

Open Educational Resources: 101

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Definition

Open educational resources (OER):

Teaching, learning, and research materials that are either

(a) in the public domain, or


(b) licensed in a manner that provides everyone with free and perpetual permission to engage in the **5R** activities.

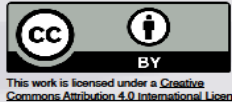
The 5 Rs:

- **Retain** – make, own, and control a copy of the resource
- **Reuse** – use your original, revised, or remixed copy of the resource publicly
- **Revise** – edit, adapt, and modify your copy of the resource
- **Remix** – combine your original or revised copy of the resource with other existing material to create something new
- **Redistribute** – share copies of your original, revised, or remixed copy of the resource with others

Creative Commons Licenses

Quick Reference

	COPY & PUBLISH	ATTRIBUTION REQUIRED	COMMERCIAL USE	MODIFY & ADAPT	CHANGE LICENSE
Public Domain	✓		✓	✓	✓
 Attribution (CC BY)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Attribution-ShareAlike (CC BY-SA)	✓	✓	✓	✓	
 Attribution-NoDerivs (CC BY-ND)	✓	✓	✓		✓
 Attribution-NonCommercial (CC BY-NC)	✓	✓		✓	✓
 Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike (CC BY-NC-SA)	✓	✓		✓	
 Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND)	✓	✓			✓



For students, faculty and librarians, OER is:



- Dynamic
- Accessible
- Affordable
- Equitable

Where to Find OER

- **OER Commons**: Started in 2007 by the Institute for the Study of Knowledge Management in Education (ISKME), “ISKME is an independent, education nonprofit whose mission is to improve the practice of continuous learning, collaboration, and change in the education sector.” (From ISKME.org)
- **MERLOT**: MERLOT is a community of staff, volunteers, and members who work together in various ways to provide users of OER (Open Educational Resource) teaching and learning materials with a wealth of services and functions that can enhance their instructional experience.
- **OASIS**: OER database produced by Milne Library at SUNY Geneseo in consultation with SUNY Open OER.

OER Repositories



- Search across multiple collections at once.
- Search by **keyword**, and/or **education level** and/or **subject area**.
- Search for all types of learning content (not just textbooks)
- Use advanced searching and limiters for more precision and control
- Provides comprehensive information about the resource including **usage rights**, **user reviews**, **evaluation tools**, etc.



Search Resources

Enter your keyword(s) here

Search

Advanced Search

Filter By

Education Standards ▾

Subject Area ▲

Applied Science

Arts and Humanities

Business and Communication

Career and Technical Education

Education

English Language Arts

History

Law

3610 Results



Per page

20 ▾

Sort By

Title ▾

View



Selected filters: ✕ College / Upper Division ✕ Life Science



Conditional Remix & Share Permitted



1.1: Introduction to Microbiology

Rating ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

Microorganisms are the dominant life forms on earth, are found in almost

...

More

Subject: Biology

Material Type: Lecture Notes

Provider: LibreTexts

Date Added: 08/22/2019

Additional Search Criteria

Education Standards: 

Search by Language: 

Subject Area

- Applied Science
- Arts and Humanities
- Business and Communication
- Career and Technical Education
- Education
- English Language Arts
- History
- Law
- Life Science
- Mathematics
- Physical Science
- Social Science

Educational Use

- Curriculum/Instruction
- Assessment
- Professional Development
- Informal Education
- Other

Material Type [what's this?](#)

Activities & Assignments

- Activity/Lab
- Assessment
- Homework/Assignment

Class Guides

- Student Guide
- Syllabus

Courseware

- Full Course
- Lecture
- Lesson
- Module
- Unit of Study

Rubric Evaluated

- Achieve OER
- EQUIP Rubric

Content Source

- Open Author 1.0
- Open Author 2.0
- Content Provider Resources

Primary User

- Student
- Teacher
- Administrator
- Parent
- Librarian
- Other

Education Level

Media Format

- Audio
- Braille/BRF
- Downloadable docs
- eBook
- Graphics/Photos
- Interactive
- Mobile
- Text/HTML
- Video
- Other

Accessibility

- Visual
- Auditory
- Textual
- Audio Description
- Caption

Where to Find OER:

Open Educational Resources Touro LibGuides:

<https://libguides.tourolib.org/>

<https://libguides.tourolib.org/OER>

Contains:

- OER Repositories & Collections
- Open Courses
- Other Web Resources
- More about Open Touro
- More on the Creative Commons licenses
- Open Textbooks at Touro

OER Mythbusting



Myth: Open simply means free.

Fact: Open means the permission to freely download, edit, and share materials to better serve all students.

OER Mythbusting



Myth: All OER are digital.

Fact: OER take many formats, including print, digital, audio, and more.

OER Mythbusting



Myth: “You get what you pay for.”

Fact: OER can be produced to the same quality standards as traditional textbooks.

OER Mythbusting



Myth: Copyright for OER is complicated

Fact: Open licensing makes OER easy to freely and legally use.

OER Mythbusting



Myth: My institution is not ready for OER.

Fact: Any institution can start with small steps toward OER that make an impact for students.

References

5Rs and definitions quoted from:

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SPARC. (2007-2020). *OER Mythbusting* Retrieved April 13, 2021 from <https://sparcopen.org/our-work/oer-mythbusting/>

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