Open Education &
Open Educational Resources

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Diplomas: Bachelors, Masters, PhDs

3,700 faculty
30,000 students on campus + off campus

“Residential Undergraduate Experience”
  + plus VT Online

Tenure, academic freedom and faculty choice
University Libraries (+ partners)

Virginia Tech’s Open Educational Initiative

- **Explore the potential** for open education resources at Virginia Tech

- **Identify faculty already engaging** in open educational practices (including using open educational resources)

- **Raise awareness** regarding open educational resources and Creative Commons licensing among librarians, faculty, staff, and students

- Currently: **Organize across-campus task force** (We have no mandate or policy regarding OER)

- Currently: **Support faculty-led projects**
What can we do to improve student learning and faculty teaching materials to make them increasingly:

• Accessible
• Affordable
• High quality
• Pedagogically flexible/adaptable
• Engaging for students
• Innovative
Two main reasons for this initiative

Reason 1: Overcoming cost & access problems
Reason 2: Supporting faculty & creating opportunities
1. Overcoming cost & access problems
1. Overcoming cost & access problems

- Tuition
- Room & board
- Textbooks, learning resources, supplies
- Transportation
- Entertainment

Virginia Tech
1. Overcoming cost & access problems

How often do you buy (or rent) required textbooks for courses you take?

N=290
1. Overcoming cost & access problems

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1. Overcoming cost & access problems

Tuition (includes textbooks)
Room & board
Learning resources, supplies
Transportation
Entertainment
2. Supporting faculty & creating opportunities

Implementing innovative pedagogies

Involving students developing and demonstrating higher order skills (creating)

Student & faculty authoring & creating
2. Supporting faculty & creating opportunities

Web & open licensing

Reuse
Revise
Remix
Redistribute
Retain

https://opencontent.org/blog/archives/3251
2. Supporting faculty & creating opportunities

The Great VCU Bike Race Book
#vcubrb

Students as: creators, researchers, and “citizen journalists”

Students produce work (blogs, tweets, photos, audio, video) during the race.

http://sched.co/49Kd
https://greatvcubikeracebook.net/
2. Supporting faculty & creating opportunities

• Materials to fit your learning objectives & student needs

• Adapting/customizing saves time (no need to start from scratch)

• Enables innovative pedagogy (students create, students explore their interests, students engage with real-world issues)

• Creating enables student development of: digital literacies, rights/copyright, time management, teamwork, communication
What are Open Educational Resources?
Open Educational Resources: definition

Open Educational Resources 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 and repurposing by others.

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.

Source: Hewlett Foundation
http://www.hewlett.org(strategy/open-educational-resources)
OpenStax College (Rice University)

Find ancillary materials for each book at https://openstax.org/subjects or ancillaries shared by other faculty members at https://www.oercommons.org/hubs/OpenStax
2. Supporting faculty & creating opportunities

*FUNDAMENTALS OF BUSINESS*

- 17 chapters
- 440+ pages
- Free online
  - [http://hdl.handle.net/10919/70961](http://hdl.handle.net/10919/70961)
- Editable (CC BY NC SA)
- Print option (LuluPress$)
Open Textbook Library

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Textbooks every student can access and afford

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,
2. Supporting faculty & creating opportunities

[Image: Vital, an interactive guide to the effects of Vitamins & minerals in the body systems]

https://vital-test.dev.tlos.vt.edu
2. Supporting faculty & creating opportunities

Welcome to the Argument Guide!

Critical thinking through argument identification

This site provides a field guide for the identification and critical evaluation of all kinds of arguments and commonly recurring types of problem or question. Use the buttons at the bottom of this page to jump directly to one of the guides, or click the “Get Started” button below.

Get started!
Open educational resources are:

- NO COST
Open educational resources are:

- NO COST
- EDITABLE (because of Creative Commons)
Open Licenses
With Creative Commons licenses, you are free to:

- Copy
- Mix
- Share
- Keep
- Edit
- Use

NOTE: Attribution is always required
Faculty roles:

- Adopt
- Create & Share
- Adapt
In Summary: What do I need to know?

1) Open Education is about removing learning barriers

2) Cost (and ethical access) are often an issue for individuals and institutions.

3) Copyright is sometimes a barrier
In Summary: What do I need to know?

4) Creative Commons licensed works are a FREE alternative to copyrighted work.

5) Marking and sharing open educational resources (OER) you created allows anyone to edit and share.

6) CC licenses **honor authors** by requiring attribution of the author & license when using a CC-licensed work.
2. Supporting faculty & creating opportunities

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• Adapting/customizing saves time (no need to start from scratch)

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• Creating enables student development of: digital literacies, rights/copyright, time management, teamwork, communication
Opportunities for faculty:

• Adopt (or pilot, supplement)
• Adapt
• Create, license & share
More information:

http://guides.lib.vt.edu/oer