

Open Educational Resources (OERs)

What is Open Access (OA)?

Open Access (OA) refers to research and other works that are digital, online, free of charge, have limited licensing restrictions, and are freely available online for anyone to read, download, share, search, and reuse. Authors, however, still retain control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly cited through attribution.

What are OERs?

OER are educational materials made available and shared at no cost to users, with legal permissions that allow students and faculty to freely use, share, and build upon the content.

Commonly, textbooks and other course materials like lectures, lesson plans, and assessment banks



OERs are:

- Born digital, which makes access more attainable (mostly)
- Creative Commons licenses applied to OERs make it simple to share educational resources with others either through the Public Domain or licensed under [CCO](#), [CC BY](#), [CC BY-SA](#), [CC BY-NC](#), or [CC BY-NC-SA](#).
- Some OERs can also function through the activities of the 5Rs

Retain



permission to make, own, and control copies of the content (e.g., download, duplicate, store, and manage)

Reuse



permission to use the content in a wide range of ways (e.g., in a class, on a website, in a video)

Revise



permission to adapt, adjust, modify, or alter the content itself (e.g., translate the content into another language)

Remix



permission to combine the original or revised content with other material to create something new (e.g., incorporate the content into a mashup)

Redistribute



permission to share copies of the original content, your revisions, or your remixes with others (e.g., give a copy of to a friend)

“OER are educational materials that can be legally downloaded, edited, and shared to better serve all students”

Relationship between OA and OER

Open Access (OA) and Open Educational Resources (OER) share the same goal of making knowledge easier for everyone to access.

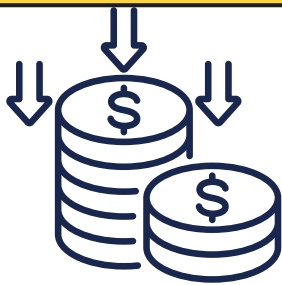
- OA opens access to research and scholarly information
- OER opens access to educational materials while also giving students and faculty the permission to use, adapt, and share them

Together, they help make education more open, accessible, and equitable

Why OERs are important?

Benefits Students

- Reduces or eliminates textbook costs
- Immediate access to materials



Benefits Faculty

- Customizable content to fit course needs and outcomes
- Incorporating new perspectives



WHY DOES OPEN ACCESS MATTER?

Open education makes learning more affordable, accessible, and flexible by giving faculty and students the freedom to use, adapt, and share educational resources. Open access preserves education that values sharing, transparency, and access while maintaining the user’s integrity and author’s agency.

Reference list Document: Ruelas_Maria_Assignment 5 References

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