Key Things to Know about Open Education Resources (OER)

OERs CAN BE
- Course Materials
- Open Textbooks
- Videos
- Lesson Plans
- Software
- Games

Fulfills courses, learning objectives, tests or any other tools, materials, or techniques that support access to knowledge.

MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING 5Rs
- Retain: Users have the right to make, archive, and "own" copies of the content
- Reuse: Content can be reused in its unaltered form
- Revise: Content can be adapted, adjusted, modified or altered
- Revamp: The original or revised content can be combined with other content to create something new
- Redistribute: Copies of the content can be shared with others in its original, revised or remixed form

BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS
- Low cost or free
- Easy to find and access -- even before classes start
- More customized and relevant

BENEFITS FOR FACULTY
- Increases student retention by reducing costs
- Assures academic freedom to modify or add content to your specifications
- Extends your academic profile
- Provides more relevant and engaging materials for your students

SOME FACTS
- 65% of students report NOT purchasing a textbook because of its high price
- 82% Textbook costs rose 82% between 2003 and 2013
- 4X the rate of inflation in overall consumer prices (CPI) during the same time
- Since 2012, Open Textbooks have saved BC postsecondary students over $500,000
- Hundreds of textbooks have already been adopted across Canada by faculty!

References

Created by BCOER LIBRARIANS

This poster is a creation of the BCOER, a group of BC postsecondary librarians working together to support the use of quality Open Educational Resources (OER). For more information about BCOER and its activities, go to open.bccampus.ca.

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