net>
- OER Research Toolkit, <https://openedgroup.org/toolkit>

Marketing

- Creative Commons handouts and resources, <https://creativecommons.org/about/downloads>
- Open Education Week (in March), <https://www.openeducationweek.org>
- Open Access Week (in October), <http://www.openaccessweek.org>
- Also see resources above under Advocacy

Creative Commons-licensed slide decks

- Nicole Allen, Director of Open Education for SPARC, shares slides from her many presentations and trainings (look in the SlideShare comments for the direct URL to an individual presentation), <https://www.slideshare.net/txtbks>
- Cheryl Cuillier, Open Education Librarian at the University of Arizona, shares CC BY-licensed slide decks and handouts, <https://new.library.arizona.edu/instructors/oer/benefits> (scroll down to the bottom of the page to “OER handouts and PowerPoint slides”)

OER publishing

- Publishing Curriculum is free to everyone in Canvas (Open Textbook Network), <https://canvas.umn.edu/courses/106630/modules>
- “Authoring Open Textbooks” (Rebus Community and Open Textbook Network), <https://press.rebus.community/authoropen>
- “The Rebus Guide to Publishing Open Textbooks (So Far)” (Rebus Community), <https://press.rebus.community/the-rebus-guide-to-publishing-open-textbooks>
- “Open Education Self-Publishing Guide” (BCcampus), <https://open.bccampus.ca/browse-our-collection/find-open-textbooks/?uuid=1d31f3b7-dd9f-4f47-97eb-430afb45ead6&contributor&keyword&subject=Guides>
- “Open Textbook Toolkit” (University of Toronto), <https://opentext.onlinelearning.utoronto.ca>

OER customization

- Open Author tool (OER Commons) lets you combine text, pictures, sound, files, and video, <https://www.oercommons.org/authoring-overview>
- “Modifying an Open Textbook: What You Need to Know” (Open Textbook Network), <https://press.rebus.community/otnmodify>

Accessibility

- “Accessibility Toolkit – 2nd Edition” (BCcampus), <https://opentextbc.ca/accessibilitytoolkit>

Resources for marking free/low-cost course materials in registration system

- Texas Toolkit for OER Course Markings (a living guide), <https://libguides.uta.edu/txtoolkit>
- Contacts at other universities (and which registration systems they use), <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1FwWXkOC3mc6NpjK18Tv53Qg2r2b1uL6hupHa9G30a98/edit#gid=594183565>
- How University System of Georgia is doing it, https://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org/about/course_catalog_designators
- “Evaluating Oregon’s Open Educational Resources Designation Requirement” (Open Oregon), <https://openoregon.org/evaluating-oregons-open-educational-resources-designation-requirement>

Tools used for open pedagogy and OER publishing

- Pressbooks for Educational Institutions (available open source or through an annual plan), <https://pressbooks.com/educational-institutions>
- Hypothesis (an open-source annotation tool), <https://web.hypothes.is>
- H5P (open-source tool for creating interactive content), <https://h5p.org/content-types-and-applications>
- TimelineJS (open-source tool for building interactive timelines), <https://timeline.knightlab.com>

- StoryMapJS (open-source tool for telling stories on the web that highlight the locations of a series of events), <https://storymap.knightlab.com>