

Introduction

- ◆ **Open Educational Resources**, known as **OER** are important materials that are offered to students for certain classes because they are more affordable, and many are free.¹
- ◆ The following **OER** explanatory materials are designed to aid in simplifying and understanding what **OER** resources are available and where they can best be located.
- ◆ There are 7 parts to the **OER** informational documents, each offering an additional level of detail,² plus two supplementary documents with further details.

Description of Parts

Part 1: OER at a Glance

A quick explanatory overview of what **OER** is, and why it is important to use **OER**.

Part 2: OER Resources: Usage Rights

Explanation of the symbols found on various documents and media (sometimes referred to as objects) showing what kind of copyright usages are allowed by the author or publisher of the images, documents or materials.

Part 3: Some OER Resources in Detail

There are many sources available, but this explanatory page offers abstracts of some of the main websites noted and their offerings for locating appropriate materials for a course or for courses.

Part 4: Additional OER Resources

This listing covers more sources than are not noted in Part 3.³

Part 5: Chart of OER Resources⁴

OER Resources can be challenging to locate for certain subjects. The chart offers suggested sites. Whereas many materials are peer-reviewed, it is the responsibility of the instructor to verify materials and author credentials.

Part 6: Contact Information for Certain Sources noted

Part 7: Notations on Supplementary Materials of Part 8 and 9.

Part 8: Achieve: Rubrics for Evaluating Open Education Resource (OER) Objects

Part 9: Freeing the Textbook: Educational Resources in U.S. Education, 2018

Notes

1 -- See Part 2, Usage Rights.

2 -- It should be noted that websites can change, be modified, added or deleted. Resources available at creation of documents, Fall 2019.

3 -- It should be noted that websites can change, be modified, added or deleted. Resources available at creation of documents, Fall 2019.

4 -- There are two main aspects to OER. The guides listed above are for users (ie students) and for faculty recommendations.

There are additional sources available for faculty to publish and those are not specifically covered in these documents.



OER Resources at a Glance

What is OER?

OER is the acronym for Open Educational Resources



What is the meaning of OER?

Basically, the OER movement brings together a variety of organizations committed to make freely available educational materials for students and instructors to use, adapt, share and reuse without legal ramifications. (more detailed explanations follow).

As to Rhode Island:

"On September 27, 2016, Governor Gina Raimondo announced a statewide Open Textbook Initiative during a press conference at Rhode Island College (RIC). The initiative challenged Rhode Island's higher education institutions to reduce college costs by saving students \$5 million over five years using open licensed textbooks."

[From the Office of Innovation, State of Rhode Island, <https://www.innovate.ri.gov/open-textbooks>.]

Why OER?

"Exorbitant textbook prices have become a barrier to student success. Over the last decade college textbook prices have increased by 88%. In addition, traditional textbooks carry restrictive licenses that prevent innovation by faculty and schools. That is why we need openly licensed textbooks, which can be freely distributed online and updated and improved by faculty. Digital textbooks can also address accessibility requirements, such as text-to-speech and translation supports." [Quote is from and find more information on the Rhode Island initiative see [Open Textbook Initiative](#) at the Office of Innovation, State of Rhode Island, <https://www.innovate.ri.gov/open-textbooks>]

- Further description can be found in an article: [Affordable Course Content](#) by Kristi Jensen.
- For a very short video explanation, see youtube: [Why Open Education Matters](#).

What are OER permissible usages?

"Many of the teaching, learning, and resource materials on eMedia reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license that permits no-cost access, use, and redistribution by others with no or limited restrictions. These privileges cannot be revoked as long as you follow the license terms." (See [Usage Rights](#), OER Commons Help Center, rev. 3 January 2019) Or in simple terminology – the 5 Rs of Dr. David Wiley of [Lumen Learning](#):

Retain ♦ Reuse ♦ Revise ♦ Remix ♦ Redistribute

Where to find OER resources?

(Sampling of organizations, see [OER Resources in Detail](#) for more information)

- ♦ **Creative Commons**
<https://creativecommons.org/>
- ♦ **EDUCAUSE**
<https://www.educause.edu/>
- ♦ **OER COMMONS**
<https://www.oercommons.org/>
- ♦ **OpenStax**
<https://openstax.org/>
- ♦ **Open Textbook Library**
<https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/>
- ♦ **SPARC [Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition]**
<https://sparcopen.org/>



OER Resources: Usage Rights

OER Commons <https://www.oercommons.org/>

From the site:

Many of the teaching, learning, and resource materials on eMedia reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license that permits no-cost access, use, and redistribution by others with no or limited restrictions. These privileges cannot be revoked as long as you follow the license terms.



The information on this page is condensed directly from Creative Commons CC BY

If you need further details and explanations on the “License Deed” or “Legal Code” use this link:

[\[https://help.oercommons.org/support/solutions/articles/42000046845-usage-rights\]](https://help.oercommons.org/support/solutions/articles/42000046845-usage-rights)

Main Symbols



CC = Creative Commons
The material has a Creative Commons license.



BY = Attribution (author)
Others can change or distribute the material – even for commercial purposes, but must give credit to the author.



SA = ShareAlike
If you share the work, you must keep the original license.



ND = NoDerivs (No Derivatives)
This symbol means you can use the material but you cannot alter the content.



NC = NonCommercial
This symbol indicates that the material cannot be used for commercial purposes or profit.

Symbols with Explanations: Identifying a Creative Commons License

Resources have their own special condition of use/copyright label. The labels listed below show the variety of possible uses, and the labels help you quickly distinguish whether a resource can be changed or shared without further permission required. As noted, further details may be necessary and refer to:

[\[https://help.oercommons.org/support/solutions/articles/42000046845-usage-rights\]](https://help.oercommons.org/support/solutions/articles/42000046845-usage-rights)

■ No Strings Attached – free usage



CC -- No restrictions on your remixing, redistributing or making derivative works. Give credit to the author, as required.



CC BY = Attribution -- This license lets others distribute, remix, tweak, and build upon your work, even commercially, as long as they credit you for the original creation. This is the most accommodating of licenses offered.



■ Remix and Share – 4 Choices

Remixing, redistributing, and/or making derivatives come with certain restrictions, including sharing.

Choice #1



CC BY-SA = Attribution-ShareAlike This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon your work even for commercial purposes, as long as they credit you and license their new creations under the identical terms.

Choice #2



CC BY-NC = Attribution-NonCommercial -- This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon your work non-commercially, and although their new works must also acknowledge you and be non-commercial, they don't have to license their derivative works on the same terms.

Choice #3



CC BY-NC-SA = Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike -- This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon your work non-commercially, as long as they credit you and license their new creations under the identical terms.

Choice #4



CC BY-NC-ND = Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs -- This license is the most restrictive of our six main licenses, only allowing others to download your works and share them with others as long as they credit you, but they can't change them in any way or use them commercially.

■ Share Only

Redistributing comes with some restrictions. Do not remix or make derivative works.



CC BY-ND = Attribution-NoDerivs -- This license allows for redistribution, commercial and non-commercial, as long as it is passed along unchanged and in whole, with credit to you.

■ Read the Fine Print...

...if something is not clearly tagged or marked, what to do...

Click the **View Resource** button and look for any disclaimer and policies on the copyright and usage of those materials. Copyright and usage may vary from resource to resource, so it is necessary to review the specific policies of a resource.

■ Additional information on license symbols and downloads

See [Creative Commons > What we do > Downloads](#)



Some OER Resources in Detail



Creative Commons: when we share, everyone wins

<https://creativecommons.org/>

Creative Commons is a global nonprofit organization that enables sharing and reuse of creativity and knowledge through the provision of free legal tools. The vision is to help others realize the full potential of the Internet. CC has affiliates all over the world. Although Creative Commons is best known for its licenses, the work extends beyond just providing copyright licenses. CC offers other legal and technical tools that also facilitate sharing and discovery of creative works. *[Creative Commons offers an extensive **Frequently Asked Questions** page for more details.] From the site.*



EDUCAUSE <https://www.educause.edu/>

EDUCAUSE is a nonprofit association that helps higher education elevate the impact of IT and supports those who lead, manage, deploy, and use information technology to *advance* higher education. There are over 2,300 organizations involved comprising over 100,000 individuals at member organizations in 45 countries. EDUCAUSE members include IT leaders and professionals, teaching and learning professionals, academic leaders, and campus executives at U.S. and international institutions as well as industry influencers from corporations, associations, and organizations serving the higher education community.

EDUCAUSE offers quick reads on essential information for emerging technologies.

The EDUCAUSE Library is a clearinghouse and claims to have the world's largest collection of information about higher ed technology. *From the site.*

The Seven Questions

Educause Learning Initiative [ELI] offers a collection of papers and reports, "**7 Things you should know about...**" that poses and answers the following questions on certain topics. (7 good questions to ask on any subject.) An example is: "**7 Things you should know about Digital Literacy.**"

- 1.What is it?
- 2.How does it work?
- 3.Who's doing it?
- 4.Why is it significant?
- 5.What are the downsides?
- 6.Where is it going?
- 7.What are the implications for higher education?



OER Commons <https://www.oercommons.org/>

OER Commons is a public digital library of open educational resources. One can explore, create and collaborate with educators around the world to improve curriculum and search, browse, and evaluate resources.

Open Educational Resources (OER) are teaching and learning materials that you may be able to freely use and reuse at no cost, and without needing to ask permission. In some cases, that means you can download a resource and share it with colleagues and students. In other cases, you may be able to download a resource, edit it in some way, and then re-post it as a remixed work.

Resource Builder offers the author an opportunity to create complex documents.

Module Builder (for Higher ed) offers the opportunity to create interactive modules. *(From the site)*





OpenStax <https://openstax.org/>

OpenStax is a nonprofit educational initiative based at Rice University, and it's mission is to give every student the tools they need to be successful in the classroom. OpenStax publishes high-quality, peer-reviewed, openly licensed college textbooks that are absolutely free online and low cost in print. Additionally, OpenStax has developed a low-cost, research-based courseware that gives students the tools they need to complete their course the first time around. Books are available for math, science, social sciences, humanities and business.

Browsable but not searchable at this time. Special resources for faculty. | Rice University *(From the site)*



Open Textbook Library <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/>

Open textbooks are textbooks that have been funded, published, and licensed to be freely used, adapted, and distributed. These books have been reviewed by faculty from a variety of colleges and universities to assess their quality. These books can be downloaded for no cost or printed at low cost. All textbooks are either used at multiple higher education institutions; or affiliated with an institution, scholarly society, or professional organization. The library currently includes 643 textbooks, with more being added all the time.

Browsable but not searchable at this time.

Center for Open Education | University of Minnesota *(From the site)*



SPARC [Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition] <https://sparcopen.org/>

SPARC is a global collation committed to making **Open** the default for research and education. **SPARC** empowers people to solve big problems and make new discoveries through the adoption of policies and practices that advance **Open Access, Open Data, and Open Education.**

SPARC focuses on collaborating with other stakeholders—including authors, publishers, libraries, students, funders, policymakers and the public — to build on the opportunities created by the Internet, promoting changes to both infrastructure and culture needed to make open the default for research and education.

Open Access is the free, immediate, online availability of research articles coupled with the rights to use these articles fully in the digital environment.

Open Education encompasses resources, tools and practices that are free of legal, financial and technical barriers and can be fully used, shared and adapted in the digital environment.

Open Data is research data that is freely available on the Internet permitting any user to download, copy, analyze, re-process, pass to software or use for any purpose without financial, legal or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the Internet itself. *(From the site)*



Additional OER Resources

◆ CCCOER www.cccoer.org/

Community College Consortium for Open Educational Resources



CCCOER is a growing consortium of community and technical colleges committed to expanding access to education and increasing student success through adoption of open educational policy, practices, and resources. We provide a community and resources to learn about the evolving practice of open education.

◆ Directory of Open Access Books <https://www.doabooks.org/>

- Searchable and Browsable
- Browse by subject is user friendly



Agriculture and Food Sciences	General Works	Philosophy & Religion
Arts and Architecture	Health Sciences	Physics & Astronomy
Biology and Life Sciences	History and Archaeology	Science General
Business and Economics	Languages & Literatures	Social Sciences
Chemistry	Law and Political Science	Technology & Engineering
Earth & Environmental Sciences	Mathematics & Statistics	

◆ Springer Open <https://www.springeropen.com/>

Journals: [Alphabetical List of Journals](#) Books: Over 800, Check topics on [this page](#)



◆ MERLOT merlot.org

Multimedia EDUCATIONAL Resource for Learning and Online Teaching



The MERLOT system provides access to curated online learning and support materials and content creation tools, led by an international community of educators, learners and researchers.

MERLOT is a project of the California State University system, which started over 20 years ago. It is an international community of close to 160,000 members with more than 82,000 online learning materials in its repository, in nearly every discipline and material type. It is a comprehensive resource for faculty in all stages of their careers. MERLOT has a peer review process in 25 disciplines and is considered a universal gateway to online learning materials. At MERLOT instructors can use MERLOT Content Builder and create instructional materials.

MERLOT has more than 6,600 open textbooks catalogued in the repository. Users can search by ISBN to discover supplemental materials for a textbook. Users can find learning exercises, bookmarked collections and virtual guest experts. The collection of resources is easily searchable and also conveniently arranged by discipline community. With the MERLOT Smart Search, users can find materials not only in MERLOT, but in over a dozen other digital libraries and the web, all in one place. In addition, there is a search tool to help find colleagues

Disciplines

Academic Support Services (7,531)
Arts (3,147)
Business (7,842)
Education (9,979)
Humanities (9,507)
Mathematics and Statistics (7,292)
Science and Technology (44,209)
Social Sciences (7,436)
Workforce Development (2,342)



◆ Open Education Consortium OEC

<https://www.oeconsortium.org/>



The **Open Education Consortium (OEC)** is a non-profit, global, members-based network of open education institutions and organizations. **OEC** represents its members and provides advocacy and leadership around advancement of open education globally. **OEC** works with its members to build capacity to find, reuse, create and share **Open Educational Resources (OER)**, develop open policy, create sustainable open education models, and enable international collaboration and innovation.

OEC does not offer resources, but points to other organizations that do offer specific materials.

◆ OASIS oasis.geneseo.edu

Openly Available Sources Integrated Search



Openly Available Sources Integrated Search (OASIS) is a search tool that aims to make the discovery of open content easier. OASIS currently searches open content from 91 different sources and contains 365,241 records.

OASIS is being developed at SUNY Geneseo's Milne Library. OASIS collects and organizes information from a variety of sources such as openstax, Lumen Learning, etc. **To get started, [Search or Browse](#) or [OER by subject](#)**

◆ Lumen Learning lumenlearning.com/



Lumen Learning's mission is to enable unprecedented learning for all students. We do this by providing **affordable course materials** designed to strengthen learning using **open educational resources (OER)**. Because learning is about student success as well as affordability and access, we apply learning science insights and learning data analysis to develop iterative improvements to our course materials and learning tools.

Arts ♦ Business ♦ English/ Communication ♦ Mathematics ♦ Natural Science ♦ Social Science ♦ Technology ♦ Transitional Studies

Lumen offers OER Course Materials: Candela is extremely affordable e-books with curated text, video, interactives and other learning materials; **Waymaker** is OER with personalized learning tools to improve faculty student connections; **OHM** is low cost online homework and customizable courses; **OLI** is data and research reports to improve courses.

◆ Libretxts <https://libretxts.org/>



The LibreTexts mission is to unite students, faculty and scholars in a cooperative effort to develop an easy-to-use online platform for the construction, customization, and dissemination of open educational resources (**OER**) to reduce the burdens of unreasonable textbook costs to our students and society.

Collaborative Effort: Courses, Textbooks and other Materials listed by institution that is sharing. Searchable and browsable by subject.

Biology ♦ Business ♦ Chemistry ♦ Engineering ♦ Humanities ♦ Mathematics ♦ Medicine ♦ Physics ♦ Social sciences ♦ Spanish ♦ Statistics ♦ Workforce



Chart of OER Resources - Helpful Listing for some sources

Source & Link	Topic(s)/ MAIN interest in OER	Books and Textbooks	Journals/ Journal articles	Images	STUDENTS: Full Courses & Course Materials ¹	INSTRUCTORS: Full Courses to Teach ²	Notes (additional information)
CCCOER= Community College Consortium for Open Educational Resources www.ccoer.org/ 	<p>A consortium of community and technical colleges whose website is helpful to understand what OER is about.</p> <p>Check the explanatory webpage: Learn > Helpful Resources ></p> <p>https://www.ccoer.org/learn/helpful-resources</p>	No	No	No			
CC= Creative Commons creativecommons.org 	<p>"...a nonprofit organization dedicated to building a globally-accessible public commons of knowledge and culture. We make it easier for people to share their creative and academic work, as well as to access and build upon the work of others."</p>	No	No	Yes Over 300 million images/ 19 different collections			Frequently Asked Questions page is particularly helpful.
Directory of Open Access Books www.doabooks.org/ 	<p>Books: easily searchable or browsable with thousands of titles most in English. see Topics >>></p>	<p>Agriculture and Food Sciences Arts and Architecture Biology and Life Sciences Business and Economics Chemistry Earth and Environmental Sciences General Works Health Sciences History and Archaeology Languages and Literatures Law and Political Science Mathematics and Statistics Philosophy and Religion Physics and Astronomy Science General Social Sciences Technology and Engineering</p>	No	No, Images of book covers only			

Source & Link	Topic(s)/ MAIN interest in OER	Books and Textbooks	Journals/ Journal articles	Images	STUDENTS: Full Courses & Course Materials ¹	INSTRUCTORS: Full Courses to Teach ²	Notes (additional information)
<p>hypothes.is web.hypothes.is/</p> 	Hypothesis is an App that allows you to hold discussions, read socially, organize research and take personal notes.	No	No	No		Useful for instructors to pose questions	The Hypothesis Project is a new effort to implement an old idea: A conversation layer over the entire web that works everywhere, without needing implementation by any underlying site. The team creates software.
<p>Libretexts libretexts.org/</p> 	<p>Main Topics Biology, Business, Chemistry, Engineering, Humanities, Mathematics, Medicine, Physics, Social Sciences, Spanish, Statistics, Workforce</p>	Yes	No	Interactive videos and Images may be embedded in the texts.			<p>“The LibreTexts approach is highly collaborative where an Open Access textbook environment is under constant revision by students, faculty, and outside experts to supplant conventional paper-based books.” <i>(From the site.)</i></p>
<p>Lumen Learning lumenlearning.com/</p> 	<p>Main Topics Business, English/Communication, Humanities. Languages, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Technology, Transitional Studies</p>	Yes	?	No, not specific images may be within course materials.		Over 50 courses with supplemental teaching materials. Instructor training Courses	Affordable open course materials-
<p>MERLOT = Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching</p> <p>www.merlot.org</p> 	<p>Main Topics Academic Support Services (7,531) Arts (3,147) Business (7,842) Education (9,979) Humanities (9,507) Mathematics and Statistics (7,292) Science and Technology (44,209) Social Sciences (7,436) Workforce Development (2,342)</p>						<p>“curated online learning and support materials and content creation tools, led by an international community of educators, learners and researchers.”</p> <p>California State University system</p>

Source & Link	Topic(s)/ MAIN interest in OER	Books and Textbooks	Journals/ Journal articles	Images	STUDENTS: Full Courses & Course Materials ¹	INSTRUCTORS: Full Courses to Teach ²	Notes (additional information)
ODEPO Open Database of Educational Projects and Organizations ODEPO	<p>... a project of Creative Commons. Its aim is to enable metrics, research, & discovery among individuals and organizations involved in online education, particularly those creating and expanding open educational resources (OER)</p>	No	No	No			<p>ODEPO is a wiki that provides an open listing of projects, programs, and organizations for education. (about 1000).</p>
Open Education Consortium oeconsortium.org 	<p>... a non-profit, global, members-based network of open education institutions and organizations.</p> <p>No resources per se on this website but links and points to CCOER for many sources.</p>	No	No	No	No	No	Strictly a consortium
OpenSTAX Openstax.org 	<p>Main Topics of Textbooks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Math Science Social Sciences Humanities Business, Essentials Advanced Placement materials 	Yes	No	No			Rice University

Source & Link	Topic(s)/ MAIN interest in OER	Books and Textbooks	Journals/ Journal articles	Images	STUDENTS: Full Courses & Course Materials ¹	INSTRUCTORS: Full Courses to Teach ²	Notes (additional information)
<p>Open Textbook Library open.umn.edu/opentextbooks</p> 	<p>Main Topics Accounting & Finance Business: Human Resources, Management and Marketing Computer Science & Info Systems Economics Education Engineering Humanities: arts, History, Languages, Linguistics, Literature, Rhetoric & Poetry Philosophy Journalism, Media & Communications Law Mathematics: Applied, Pure Medicine Natural Sciences: Biology, Chemistry, Physics Social Sciences: Psychology, Sociology Student Success</p>	<p>Textbooks for Students – some may include resources for instructors</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>			<p>University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development Nicely designed website – easy to locate materials.</p>
<p>Saylor Academy learn.saylor.org</p> 	<p>Main Topics Art History Biology Business Administration Chemistry Communication Computer Science Economics English English as a Second Language, ESL History Learning Skills Mathematics Philosophy Physics Political Science Professional Development Psychology Sociology</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>			<p>College Courses About 100 FREE</p>

Source & Link	Topic(s)/ MAIN interest in OER	Books and Textbooks	Journals/ Journal articles	Images	STUDENTS: Full Courses & Course Materials ¹	INSTRUCTORS: Full Courses to Teach ²	Notes (additional information)
SPARC Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition sparcopen.org 	<p>...works to enable the open sharing of research outputs and educational materials in order to democratize access to knowledge, accelerate discovery, and increase the return on our investment in research and education. As a catalyst for action, SPARC focuses on collaborating with other stakeholders—including authors, publishers, libraries, students, funders, policymakers and the public—to build on the opportunities created by the Internet, promoting changes to both infrastructure and culture needed to make open the default for research and education. <i>(from the site)</i></p>	No	No	No			A consortium
Springer Open springeropen.com 	<p>Books and Journals: Computer Science Education Environment Economics Humanities Medicine Science Social Sciences Technology</p>	Yes, articles from books	Yes See note And Check the website				<p>A-Z Listing of Open Access Journals Science Technology Medicine Social Sciences Humanities</p> <p>Articles from Books Computer Science Social Sciences Education Environment Economics</p>

Notes:

1 -- Students: Full Courses & Course Materials. This section is acknowledged but not developed on this chart.

2 -- Instructors: Full Courses to teach. This section is acknowledged but not developed on this chart. There are additional resources for Instructors to create and design courses and course materials that are not covered on this chart or any of the documents. That is a separate issue, ask for guidance from NEIT Reference Librarians.

- ◆ **CCCOER Division/ Open Education Consortium** | 60 Thoreau St, Suite 238 Concord, MA 01742 USA
info@ccoer.org
- ◆ **Creative Commons** | PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042
info@creativecommons.org 1-415-429-6753
- ◆ **Directory of Open Access Books DOAB** Division of OAPEN, based in the Netherlands
Postal address: OAPEN Foundation P.O. Box 90407 2509 LK The Hague
OAPEN Library: www.oapen.org DOAB: www.doabooks.org
- ◆ **EDUCAUSE** | Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. MT
282 Century Place, Suite 5000, Louisville, CO 80027 303-449-4430 (phone)
303-440-0461 (fax) info@educause.edu

1150 18th Street, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036 202-872-4200 (phone)
202-872-4318 (fax) info@educause.edu
- ◆ **Geneseo SUNY 1 College Circle** | Geneseo, NY 14454 (585) 245-5000 | web@geneseo.edu
- ◆  **ISKME** 323 Harvard Avenue Half Moon Bay, CA 94019 (650) 728-3322
(650) 728-3344 (fax) info@iskme.org
- ◆ **LibreTexts** | UC Davis Library 100 NW Quad University of California, Davis, CA 95616
(530) 752-8792 info@libretexts.org
- ◆ **LUMEN LEARNING** | 812 SW Washington St. Suite 1200 Portland, OR 97205
Phone: +1.971.808.1637 Email: info@lumenlearning.com
- ◆ **MERLOT Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching**
a program of California State University
Contact specific people through the website: <http://info.merlot.org/>
- ◆ **Open Education Consortium** | 60 Thoreau St, Suite 238 Concord, MA 01742 USA
feedback@oeconsortium.org
- ◆ **Springer Open BMC, Part of Springer Nature Group**
World-wide offices, for contact use the website form.
<https://www.springeropen.com/about>



Freeing the Textbook: educational resources in U.S. Higher Education, 2018

Julia E. Seaman and Jeff Seaman/ Babson Survey Research Group

Rubric Documentation for Evaluating OER

Achieve (achieve.org) was started in 1996 by a bipartisan group of governors and business leaders, Achieve is a nonprofit education organization that has spent two decades leading the effort to help states make college and career readiness a priority for all students.

“Since 1996, Achieve has been the leading voice for improving college and career readiness in the United States. By convening states and leaders, providing technical assistance to states, conducting research, and offering advocacy, communications, and outreach support, Achieve has transformed the concept of college and career readiness for all students from a radical concept to a national priority.”

Achieve has created guidelines for instructors to evaluate particular OER materials or the term objects is used. Objects can be images, lessons, documents, articles, apps and more.

There are 5 possible scores 3, 2, 1, 0 and N/A and 8 rubrics to be assessed

The following rubrics are included:

Rubric I. Degree of Alignment to Standards

Rubric II. Quality of Explanation of the Subject Matter

Rubric III. Utility of Materials Designed to Support Teaching

Rubric IV. Quality of Assessment

Rubric V. Quality of Technological Interactivity

Rubric VI. Quality of Instructional and Practice Exercises

Rubric VII. Opportunities for Deeper Learning

Rubric VIII. Assurance of Accessibility

For more details about these guidelines for assessing materials refer to:

“Rubrics for Evaluating Open Education Resources (OER) Objects” by Achieve.org.

[\[https://www.achieve.org\]](https://www.achieve.org)

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