# 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

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?

<u>Open education encompasses resources,</u> <u>tools and practices that employ a</u>

framework of open sharing to improve educational access and effectiveness worldwide.



#### Librarians Are Essential to ALG Today

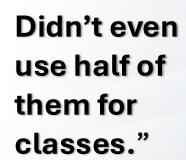
 Susanna Smith,
 Assistant Professor of Library and Information
 Science at Georgia
 Highlands College, ALG
 Library Champion





### High Textbook Prices Hurt Our Students

"I didn't buy groceries for 2 weeks so I could buy \$400 worth of textbooks.





"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."

Martoni, Charlotte. (2023). "What Should Professors Know About Expensive Textbooks?" https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/ato/2023openaccess/presentations/6/

#### College Textbook Prices Have Skyrocketed



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

# 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

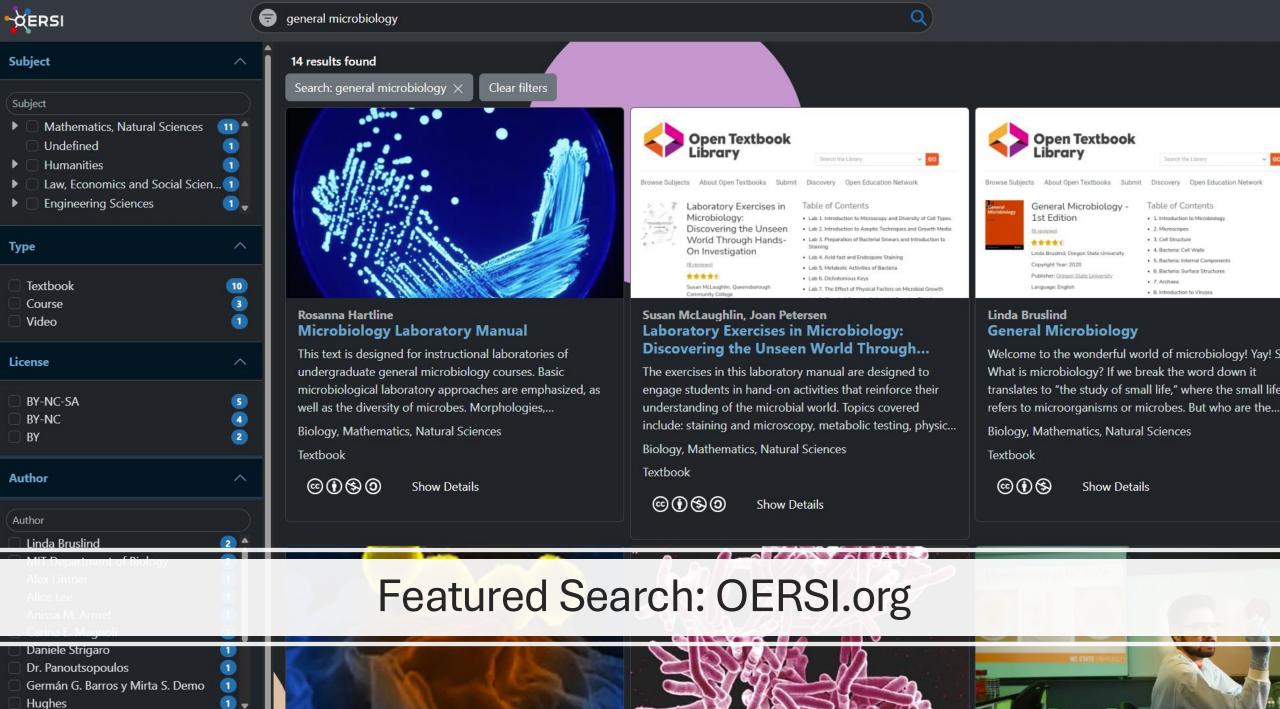
## Sidenote: CC0 Public Domain Dedication

- 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)



## Augmenting with No-Cost Resources

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

## Warnings About No-Cost Resources

- Cannot put a Creative Commons license on all-rightsreserved 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

- 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

- 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

- 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

- 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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