

STUDENTS AND OER*

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Abstract

This module provides ideas for how you can work with your students using OER.

The module, “What is Localization?¹,” provided overview of localization—making content context-specific. This module, “Students and OER,” will present OER activities you can use with your students.

1 Students and OER

The OER process has the potential for supporting new instructional approaches in the classroom. These approaches become possible because the conditions that OER provides lend flexibility for sharing educational resources worldwide. These conditions are scaffolded by the variety of nonrestrictive licenses to choose from (see OER Licensing and Conditions of Use²) as well as the ability to access these resources through OER repositories. As educators integrate OER into their teaching, students benefit from exposure to a wider range of pedagogical expressions through the materials created by other educators and learners from all over the world. This diversity of pedagogical approaches and cultural perspectives is a foundational aspect of OER. The endless options that this diversity provides give educators and learners a springboard for integrating new ways of working in educational environments.

Students are not only impacted by the diversity of materials offered through OER. The OER process opens up possibilities for collaborations with other students as well as with their teachers in creating content. Here are a few ideas on how OER can benefit students:

- The activity of remixing content can provide new ways of looking at the subject which can open up dialogue between teacher and student and student to student. It can also help develop cognitive skills as well as computer skills.
- Using an OER repository as a portal for collaborative assignments can spark students working with each other within a local classroom as well as with students in schools in any part of the world.
- Teachers can guide students in the creation of content with the intent of submitting it to an OER repository. The act of sharing back content assists students in becoming participants of and not just consumers of content. Knowing that others will use their work instills a sense of ownership, pride, and a quest for creating high quality work.

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[†]<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>

¹“What is Localization?” <<http://cnx.org/content/m15222/latest/>>

²“OER Licensing and Conditions of Use” <<http://cnx.org/content/m15234/latest/>>

1.1 OER stories from around the world

Katrin's assignment³ in her teacher training class is to use OER with her students.

Students collaborate⁴ on an English assignment to create a web-based magazine.

Your experience using open and freely shared course-related materials is valuable in the reuse and evolution of the materials. Tell us your story⁵; how you've used these materials and how their use has impacted how you teach or learn.

2 Integrating OER Into the Classroom

These links provide direct access to several course-related components available in OER Commons⁶. Consider using or remixing one or more of these components to either present to your students or as hands-on activity for your students to engage with the OER process.

Course-related Components in OER Commons	
Activities or labs ⁷	Syllabi ⁸
Homework and assignments ⁹	Lesson plans ¹⁰
Textbooks ¹¹	Lecture notes ¹²
Simulations ¹³	Audio lectures ¹⁴
Games ¹⁵	Video lectures ¹⁶
Assessments ¹⁷	Teaching and learning strategies ¹⁸

Table 1

The results list for all the course-related components can be refined using any combination of over 70 filtering criteria by clicking on the "Filter Results" button.

The OER process of use, modification, and sharing back can become part of an instructional approach you take with students. Not only can you customize openly sharable materials that you present to your students, but you can also facilitate the OER process with your students to help them become producers of content. The content your students create becomes part of their learning process as well as a representation of their learning.

3 Activity: Share Your Experience

We're discussing the impact of OER in Teaching and Learning¹⁹ in OER Commons. Post your stories, suggestions, and questions with using OER materials in your teaching and learning. Here are a few questions

³<http://elearningnetworks.com/OERCommons/stories/iceland.html>

⁴<http://elearningnetworks.com/OERCommons/stories/englishassignment.html>

⁵<http://elearningnetworks.com/OERCommons/stories/submityourstory.html>

⁶<http://www.oercommons.org/oer>

⁷http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/activities-and-labs

⁸http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/syllabi

⁹http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/homework-and-assignments

¹⁰http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/lesson-plans

¹¹http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/text-books

¹²http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/lecture-notes

¹³http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/simulations

¹⁴http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/audio-lectures

¹⁵http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/games

¹⁶http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/video-lectures

¹⁷http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/assessments

¹⁸http://www.oercommons.org/courses/material_types/teaching-and-learning-strategies

¹⁹http://www.oercommons.org/matters/oer_topic/teaching-and-learning

to consider in your post:

1. Share some of your teaching strategies in how you have implemented OER with your students.
2. Describe how your students have used OER.
3. What have been your challenges in using OER with your students?
4. If you haven't used OER with your students, what are the barriers?

4 For More Information

The following resources have been selected to provide more information on concepts we covered in this module.

- Open Educational Resources: Toward a New Educational Paradigm: http://www.ijournal.us/issue_14/print_version/ij
- OER Categories: <http://www.oercommons.org/oer>²¹

5 Other modules in this course include ...

- Why OER?²²
- Finding OER Materials You Can Start Using Now²³
- Tagging, Rating, and Reviewing OER Materials²⁴
- My OER Portfolio²⁵
- Submitting Materials to OER Commons²⁶
- OER Licensing and Conditions of Use²⁷
- What is Localization?²⁸
- What are Open Textbooks?²⁹
- OER Case Study
- Glossary³⁰

This module presented OER activities you can use with your students. The next module, “What are Open Textbooks?³¹,” will provide an overview of open textbooks.

6 OER Commons Links

For more information about OER Commons, send an email to info@oercommons.org³².

Use this feedback form³³ to send OER Commons general feedback, a feature request, or information about a bug/problem you had using the site.

To see the ever-growing list of the new content providers and contributors to OER Commons, visit the Content Providers³⁴ page often. You can be one too!

²⁰http://www.ijournal.us/issue_14/print_version/ij_14_04_articleprint_Petrides_Jimes.htm

²¹<http://www.oercommons.org/oer>

²²"Why OER?" <<http://cnx.org/content/m15211/latest/>>

²³"Finding OER Materials You Can Start Using Now" <<http://cnx.org/content/m15213/latest/>>

²⁴"Tagging, Rating, and Reviewing OER Materials" <<http://cnx.org/content/m15214/latest/>>

²⁵"My OER Portfolio" <<http://cnx.org/content/m15215/latest/>>

²⁶"Submitting Materials to OER Commons" <<http://cnx.org/content/m15235/latest/>>

²⁷"OER Licensing and Conditions of Use" <<http://cnx.org/content/m15234/latest/>>

²⁸"What is Localization?" <<http://cnx.org/content/m15222/latest/>>

²⁹"What are Open Textbooks?" <<http://cnx.org/content/m15226/latest/>>

³⁰"OER Glossary" <<http://cnx.org/content/m15223/latest/>>

³¹"What are Open Textbooks?" <<http://cnx.org/content/m15226/latest/>>

³²info@oercommons.org

³³<http://www.oercommons.org/feedback>

³⁴<http://www.oercommons.org/oer/providers>

7 “Quotable Quote”

Successful students create to learn, and learn to create.³⁵

8 About This Module

The “How Tos” of OER Commons is a set of learning modules evolving out of the development of OER Commons (<http://www.oercommons.org>³⁶), a teaching and learning network for free-to-use educational materials from around the world, created and licensed by the Institute for the Study of Knowledge Management in Education (ISKME).

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For more information, visit <http://www.iskme.org>³⁷ and <http://elearningnetworks.com>³⁸.

³⁵Shneiderman, B. (2002). *Leonardo's Laptop*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

³⁶<http://www.oercommons.org/>

³⁷<http://www.iskme.org/>

³⁸<http://elearningnetworks.com/>