Pedagogical and Professional Reasons to Adopt Open Educational Resources (OER)

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Syilx Okanagan Nation
https://www.syilx.org/about-us/syilx-nation/

Native Land
https://native-land.ca/

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Introductions

Donna Langille (she/her), Community Engagement and Open Education Librarian, UBC Okanagan Library

Erin Fields (she/her), Open Education and Scholarly Communications Librarian, UBC Vancouver Library

Claire Swanson (she/her), Open Education Student Librarian, UBC Vancouver Library

Workshop Overview

- ➜ Overview of Open at UBC
- ➜ Pedagogical Reasons
  - ◆ Academic Freedom
  - ◆ Student Outcomes
- ➜ Professional Reasons
  - ◆ UBC Tenure and Promotion
  - ◆ Networking with Peers
- ➜ Q&A with Donna and Erin

Open Educational Resources (OER) are teaching, learning and research materials in any medium that reside in the public domain and have been released under an open licence that permits access, use, repurposing, reuse and redistribution by others with no or limited restrictions.

Atkins, Brown & Hammond (2007)

Open pedagogy is the application of the concepts of open to the practices of teaching and learning. It can involve a blend of strategies, technologies, and networked communities to empower students to have control and agency over their own learning.

POSE, UBC (2021)

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What's the first word that comes to mind when you think of OER?

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What's something that gets you excited about Open Educational Resources?

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What is the library doing to support Open?

UBC Okanagan Library

- Open Education Working Group (UBCO)

UBC Vancouver Library

- Open UBC Webinar Series
- Open Education Toolkits
- Open UBC Working Group
- Open UBC Text Catalogue

2020-2021 Year in Review

- consulted on 160+ open education projects
- organized Open Education and Open Scholarship events attended by 650+ faculty, staff, and students
- collaborated on the processes and adjudication for the $250,000 UBC Vancouver Open Educational Resources Fund
- secured $41,525 in funding to pilot an OER Grant for UBC Okanagan
- Assisted in the creation of open texts showcased in the Open UBC Pressbooks Catalogue

Key Takeaway

Choosing to adopt OER benefits you and your students pedagogically, professionally, and financially.

Pedagogical Reasons to Adopt OER

➔ Student Outcomes
➔ Academic freedom
➔ Inclusivity

Student Outcomes

In the 2016 article "Open educational resources and college textbook choices: a review of research on efficacy and perceptions" by John Hilton, it was found that OER are associated with,

➔ Higher student grades
➔ Higher student retention (fewer dropouts)
➔ Lower rates of fail

Academic Freedom

➜ Ability to customize course materials
- ◆ Create unique syllabi by combining multiple sources
- ◆ Introduce Canadian, BC, Okanagan context

Inclusivity

➔ Traditional textbooks are frequently inaccessible
  ◆ Blind/vision-impared student barriers
  ◆ Frequently require strength/dexterity to read
➔ OER are typically available in multiple accessible formats
➔ Significantly easier for students without physical access to the Bookstore
  ◆ International students

Professional Reasons to Adopt OER

➔ Representing the Underrepresented

➔ UBC Tenure and Promotion

➔ Networking/collaboration

Representing the Underrepresented

When incorporating OER, you have the opportunity to use inclusive practices

➔ Using diverse names and pronouns
➔ Including a range of sexual and gender orientations
➔ Providing racial context and history

Excellent source: "Representing the Underrepresented: Adding Culturally Responsive and Anti-Racist Content to your Course Materials and OERs" by Jess Brooks and Cara Lee of Portland Community College

UBC Tenure and Promotion

"Evidence of educational leadership is required for tenure/promotion in the Educational Leadership stream ... It can include, but is not limited to ... [c]ontributions to the practice and theory of teaching and learning literature, including ... textbooks and open education repositories/resources."

➔ See: Dr. Christina Hendricks, UBC Vancouver, Academic Director for CTLT and Professor of Teaching for Department of Philosophy

Collaboration with Other PSI

Case study: Laboratory Manual for Introduction to Physical Geography, First British Columbia Edition

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What is one next-step you will
make towards incorporating
OER into your teaching?

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We'd love to follow up!

https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aa8EqxGmu4rZgVM

The Library can provide support.

Visit www.open.ubc.ca

Okanagan campus: Donna Langille, donna.langille@ubc.ca

Vancouver campus: Erin Fields, erin.fields@ubc.ca

Additional resources

- Open UBC website
- Open Education Guide
- Attend one of the Open UBC Webinars
- Program for Open Scholarship and Education (POSE)