“Open” in Teaching and Learning

Open **Access** vs Open **Content** (“5 Rs”)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Read</strong></th>
<th><strong>No cost</strong> to access, but can’t do much more than <strong>look</strong>.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Retain</strong></td>
<td>Make, own, and control copies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reuse</strong></td>
<td>Use content in a range of ways</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revise</strong></td>
<td>Adapt, adjust, modify, or alter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Remix</strong></td>
<td>Combine with other material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Redistribute</strong></td>
<td>Share copies of the above</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More detail: [http://opencontent.org/definition/](http://opencontent.org/definition/)
Other open licenses exist for content, data, art, hardware, software, ...
In This Workshop

- Open Content
- Open Textbooks
- Open Educational Resources (OER) in general
- Open Pedagogy
- Chris Sweet: Wikipedia for teaching & learning

For all of the above: Why, Where, and How
Open Textbooks: Why?

1) Cost
2) Access & Ownership
3) Academic Freedom
Open Textbooks: Why?

1) Cost

2) Access & Ownership

3) Academic Freedom

Consumer Price Indexes, not seasonally adjusted, January 2006 - July 2016

# Open Textbooks: Why?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1) Cost</th>
<th>2) Access &amp; Ownership</th>
<th>3) Academic Freedom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In your academic career, has the cost of required textbooks caused you to:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not purchase the required textbook</td>
<td>66.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take fewer courses</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not register for a specific course</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earn a poor grade because I could not afford to buy the textbook</td>
<td>37.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What measures have you taken to reduce your required textbook costs?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent printed textbooks</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sell used books</td>
<td>39.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent digital textbooks</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent only the digital textbook chapters needed for a course</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 20,557


Extra: Empirical research on the impacts of OER adoption.
Open Textbooks: Why?

1) Cost

2) Access & Ownership

3) Academic Freedom

Q: In your academic career, has the cost of required textbooks caused you to:

- Not purchase the required textbook: 66.6%
- Take fewer courses: 47.6%
- Not register for a specific course: 45.5%
- Earn a poor grade because I could not afford to buy the textbook: 37.6%

Q: What measures have you taken to reduce your required textbook costs?

- Rent printed textbooks: 47.0%
- Sell used books: 39.0%
- Rent digital textbooks: 29.6%
- Rent only the digital textbook chapters needed for a course: 5.4%

Open textbooks provide free, immediate, irrevocable access to the text forever.

n = 20,557


Extra: Empirical research on the impacts of OER adoption.
1. Freedom to use however you want
2. Freedom to adapt and remix
3. Freedom to use all the things!

Original by Allie Brosh, *Hyperbole and a Half*
Open Textbooks: Where?
Open Textbooks: **Publishers**

- **OpenStax**
  - [https://openstax.org/subjects](https://openstax.org/subjects)
  - Mostly intro-level; peer-reviewed; ancillary materials; hardcover editions.

- **SUNY**
  - [https://textbooks.opensuny.org/](https://textbooks.opensuny.org/)
  - From several SUNY campuses; many peer-reviewed; many available in print.

... and hundreds of individual authors around the world.
Open Textbooks: Repositories

- **OER Commons**
  - [https://www.oercommons.org/](https://www.oercommons.org/)
  - Database + faculty reviews

- **Open Textbook Library**
  - [http://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/](http://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/)
  - Database + faculty reviews
  - 300+ books, 600+ reviews
  - IWU joined the related network via CARLI

- **College Open Textbooks**
  - [http://www.collegeopentextbooks.org/](http://www.collegeopentextbooks.org/)
  - Database

- **OpenEd**
  - [https://open.bccampus.ca/](https://open.bccampus.ca/)
  - Database + faculty reviews
Open Textbooks: **Discipline-Specific**

Examples:

**Mathematics**
http://aimath.org/textbooks/approved-textbooks/
Evaluated / approved books; covers a wide range of courses.

**Psychology**
http://nobaproject.com/
Textbooks; remixable; ancillary materials; low-cost print versions.

... and try a **search** for: open textbooks <discipline>
Open Textbooks: Evaluating

Q: How do you evaluate textbooks normally?

Evaluating an Open Textbook

All those same criteria, plus:

- Is it peer-reviewed?
- Is it licensed appropriately?
- Can you adapt or remix it?
- Is it accessible?
- Are print versions easily available?

... or try out this OER Evaluation Rubric
Courses, syllabi, learning modules, assignments, videos, practice questions, exam question banks, software, tools, ...

Because textbooks aren’t everything:

- Textbooks can be augmented and complemented
- Not every topic has a textbook
- Not every course needs a textbook
- A course is an organized collection of learning modules; a textbook is just one way to provide that.
OER: Where?
OER: Repositories

**OER Commons**
- [https://www.oercommons.org/](https://www.oercommons.org/)
  - Database + faculty reviews

**MERLOT**
- [https://www.merlot.org/](https://www.merlot.org/)
  - Large database; varied quality

**Open Course Library**
- [http://opencourselibrary.org/](http://opencourselibrary.org/)
  - Complete courses; from Accounting to Western Civ

**Teaching Commons**
- [http://teachingcommons.us/](http://teachingcommons.us/)
  - OER from BePress repositories

... and many more, but information overload never helped anyone.
OER: Discipline-Specific Collections

Examples:

CourseSource
Biology
http://www.coursesource.org/

Chemistry + Others
https://chem.libretexts.org/

Psychology
http://nobaproject.com/

Health
http://ocw.jhsph.edu/

LibGuides

Many university librarians have created LibGuides cataloging OER for specific disciplines.

E.g.: Humboldt State University

Search for:
libguide oer <discipline>
E.g.: libguide_oer_music

... and try a search for: oer <discipline>
or: open courseware <discipline>
Exploring OER & Open Textbooks

Suggested approach:

● If textbooks are appropriate for your course:
   1. Search the major repositories (at least OTL and OER Commons)
   2. Try a web search for open textbook <discipline> or open textbook <topic>
   3. Evaluate!

● Regardless, look more broadly for general OER:
   1. Search the major repositories for your topic
   2. Look for and search any discipline-specific repository you find
   3. Try a web search for oer <discipline> or oer <topic>

Try it now: Find and evaluate a few resources relevant to a course you teach.
Creating Your Own OER

Easy!

1. Make something.  
   [You’re doing this already.]

2. Choose a license.

3. Publish it.

4. [optional] List it in an OER database.

Or at times not so easy...

- Choosing and understanding formats
- Handling copyright / licensing / fair use for any included materials
  - IWU fair use checklist
- Considering accessibility for users who are blind, deaf, or have other disabilities
- Determining how or where to host it

Always feel free to ask your friendly local tech fellow or librarian!

Extra: A simple guide on creating new OER.
Open Pedagogy

What is it? Ask 10 instructors, get 50 answers...

Almost always involves the 5 Rs – openness and sharing

Often student-centered, active:

Student-curated or student-created textbooks, assignments, test banks;
Student input on / control of course design.

Often public, networked:

Wikis, blogs, Twitter, Youtube, online publishing / scholarship platforms

“What if we changed these ‘disposable assignments’ into activities which actually added value to the world?” - David Wiley

... read more, with copious links & examples, at What Is Open Pedagogy?
Rajiv Jhangiani: Why have students answer questions when they can write them?

- Students creating exam questions in a Social Psychology class
- 35 students, 1400 questions over 10 weeks
- Included a few of the best questions in the course’s exams

Jim Groom: DS106: Digital Storytelling

- … difficult to describe.
- Students constantly create and remix… everything
- Online assignment bank of student-created/-rated/-remixed assignments
- Student work hosted on student-owned domains (Domain of One’s Own)
- Once ran without a professor?
- Constantly “offered” online in addition to regular semester classes
Open Pedagogy: **Examples**

Robin DeRosa: **Extreme Makeover: Pedagogy Edition**

- A student-driven, online, open first-year seminar course
- Communicate via Twitter: [#opensem](#opensem)
- Annotate materials using Hypothes.is
- Student-owned personal domains, hosting their own blogs
- Collaborative design / voting on course learning outcomes
- Student-generated assignments
- Student-designed policies (attendance, grading)

Several more examples and ideas in the [Open Pedagogy Library](OpenPedagogyLibrary)
Open Pedagogy: Where and How?

- **On-Campus / In-House:**
  - IWU-hosted Wordpress blogs
  - Digital Commons
  - Google Apps: Drive, Docs, Slides, Sites, etc.
  - https://sun.iwu.edu/~username/
  - [not yet, but could do] Locally-hosted wikis
  - [not yet, but maybe] Domain of One’s Own

- **External**
  - Wikipedia; wiki services: PBWorks; Wikispaces; Wikidot
  - Annotation: Hypothes.is [example]; Genius [formerly Rap Genius]
  - Online Publishing / Scholarship Platforms:
    - Omeka.net [examples: 1 (about); 2 (about)]; Scalar [example]; Humanities Commons; Open Science Framework; Authorea
Take it away, Chris!
Wrapping It Up

Open Pedagogy

Open Textbooks

Open Educational Resources

Open Content
Thanks!

Questions?

Questions later: come talk or email any time!

<mliffto@iwu.edu>

Please fill out the brief feedback sheet before you go.