

# TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

All that you need to know about OER, ZTC, Inclusive Access, and other ways to provide excellent resources for our courses--that don't cost an arm and a leg!



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## NEWS FROM ASCCC

- ASCCC OERI [Canvas Site](#)
  - Their [general website](#) has information on their Webinars, which are every Friday, 10:30-11:30am.
- There will be another round of funding for OER projects, coming later this semester.
- The last round of projects are being released now--some are already out (mostly on LibreTexts), and others are coming out in the next month. You can see [a list of the draft products](#) and where they are in the pipeline.



### NEXT MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE:

**23 March, 11am-12noon, via Zoom**

([email Sarah Harmon](#) for the address)

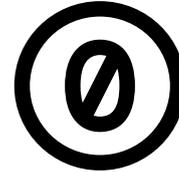
We are still looking for division representation  
from:

- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Business, Design, and Workforce
- Kinesiology, Athletics, and Dance
- Counseling

If you're interested in serving, contact either Sarah Harmon or Diana Tedone-Goldstone.

# Focus Topic:

## Open Access versus Free Resource



When many people think of Open Educational Resources, or OER, they often think about an open-source textbook that they might find on MERLOT or LibreTexts, or similar repositories. In truth, there is so much more to using OER--you cannot forget about public websites, texts that are in the public domain, and sources like Google Books that act as free libraries for all.

As you start to build your course materials for summer and fall courses, remember to check out all of your options. Below are some great sources of materials that are free--meaning that they are part of the public domain.

- Public archives, such as the [National Archives](#), which house large swaths of documents that work for many humanities and social sciences courses
- The [Open Library](#) and the [Gutenberg Project](#) have entire libraries of full-text books, particularly those that are now out of copyright and in the public domain

If you are looking for anything that is more textbook-like, a great place to start is the [Open Washington site](#), which has links to OER repositories like [MERLOT](#) and [LibreTexts](#), as well as links to open course materials and open audio and video. In fact, our Skyline colleagues have a [website dedicated to finding all types of open and free resources](#) to be used as course materials.

Finally, don't forget that through the Cañada Library we have access to both [Films On Demand](#) and [Kanopy](#), and that we can integrate those videos into our Canvas shells. Both services are free for us to use in our Canvas shells (and free for students to watch through the Library's page), and they are already captioned. The Library also has access to [Ethnographic Video Online](#), which is free access.

No matter how you approach it, incorporating open-source and free resources enhances your classes, and you can build an entire course around these resources--making your course eligible to be labeled as a ZTC course!



# Open Education Week 2021

The first week of March is Open Education Week, a week-long celebration of open education materials of all kinds. What kinds of materials are you looking for? What information do you need to foster good class discussion? How can we help you?

To address these questions and so much more, the OER Liaisons/Coordinators in our District (CAN: Sarah Harmon; CSM: Chris Smith; SKY: Ame Maloney and Bianca Rowden-Quince) have created a slate of activities for this week--and we want all of you to join us. Some of these activities tie into OEWeek's activities, but others are home-grown. And we have a Question of the Day on Padlet that we want everyone to answer. Make sure to check them out!

- **Monday, March 1, 12-1pm: CCC-OER #OEWeek Kickoff Webinar:** Join us at the OEWeek Kickoff Webinar. Be sure to check out the Open Education Week website, and the OEWeek section on OEG Connect.
- **Tuesday, March 2: Virtual OER Petting Zoo:** Where to find OER for your subject--and check out what your district colleagues are already using! Check out our #OEWeek website
- **Wednesday, March 3, 4-5pm: OER Basics and Distance Learning.** Facilitators: Ame Maloney and Bianca Rowden-Quince Byte Sized PD MicroLecture session during CTTL Office Hours
- **Thursday, March 4, 11:30am-12:30pm: OER Faculty Panel Discussion: What are the benefits and challenges that you have found in adopting and/or remixing OER?** Facilitator: Sarah Harmon Panelists: Anne Corbett (SKY/CAN, Psychology), Gerardo Pacheco (CAN, ESL); Anna Erwert (ENGL/LIT, SKY); Christopher Collins (HIST, SKY); Michelle Beatty (MATH, CSM); Paul Handkamp (BIOL, CSM) Zoom link
- **Friday, March 5, 11:30am-1pm: Open Oregon Webinar: Imagining an Open Future with Robin DeRosa** Join thought leader Robin DeRosa to re-imagine higher education's future in terms that are hopeful, collaborative, and truly learner-centered. More information and registration

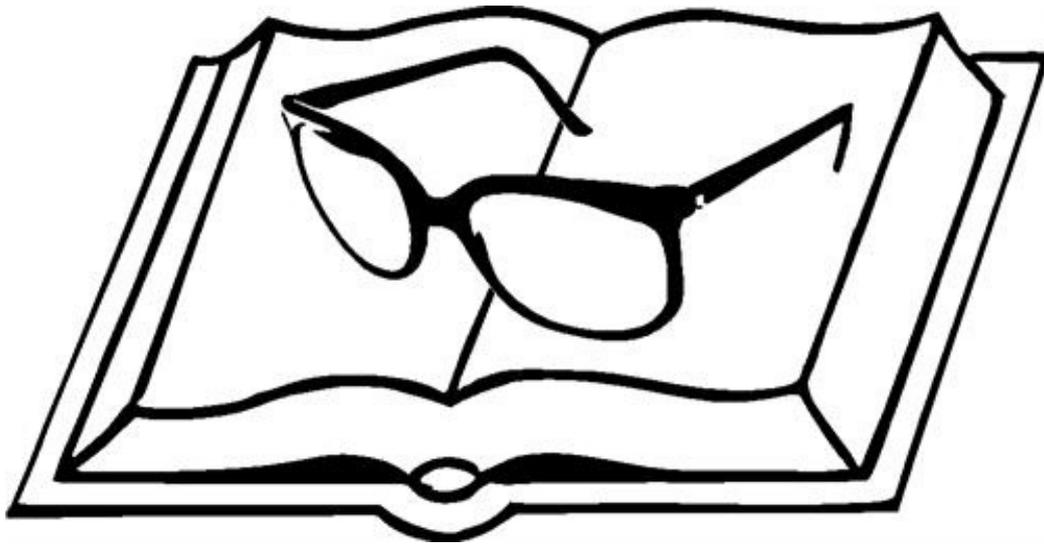
If you can't make it to these live webinars, then please check out the recordings that we will have on our District's OpenEd Week website.

Other organizations that will also be hosting activities during OEWeek, and can be found on OEWeek's schedule.

## Other OER News



- Gov. Gavin Newsom is making Open Educational Resources a prime focus of the 2021 California Budget. For more information, as well as updates, check out the [Cal Matters article from January](#)--updates are tagged to the article.
- Jana Porter, a Reference and Instruction Adjunct Librarian at Borough of Manhattan Community College published an article for [CCC-OER's site](#) on the importance of using Alt-Text in our work--as well as its role in any course materials that we disseminate to our students. While her article is focused on Music and reading sheet music, it is a valuable lesson for all of us, regardless of discipline. Check it out!
- AtlanticOER officially [launched](#) on February 9th as Canada's first multi-provincial OER repository. Funded by the [Council of Atlantic University Libraries](#), AtlanticOER will provide OER development grants to educators in Canada's Atlantic region. Stay tuned for more details!
- The North Carolina Community College System launched it's cloud-based library of open educational content. [OpenNCCC](#) will support new approaches to teaching and provide equitable access to quality educational materials throughout the state.
- MERLOT and SkillsCommons have designed an OER portal for some free and open educational resources that you can immediately use to support online learning for both teachers and learners: "[Preparing to Teach and Learn Online](#)".
- LibreTexts is nearing completion on a new homework system. Called Adapt, they have [a preview of the system](#) available through their YouTube channel.
- Our colleagues at Hancock College are leading a consortium of other California community colleges and have created the California Consortium for Equitable Change in Hispanic Serving Institutions Open Educational Resources, or CC-ECHO. With [\\$1.9 million from a Department of Education grant](#), they will be working on expanding the use of OER, with an aim of saving students \$2.2 million across the 4 consortium colleges (Hancock, College of Marin, West Hills College, and College of the Canyons) over the next 3 years. The grant is the Open Textbook Pilot Program spark grant from 2020; the Department of Education will be opening up another round of funding this year.



## Latest OER Publications

Check out [our growing spreadsheet of OER titles](#) that are available--updated weekly!

Some of the latest titles that have come out since the beginning of November:

- Anatomy (Human Physiology): [A Mixed Course-Based Research Approach to Human Physiology](#) by Dr. Karri Haen Whitmer
- Biology (Botany): Ha, Morrow and Algiers, [Botany](#); and Morrow's [A Photographic Atlas for Botany](#).
- Business (Introduction to Business): Virginia Tech Publishing/Pamplin College of Business's [Fundamentals of Business](#) has a new 3rd edition
- Engineering (Biological Engineering): Virginia Tech Publishing/American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, [Introduction to Biosystems Engineering](#)
- Psychology (Abnormal Psych.): [Lumen Learning's Abnormal Psychology](#).
- Sociology (Introduction to Race and Ethnicity; Introduction to Social Justice): [Race and Ethnic Relations in the U.S.: An Intersectional Approach](#) (in final stages of review; will be released soon)

You can also check out the [ASCCC OER Initiative's list of databases](#), which includes links to OpenStax, LibreText, MERLOT, and so many more. Their [discipline-specific list](#) (on the CCC Canvas page) has multiple resources for many disciplines, along with C-ID connected courses.



## IDEA OF THE MONTH

### Marking your courses for OER/ZTC in WebSchedule

Spring 2021 was a great milestone for OER/ZTC courses in WebSchedule--we had a record 22 sections of 15 courses marked in the online schedule for ZTC, meaning that instructors were using course materials that are zero-cost. The course materials were a combination of open educational resources, websites with public domain information, and articles culled from a variety of databases. Great work!

But we also know that there are more faculty who are using OER in their coursework, and would have their courses qualify for ZTC labeling on WebSchedule. We want to get all of that information out to the students!

As you set up your summer and fall course materials, ***if you are using course materials that are either free in public domain or are open-source, and that your combined course materials do not cost students any money, then please let your division assistants know!*** They are the ones that will input that information into WebSchedule.

If you're looking for course materials that are free/public domain and/or open-source, then please contact Sarah Harmon. You can also check out what our [Skyline colleagues](#) are doing in their courses--it may inspire you to check out the course materials that are already in use in our district.



## FACULTY OER AWARENESS SURVEY



SMCCCD OER Lead Faculty want to hear from all faculty with respect to your awareness about open educational resources and your experiences with your course materials overall. Your comments and opinions will help us improve outreach and access to all types of free or low-cost course materials. Please take 5 minutes to fill out [the survey](#). Thanks so much!



## CONTACT US!

Textbook Affordability Taskforce LibGuide-- part of the overall OER/ZTC Resources LibGuide, which is great for students.

- [OER/ZTC Resources LibGuide](#)
- [TAS LibGuide](#)

Textbook Affordability Consultation--let Sarah Harmon, Diana Tedone, and Cynthia McCarthy help you find resources for your courses! Fill out our [consultation form](#).

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Frustrations?  
Let Sarah know! ([harmonsmccd.edu](mailto:harmonsmccd.edu))

## Thanks for reading!

The Textbook Affordability Subcommittee are:

- Nick DeMello, Online Education Coordinator; Chemistry Faculty
- Valeria Estrada, Librarian, ASLT Representative
- Sarah Harmon, OER Coordinator/AS OER Liaison; Spanish and Linguistics Faculty
- Allison Hughes, Instructional Technologist
- Ramki Kalyanaraman, Engineering Faculty, Science and Technology Representative
- Jai Kumar, Bookstore Manager
- David Reed, Dean of Academic Services and Learning Technologies
- Diana Tedone-Goldstone, Librarian

