OER-CODEX

CLUSTER 1. OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

COURSE 1. DIGITAL RESOURCES

Lesson 1. OER characteristics and search strategies

Dr. Giedrė Tamoliūnė, prof. dr. Aušra Rutkienė, Indrė Oleškevičienė

Lessona 1. Learning outcomes

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- define the value of OER to support teaching and learning.
- search for openly licensed educational resources.
- find and select openly licensed educational resources.

A Quick Guide to Open Educational Resources (OERs)

What are OERs?

FREELY AVAILABLE

Most are legal to copy, adapt, and redistribute semester after semester.

PD

OPEN

"Open" means openly licensed, meaning they are in the public domain or the copyright holder has abridged rights to eliminate barriers to access/use/derivative works.

CC

CC LICENSED

Often contains a creative commons license. Check each resource for use rights.
creativecommons.org/licenses

Why are OERs and other types of affordable content important?

Course materials are freely available on the **FIRST DAY OF CLASS**

INCREASES
in Retention, Completion, and Grade Point Averages

COST SAVINGS
In 2016-17, $36 million dollars in textbook costs for students across the Cal State system
als.csuprojects.org

Increases opportunities for creativity, collaboration and **INNOVATIVE TEACHING**

Affordable content beyond OERs

Academic Journal Quarterly

LIBRARY SUBSCRIBED RESOURCES

OPEN ACCESS CONTENT

Such as Directory of Open Access Journals

OER Projects

REPLACE
a high-cost textbook with a free textbook

CREATE
new course materials
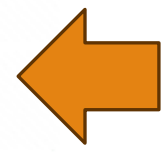
PUBLISH
an open textbook

REVISE
existing OER to meet current needs

DEVELOP
course templates based on OER to facilitate use

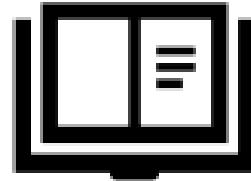**USE**
library resources in place of textbooks

Created by our friends at Georgia State University Library and reused under CC-BY-NC

A quick guide to OERs

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What is the Open Educational Resources (OER)?

- ➢ Open access
- ➢ Open format
- ➢ Open license
- ➢ Open software

Learning, teaching, and research materials in any format and medium that reside in the public domain or are under the copyright that has been released under an open license, that permits no-cost access, re-use, re-purpose, adaptation, and redistribution by other (UNESCO, 2012).

What is a good OER?

➤ Findable – it can be in multiple locations
➤ Clearly described
➤ Clearly licensed (normally through Creative Commons)
➤ From a source you trust
➤ Easy to modify
➤ Free-standing – it does not assume knowledge of other resources
➤ Free of copyright content
➤ Being used by/recommended by people like you
➤ Imperfect – it just needs to work for you

What can be defined as OERs?

Components of OER

Material type	Openly licensed	Freely available	Modifiable
Open educational resources	√	√	√
Free online resources under all rights reserved copyright	X	√	X
Materials available through the University Library	X	√	X
Open Access articles and monographs	√	√	√/X

What are the 5 Rs of OERs?

The 5Rs stand for:

- ➤ Retain

- ➤ Revise

- ➤ Remix

- ➤ Reuse

- ➤ Redistribute

The 5 Rs of Open educational resources

Retain
The right to make, own, and control a copy of the resource (e.g., download and keep your own copy)

Revise
The right to edit, adapt, and modify your copy of the resource (e.g., translate into another language)

Remix
the right to combine your original or revised copy of the resource with other existing material to create something new (e.g., make a mashup)

Reuse
the right to use your original, revised, or remixed copy of the resource publicly (e.g., on a website, in a presentation, in a class)

Redistribute
the right to share copies of your original, revised, or remixed copy of the resource with others (e.g., post a copy online or give one to a friend)

This material is based on the original writing of D. Wiley, which was published freely under Creative Commons atribution 4.0 license. https://opencontent.org/definition/
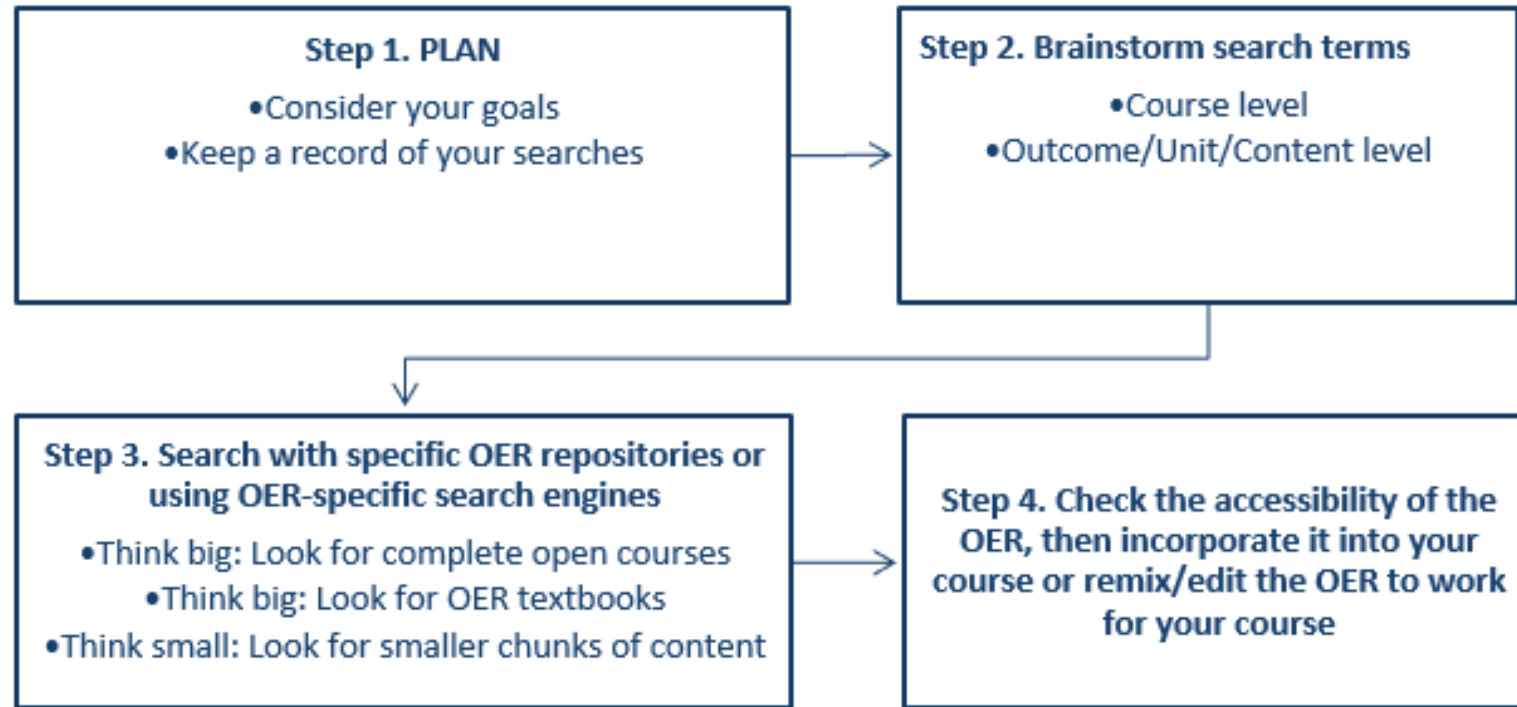
Video presentation

Please watch the video
[An introduction to Open Educational Resources](#)
recommendations on how to locate and evaluate OERs for use in classes.

Finding and Selecting OER

Step 1. PLAN
- Consider your goals
- Keep a record of your searches

Step 2. Brainstorm search terms
- Course level
- Outcome/Unit/Content level

Step 3. Search with specific OER repositories or using OER-specific search engines
- Think big: Look for complete open courses
- Think big: Look for OER textbooks
- Think small: Look for smaller chunks of content

Step 4. Check the accessibility of the OER, then incorporate it into your course or remix/edit the OER to work for your course

Step-by-step OER search strategy (based on Hutchings, 2022. This work by D'Arcy Hutchings is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License).

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Examples of repositories

There are different types of repositories that store open content and collections of OERs.

Search tools

Title	Website	Short description
OASIS	https://oasis.geneseo.edu/	a federated search tool designed to streamline the process of finding open content. At present, it scours through 115 diverse sources, aggregating a total of 440,380 records for your convenience.
MERLOT	https://www.merlot.org/merlot/advSearchMaterials.htm	A federated search tool, widely renowned as a prominent hub for discovering and exchanging educational resources, offers a vast array of teaching materials. It's important to note that not all materials are openly accessible. To locate resources with Creative Commons licenses, utilize the advanced search feature.
The Mason OER Metafinder	https://oer.deepwebaccess.com/oer/desktop/en/search.html	A federated search tool provides an extensive collection of open content, encompassing open-access books and articles, documents in the public domain, and open educational resources (OER).
IOWA University library	https://instr.iastate.libguides.com/oer/findbysubject	List of OERs by subjects
STARTME	https://start.me/p/QRDO7R/find-oer	A startpage with an extended list of OERs

Books

Title	Website	Short description
Directory of open-access books	https://www.doabooks.org/	Academic, peer-reviewed books
Project Gutenberg	https://www.gutenberg.org/	Classics

Multimedia and images

Title	Website	Short description
Internet archives	https://archive.org/	A non-profit library of millions of free books, movies, software, music, websites, and more.
Unsplash	https://unsplash.com/	Free images.
Pexels	https://www.pexels.com/	Free stock images, photos and videos shared by creators

Video presentation

Please watch this video
How to find and evaluate OER? recommendations on how to locate and evaluate OERs for use in classes.

References:

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Attribution and disclaimer

Find the training material of the Cluster 1 Course 1 "Digital Resources"

Check more about the project

https://www.oer-codex.eu/