# OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OER)

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**Open Educational Resources (OER**)
OER are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use or re-purposing by others.

# What is included within OER?

OER include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.

# OER

**Freedom to**
Access
Copy
Use
Adapt
Share

# OER Growth

- Growing number of U.S. higher education institutions (community colleges through research universities) join Open Course Ware (OCW), offering open access to at least some of their courseware eg Rice University (Connexions) http://cnx.rice.edu/

- Increasing diversity in both the topic and level of available open courseware.

- Commitments by non-U.S. higher education institutions to build new curriculum or transform current curriculum using open courseware resources.

# OER Growth

- Investment by non-U.S. institutions to translate courseware from the United States into local languages and to make the translations also openly available.

- Early commitments by non-U.S. institutions to add to the store of open courseware in their local language.

- Development of tools intended to facilitate the production of open courseware, e.g. eduCommons

# OER Websites

- College Open Textbooks. ...

- Learningpod. ...

- Lumen Learning. ...

- MERLOT II. ...

- MIT Open Courseware Online Textbooks. ...

- OER Commons. ...

- Open Course Library. ...

- Open Education Consortium.

# OER – Global Scale

○ China, materials from 750 courses made available by 222 university members of the China Open Resources for Education (CORE) consortium. (www.core.org.cn/en/).

○ Japan:  resources from more than 400 courses from  the 19 member universities of the Japanese OCW Consortium. (www.jocw.jp/).

# OER – Global Scale

◦ France: 800 educational resources from around 100 teaching units at 11 member universities of the ParisTech OCW project. ([graduateschool.paristech.org/](graduateschool.paristech.org/)).

◦ UK:  Open University has released distance learning materials via the OpenLearn project ([openlearn.open.ac.uk/](openlearn.open.ac.uk/));  over 80 [UKOER projects](UKOER projects) have released many resources.

◦ Africa:  OER Africa ([www.oerafrica.org](www.oerafrica.org)) developing and disseminating OER for higher education institution faculties of Health, Teacher Education and Agriculture.

# Benefits of OER

◦ Advantages of using OERs include:

**1.Reduce student costs**: Many students opt out of buying textbooks and other course materials due to cost. Reducing or eliminating the costs of course materials is one of the most compelling reasons to use OERs.

# Benefits of OER

○ Advantages of using OERs include:

**2. Support student success and retention**: OERs can help guarantee that every student in a course has access to course material at the same time and at the optimal time. Several studies indicate that access to course material helps students succeed in a course and in their advancement towards graduation.

# Benefits of OER

◦ Advantages of using OERs include:

**3. Innovate your teaching practices**: Adapting, adopting, or creating OERs gives faculty the opportunity to tailor course content in new ways, allowing them to maximize the use of content to provide innovative and/or optimized learning experiences and environments for students. OER supports open pedagogy and open education.

# Benefits of OER

◦ Advantages of using OERs include:

**4. Exercise your academic freedom**: You can control the content. Edit, revise, modify it as you like.

**5. Enrich scholarship**: If faculty share that great lesson, simulation, tutorial, textbook, etc., it gives fellow instructors more options for their own teaching and learning. The more pedagogical strategies available for teaching a topic, the stronger the teaching and learning can be.

# Benefits of OER
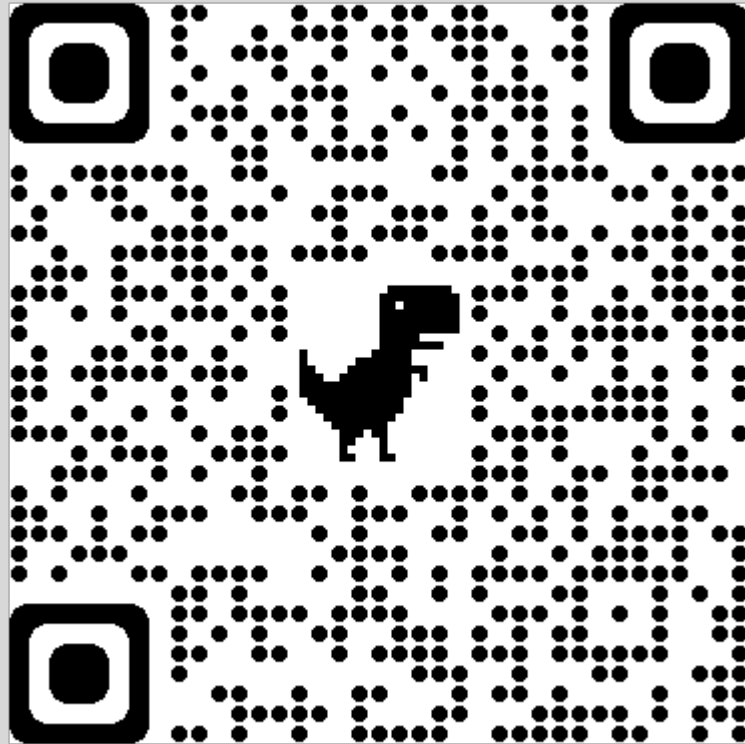
◦ Advantages of using OERs include:

**6. Expanded access to learning**. Students anywhere in the world can access OERs at any time, and they can access the material repeatedly.

# Live OER Course

# OER Game!

- https://nearpod.com/

# **Questions?**

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