

# OER 101: Everything You Need to Know About Open Education in Academic Libraries

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# Pulse Check #1

- How comfortable do you feel with
    - Open Education?
    - Open Licensing?
    - Open Pedagogy?
  - How comfortable do you feel championing Open Education?
- 1. Label your post-it notes with a symbol, letter, number, or combination of any – you will use your post-it notes again later!
  - 2. Place your post-it notes along the scales to indicate your feeling.

# About Us



# What is ALG?

- A GALILEO Initiative
  - Started with institutional library leaders (RACL)
  - Pilot Team: Librarians, Instructional Designers
- ALG Grants
  - Transformation Grants
  - Continuous Improvement Grants
  - Research Grants
- Repository of Grantee Projects
  - GALILEO Open Learning Materials (Digital Commons) - **metadata**
  - OpenALG (Manifold) - **resources**

# Librarians Helped Build ALG

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Denise George, Georgia State University: From the Fair Use Stand to ALG Champion

## Open Education Week (March 9-13)

Posted on [March 9, 2015](#) by [Denise Dimsdale](#)

This week, the GSU library is celebrating Open Education Week.

### What is Open Education?

[Open education encompasses resources, tools and practices that employ a framework of open sharing to improve educational access and effectiveness worldwide.](#)



Image CCBY from <http://www.openeducationweek.org/>



# Librarians Are Essential to ALG Today

- Susanna Smith,  
Assistant Professor of  
Library and Information  
Science at Georgia  
Highlands College, ALG  
Library Champion







I identify other stakeholders  
on campus to bring into OER  
who will work.

Retention Office  
Center for teaching/learning  
Student Groups/SGA  
Provost/Deans  
Distance Learning  
Faculty Learning Communities  
**LIBRARY**

You can help too!

# High Textbook Prices Hurt Our Students



**“I didn’t buy groceries for 2 weeks** so I could buy \$400 worth of textbooks.

**Didn’t even use half of them for classes.”**



**“I can’t afford to keep paying** for [digital textbook] access codes that are ridiculously expensive.”



**“It is already expensive just entering college...**

textbook costs just might be the last expense that **makes or breaks a student.”**



# College Textbook Prices Have Skyrocketed



American Enterprise Institute. (2022). "Chart of the Day – or Century?"

<https://www.aei.org/carpe-diem/chart-of-the-day-or-century-8/>

13,000 public college students were asked **how high textbook costs affected them:**



Over half of all students  
**did not buy a required textbook.**



Four out of ten students  
**avoided registering  
for a course.**



One in four students  
**dropped a course.**



One in three students  
**earned a poor grade.**

Florida Virtual Campus. (2022). "2022 Student Textbook and Instructional Materials Survey."

[https://assets.website-files.com/646e59f2d76c6e8c0c5223de/64de6032b2335a7368b20746\\_Textbook%20Survey%202022%20Executive%20Summary.pdf](https://assets.website-files.com/646e59f2d76c6e8c0c5223de/64de6032b2335a7368b20746_Textbook%20Survey%202022%20Executive%20Summary.pdf)

# Enter Open Educational Resources (OER)

- **Free Textbooks to Use, Free Textbooks to Keep**
  - Zero cost to students
  - No subscriptions or accounts
  - No data tracking, no data selling
- **Flexible for Instructors**
  - Open Licenses allow customization
  - Customization means resources can be made hyper-relevant for specific students and instructors
  - Not just books! Videos, Audio, Images
- **Expert-Authored, Expert-Shared**
  - Written by faculty, customized and revised by faculty, adopted by more faculty
  - Creation and customization assistance from librarians, instructional designers



# Open Licensing...

- is forever (irrevocable)
- can be opened further (from CC BY-NC-SA to CC BY)
- does *not* take your copyright away
- requires, at a minimum, **attribution**
  - “[Title] by [Author] is under a Creative Commons 4.0 Attribution License”

# Creative Commons Licenses

Attribution  
(BY)

Must Attribute  
the Original  
Work

Required

NonCommercial  
(NC)

Cannot Create  
Derivatives for  
Commercial  
Use

Optional

ShareAlike  
(SA)

Must Share New  
Works Under  
Same License

Optional

NoDerivs  
(ND)

Can Share, but  
Cannot Revise  
or Remix

Do Not Use in  
Education

# Sidenote: CC0 Public Domain Dedication

- Puts works in the Public Domain immediately
- “No rights reserved” = no attribution needed
- Common for photos, some music, some videos
- Not common in education
  - Attribution preserves the **history** of a resource
- Get to know more about copyright:
  - Stanford Libraries Copyright and Fair Use:  
<https://fairuse.stanford.edu/>
  - Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for OER:  
<https://cmsimpact.org/code/open-educational-resources/>



# Finding Open Resources

- Start Small: Your Subject Area, Known Publishers
  - e.g. NOBA for Psychology
  - OpenStax: Introductory courses, nursing, business
- End Big: Central Hubs for OER
  - OER Commons
  - Open Textbook Library
  - LibreTexts
  - Metasearch:
    - OERSI (Europe)
    - OASIS, Mason OER Metafinder (USA)

**Subject**

Subject

- ☐ Mathematics, Natural Sciences 11
- ☐ Undefined 1
- ☐ Humanities 1
- ☐ Law, Economics and Social Scien... 1
- ☐ Engineering Sciences 1

**Type**

- ☐ Textbook 10
- ☐ Course 3
- ☐ Video 1

**License**

- ☐ BY-NC-SA 5
- ☐ BY-NC 4
- ☐ BY 2

**Author**

Author

- ☐ Linda Bruslind 2
- ☐ MIT Department of Biology 2
- ☐ Alex Lintner 1
- ☐ Alice Lee 1
- ☐ Anissa M. Armet 1
- ☐ Carina E. Magnoli 1
- ☐ Daniele Strigaro 1
- ☐ Dr. Panoutsopoulos 1
- ☐ Germán G. Barros y Mirta S. Demo 1
- ☐ Hughes 1

14 results found

Search: general microbiology X

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**Rosanna Hartline**  
**Microbiology Laboratory Manual**

This text is designed for instructional laboratories of undergraduate general microbiology courses. Basic microbiological laboratory approaches are emphasized, as well as the diversity of microbes. Morphologies,...

Biology, Mathematics, Natural Sciences

Textbook



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**Laboratory Exercises in Microbiology: Discovering the Unseen World Through Hands-On Investigation**

(8 reviews)



Susan McLaughlin, Queensborough Community College

**Table of Contents**

- Lab 1. Introduction to Microscopy and Diversity of Cell Types
- Lab 2. Introduction to Aseptic Techniques and Growth Media
- Lab 3. Preparation of Bacterial Smears and Introduction to Staining
- Lab 4. Acid fast and Endospore Staining
- Lab 5. Metabolic Activities of Bacteria
- Lab 6. Dichotomous Keys
- Lab 7. The Effect of Physical Factors on Microbial Growth

**Susan McLaughlin, Joan Petersen**  
**Laboratory Exercises in Microbiology: Discovering the Unseen World Through...**

The exercises in this laboratory manual are designed to engage students in hand-on activities that reinforce their understanding of the microbial world. Topics covered include: staining and microscopy, metabolic testing, physic...

Biology, Mathematics, Natural Sciences

Textbook



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**General Microbiology - 1st Edition**

(6 reviews)



Linda Bruslind, Oregon State University

Copyright Year: 2020

Publisher: Oregon State University

Language: English

**Table of Contents**

- 1. Introduction to Microbiology
- 2. Microscopes
- 3. Cell Structure
- 4. Bacteria: Cell Walls
- 5. Bacteria: Internal Components
- 6. Bacteria: Surface Structures
- 7. Archaea
- 8. Introduction to Viruses

**Linda Bruslind**  
**General Microbiology**

Welcome to the wonderful world of microbiology! Yay! S What is microbiology? If we break the word down it translates to "the study of small life," where the small life refers to microorganisms or microbes. But who are the...

Biology, Mathematics, Natural Sciences

Textbook



Show Details

Featured Search: OERSI.org

# Augmenting with No-Cost Resources

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No-Cost Web Resources	Link or Embed (e.g. Youtube, Soundcloud)
Library Resources	Permalink (enable students to log in)
Your own resources	Think about open licensing these and sharing them out!



# Warnings About No-Cost Resources

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- Cannot put a Creative Commons license on all-rights-reserved free resources
- Money isn't the only cost
  - Are student data being captured and used?
  - Are students required to create an account?
  - Are students forced to watch advertisements?
- Linking is not infringement, but linking to infringing materials is unsustainable and unethical

# What can you do with OER? Open Pedagogy

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- Open Pedagogy is a framework that blends **open educational practices** with learner-driven approaches.
- It relies on **Open Educational Resources (OER)** to promote **equity, collaboration, and knowledge co-creation**.
- Encourages a shift from "disposable" assignments to **"renewable" assignments**—student work that has ongoing value.

# What can you do with OER? Student's Role

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- Students can create or revise OER like tutorials, research guides, or multimedia projects.
- Student-created content supports knowledge sharing with peers, communities, and future cohorts.
- Renewable learning assignments have lasting value and contribute to the open knowledge ecosystem.



# What can you do with OER? Librarian's Role

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- Support students in creating or editing openly licensed projects, like some Wikipedia articles.
- Facilitate collaborative OER projects with faculty, like annotated bibliographies or digital exhibits.
- Help faculty and students translate or localize open content.
- Partner with faculty on open textbook or other materials creation.

# What can you do with OER? Instructional Designer's Role

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- Instructional designers help align open pedagogy with sound instructional practices.
- They collaborate with faculty and librarians to scaffold renewable assignments.
- Offer support in choosing tools, technologies, and platforms for student-created OER.

# Pulse Check #2: Revisit

- How comfortable do you feel with
  - Open Education?
  - Open Licensing?
  - Open Pedagogy?
- How comfortable do you feel championing Open Education?
- 1. Move your post-it notes along the scales to indicate if your feeling has changed any as a result of the session today.

# Thank You!

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