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Online and Open Resources for Learning

Center for Learning and Teaching van Putten
Binghamton University--SUNY, clt@binghamton.edu

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Today’s Event

To access a copy of the presentation, visit

Live Chat during the event at
Center for Learning and Teaching

- **Cherie van Putten**, Instructional Designer
- **Andrea MacArgel**, Instructional Designer

Binghamton University Libraries

- **Anne Larrivee**, Subject Librarian, Anthropology, Human Development, Social Work, & Africana Studies
- **Nancy Abashian**, Head of Reader Services & Resource Sharing
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What are Open Educational Resources (OERs)?

- “Teaching and learning materials that you may freely use and reuse at no cost. Unlike fixed, copyrighted resources, OER have been authored or created by an individual or organization that chooses to retain few, if any, ownership rights.” - OER Commons

- OERs are licensed in a manner that provides users with free and perpetual permission to engage one or more 5R activities: Retain, Reuse, Revise, Remix, & Redistribute.
The right to make, own, and control copies of the content (e.g., download, duplicate, store, and manage)
The right to reuse the content in its unaltered / verbatim form (e.g., use in class or study group)
The right to adapt, adjust, modify, or alter the content itself (e.g., translate the content into another language)
Remix

The right to combine the original or revised content with other content to create something new (e.g., incorporate the content into a mashup)
The right to share copies of the original content, your revisions, or your remixes with others (e.g., give a copy of content to a colleague)
Examples of OERs

- Animations
- Assessment Tools
- Assignments
- Case Studies
- Online Courses or Course Modules
- Open Journals - Articles
- Open Textbooks
- Presentations

- Quizzes/Tests
- Reference Materials
- Simulations
- Social Networking Tools
- Tutorials
- Workshop and Training Materials
- Images
- Videos
Why start from scratch every time you need to create a lecture or assemble a reading list?

- Supplement your lectures/learning materials with content that is already available for open sharing.
- Use openly licensed materials to build your own resources
- Share your own work as OER to maximize the impact and visibility of your scholarly work
  - License your own OER so others can use it
  - Promote your work to a global audience

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What are traditional textbook issues?

- No textbook fits exactly.
- Sometimes an instructor only assigns a few chapters in a high-priced textbook.
- Having students purchase multiple textbooks is inefficient.
- Students may need to choose between buying a textbook and paying rent.
- Copyright and Fair Use guidelines are not always clear.
Benefits of OER for Students

- **COST**
- Openly-licensed learning materials are easy to find and access
- Provide supplemental learning materials for courses
- Encourage students to be more independent in finding learning opportunities
- OER courses allow students to explore materials before enrolling
  - Better prepared before they arrive in the classroom
  - Determine what classes or program to enroll in
Why should we be concerned about textbook costs?

There is a direct relationship between textbook costs and student success.

- 60%+ do not purchase textbooks at some point due to cost
- 35% take fewer courses due to textbook cost
- 31% choose not to register for a course due to textbook cost
- 23% regularly go without textbooks due to cost
- 14% have dropped a course due to textbook cost
- 10% have withdrawn from a course due to textbook cost

Source: 2012 student survey by Florida Virtual Campus
From 2002 to 2012, textbook prices rose an average of 6% per year, while tuition and fees increased at an average of 7% and overall prices increased at an average of 2% per year.
How do I use OERs in my courses?

Depending on the resource and license type, you can...
● Link, embed, or upload the resource directly to an online environment, such as Blackboard
● Make copies and distribute
● Email
● Place a shared cloud-based location, such as Google Drive or Dropbox
● Upload to another site, such as Vimeo, Youtube, etc.
What makes OERs different from other “free” educational resources?

- Even free intellectual property is protected by copyright, meaning its use is restricted by very specific Fair Use copyright guidelines.
- Open Educational Resources have Creative Commons licenses, as selected by their creators.
- While Creative Commons licenses have 6 levels of attributions, or restrictions, the majority of OERs carry the most liberal attribution of “By” which allows the Retain, Reuse, Revise, Remix, and Redistribute ideal.

http://creativecommons.org/licenses/
What is MERLOT?

Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching

- Tens of thousands of discipline-specific learning materials
- Members have authored the materials themselves or have discovered the materials and found them useful.
- All the materials in MERLOT are reviewed for suitability for retention in the collection.
● An international community of faculty, staff, students, administrators, librarians, and others in education

● Sustained through the support of higher educational institutions from around the world, led by the California State University.
Currently MERLOT offers 3,545 open textbooks encompassing a broad range of academic disciplines:

- Academic Support Services (231)
- Arts (125)
- Business (769)
- Education (164)
- Humanities (536)

- Mathematics and Statistics (462)
- Science and Technology (1,327)
- Social Sciences (216)
- Workforce Development (52)
Many digital repositories, including MERLOT, provide ratings and reviews for their OERs. The volunteer nature of peer review allows for many more reviews than would be provided by a traditional publishing editorial board.

In this example for MERLOT you can clearly see the 5 star rating for Peer Reviews:

**Biological animations and tutorials**

Key biological concepts animated as narrated and stepped tutorials, along with quizzes.

**Material Type:** Animation  
**Author:** Sumanas, Inc.  
**Date Added:** Jun 23, 2005  
**Date Modified:** Feb 02, 2015

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What About Peer Review in MERLOT?

- The Peer Review page for each resource in MERLOT is detailed and clear both graphically and textually.
- A quick look at the star rating graphics provides an expedient way of quickly assessing if the resource merits further consideration:

![Peer Review Table]

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How do I join MERLOT as an individual?

Just fill out the membership form:

http://www.merlot.org/merlot/join.htm
How can I save OERs I am interested in?

- You can bookmark the material within the MERLOT site.
- Bookmarks can be organized into collections.
1. Join Merlot as an individual member.
2. Carefully read the Contribute Material instructions
3. Go to the Contribute a Material page and complete the required forms.
What is Open SUNY Affordable Learning Solutions (ALS)?

http://opensunyals.org

- A State University of New York (SUNY) initiative to provide affordable educational alternatives to traditional textbooks
- A service to assist SUNY faculty, librarians, and staff to identify lower-cost, electronic, free, and Open Educational Resources (OERs)
Open SUNY Textbooks

http://opensuny.org

- Open SUNY Textbooks is an open access textbook publishing initiative established by State University of New York libraries and supported by SUNY Innovative Instruction Technology Grants.
- This pilot initiative publishes high-quality, cost-effective course resources by engaging faculty as authors and peer-reviewers, and libraries as publishing service and infrastructure.
Who else is creating and using OERs?

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What other OER repositories are out there?

- An annotated list of repositories can be found at [http://opensunyals.org/searchotherrepositories.html](http://opensunyals.org/searchotherrepositories.html)
- Popular open textbook sites
  - [Boundless](http://boundless.com)
  - [OpenStax](http://openstax.org)
  - [Saylor Foundation](http://saylor.org)
- Other OER sites
  - [OER Commons](http://oerc.org)
  - [Open Textbook Store](http://openstext.org)
  - [Open College Textbooks](http://opentext.textbooks.com)
- CLT’s OER List
How do I learn more about OERS?

- Locating, Creating, Licensing and Utilizing OERs (OER-101)
  https://opensuny.coursesites.com/
- OER101 an open, self-paced online community course built collaboratively by professionals from Buffalo State College, Empire State College and SUNY Oswego and powered by Open SUNY.
Roles for SUNY Librarians in OER Support

- Mediated searching
- Adding content to MERLOT
- Educating faculty, administrators, and other academic professionals about OERS
The Online/Electronic Side of Binghamton University Libraries

- Electronic Resources & Digital Collections
- Online Research Guides and Tutorials
- Evaluating Online Materials
- Open Access Publications
- Research Help
The Google Search

Image: Wikimedia.org
Electronic Resources

http://binghamton.edu/libraries
Digital Collections

- Binghamton University & Binghamton University Archives Photographs
- Dateline & Inside Binghamton University
- Julie Cizenski Collection of Postcards
- Daniel S. Dickinson Statue Papers
- George E. Green Letter Collection
- Edwin A. Link Jr. Digital Archives
- Max Reinhardt Archives
- Vera Beaudin Saeedpour Kurdish Library & Museum Collection
# Online Guides and Tutorials

## Search & Find
- **Research Help**
- How to start researching a topic
  - Use a research calculator (time management tool)
  - Select a research topic
  - Develop a search strategy
  - Consult a subject guide
  - Consult the Online Reference Shelf

## How to find books and articles
- Find books
- Find articles
- Request items from other libraries (Illiad)
- Search other libraries' collections (WorldCat)

## Locations & Collections

## Services
- How to evaluate resources
  - Evaluate web pages
  - Identify scholarly journals

## How to cite research
- Cite in APA, MLA, etc. (Citation Help & Academic Honesty)
- RefWorks: Format citations and create bibliographies

## About

## Special Collections
- How to get help
  - How to do library research
  - Ask a Librarian: Visit, call, chat, email, Skype, or text
  - Watch, listen, and learn (Library Tutorials)
  - Contact a subject librarian
  - Consult Technical Problems web page
# Services at a Distance

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## Library Services
- Digital Preservation
- Instruction
- Lost and Found
- Reader Services
- Interlibrary Loan
- Course Reserves
- Scholarly Communications
- Ask a Librarian
- Request Forms
Where is open research?

Open research is everywhere! It is continually evolving, with new sites appearing regularly. It involves all areas and components of the research process, from preliminary data to books and other final research products.

Open Research Sources:

Research Data:
- Shared research data sites.
- U.S. Government and international open data sites.

Research Articles, Preprints and manuscripts:
- Journal article pre-prints and manuscript repositories by discipline.
- PQDT Open, dissertations and theses from Proquest.

Books:
1. Collections and books in the HathiTrust Digital Library.
2. Open Ebook Collections.

Course content and textbooks:
1. Course content from the Open Courseware Consortium.
2. Textbooks from the College Open Textbooks project.

Standards from Open Standards.net.

For more information: Battle of the Opens, Dorothea Salo, Book of Trogool blog, March 15, 2010.

Still need help? The Libraries Scholarly Communications Officer, Elizabeth Brown, can assist you at (607) 777-4882.
Locating Open Access Journals

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>College &amp; Research Libraries</td>
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College and Research Libraries

Subjects: Bibliography, Library science, Information resources
Publisher: Association of College and Research Libraries
Publication charges?: No charges (see http://crl.acrl.org/site/misc/author.xhtml)
Journal Language: English
ISSN(s): 0010-0870, 2150-6701
Keywords: library science, information literacy
Home page: http://crl.acrl.org/
Country of publisher: United States
Ask Us

Research Help
Walk-in help is available at the Bartle Library. You can also contact your Subject Librarian.

Text
607-205-8173

Call
Research Help: 607-777-2345
Renewals/Circulation/Reserves: 607-777-2194

Email
Send an email. We'll reply within 24 hours when we're open.

SKYPE
SKYPE us.
Library, at your Service

- Course Reserves
- Accessibility
- Copyright
- Licensing
Course Reserves

Instructor role:
● Identify Resources
● Notify Course Reserves

The Libraries’ role:
● Customize Blackboard
● Ensure Copyright Compliance
● Add material to Reserves Collection*

*There is no funding dedicated to the purchase of reserves material. The Libraries may not be able to fill purchase requests for textbooks and other required books or course material.
Accessibility

OCR - Optical Character Recognition

- Reserves ensures all scanned documents are created in a screen readable format
- When notified by instructor, OCR is turned on when student with disability is enrolled in class
- When adding hyperlinks to resources, they are analyzed for accessibility
- Physical Reserves can be converted by students to mp3 or OCR files using BookEye scanners in all Library branches
Copyright & Reserves

The two ends of the compliance spectrum:

**Copyright is compliant when:**

A legal copy is one that was legally obtained (i.e. purchased from a reputable vendor or checked out from the Library or acquired with publisher permission to use).
Copyright & Reserves

Copyright is not compliant when:

● A duplicate copy (made from a colleague's copy, downloaded off the internet, taped from television or radio, etc.)

● If you are unsure of whether or not your copy is legal or was legally obtained, you should check with a librarian or a copyright specialist.
Somewhere in the middle:

- Fair Use
- 17 USC section 107 allows for libraries, under certain circumstances the reproduction of copyrighted works for certain limited, educational purposes and does not constitute copyright infringement.
The Middle - According to Reserves

- One scanned chapter
- One scanned article from a journal
- Links to articles in journals owned in electronic full-text by Binghamton University Libraries.
- Links to books owned in electronic full-text by Binghamton University Libraries.
- Materials written by the instructor
Licensing, Library Resources & Reserves

- When the Libraries purchase materials, it is with the understanding that multiple individuals may make use of them.
- Items requiring a subscription or a license often include a premium to support these users.
- Electronic books will be the preferred format when purchasing items for the Reserves collection.
Conclusion

- Become an Advocate for Open Resources!
- Contact the Center for Learning and Teaching or the Libraries for assistance with locating, vetting, or creating OERs

Image: http://thenounproject.com/term/advocacy/4186/