Open Educational Resource (OER) & eBook sites

Sites visited September and October 2016. Links verified & updated January 9, 2019.

Annotations by Jasmine Cieszynski, Instructional Services & PR Librarian; Craighton Hippenhammer, Digital Initiative Librarian; Lisa McGrady, Dean of Teaching and Learning. Olivet Nazarene University.

Contents

Creative Commons License Types

	Can someone use it commercially?	Can someone create new versions of it?
Attribution	👍	👍
Share Alike	👍	Yup, AND they must license the new work under a Share Alike license.
No Derivatives	👍	👎
Non-Commercial	👎	Yup, AND the new work must be non-commercial, but it can be under any non-commercial license.
Non-Commercial Share Alike	👎	Yup, AND they must license the new work under a Non-Commercial Share Alike license.
Non-Commercial No Derivatives	👎	👎

http://www.masternewmedia.org/how-to-publish-a-book-under-a-creative-commons-license/

Accessed July 28, 2016

College

Open Textbook Library
http://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/

Strengths: Well-organized site & easy to use. Includes information about contributors for individual sources and well as contributing institutions. Creative commons licenses are detailed. Some reviews for individual sources. **Through our CARLI membership, Olivet Nazarene University is a member of this organization**

Purpose	"Make a difference in your students' lives with free, openly-licensed textbooks."
Audience	College-level.
Subjects	Accounting & Finance, Business, Management & marketing, Computer Science & Information Systems, Economics, Engineering, Foreign Languages, General Education, Humanities & Languages, Law, Mathematics & Statistics, Natural & Physical Sciences, Social Sciences
Mission	"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, or professional organization." http://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/ A project of the Center for Open Education at the University of Minnesota
Reviewer	JC Link checked January 2019

Open Course Library
http://opencourselibrary.org/

Strengths: Instructors can use full courses or elements of them. Some of the courses are paired with low-cost textbooks.

Purpose	A collection of sharable, cc-licensed course materials, sometimes paired with textbooks costing $30 or less. Faculty can adopt an entire course or portions of them. "Everything developed for the Open Course Library is free, digital, and shareable (unless otherwise noted). We invite faculty everywhere to explore, copy, customize, translate and adopt any and all course materials." http://opencourselibrary.org/about/
Audience	College
Subjects	Accounting, anthropology, art, American sign language, astronomy, biology, business, chemistry, communication, college success, drama, economics, English, environmental science, French, geology, history, health, humanities, library research, math, music appreciation, nutrition, oceanography, philosophy, physics, political science, psychology, sociology, Spanish,
Mission	"Our goals: 1.Lower textbook costs for students; 2. Provide high quality, open resources for faculty." Courses were created through a grant from the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, which requires that the materials carry open licenses. http://opencourselibrary.org/about/
Reviewer	LM Link checked January 2019

Community College Consortium for OER
https://www.cccoer.org/learn/find-oer/   link checked January 2019

Purpose	CCCOER is a joint effort by individual community colleges, regional and statewide consortia, the Open Courseware Consortium, the American Association for Community Colleges, the League for Innovation in the Community Colleges, and many other educational partners to develop and use open educational resources, open textbooks, and open courseware to expand access to higher education and improve teaching and learning.
Audience	Community college and lower division of 4-year institutions
Subjects	Anthropology, archeology, biology & genetics, business, chemistry, computer science, economics, education, engineering & electronics, English & composition, health & nursing, history, languages & communications, law, mathematics, music, philosophy, physics, political science, psychology, science, sociology, statistics & probability.
Mission	To create awareness of OER and help colleges to identify, create and/or repurpose existing OER to improve teaching and learning and make education more accessible for all learners. We are seeking the support of faculty to identify, review, evaluate, and make available high quality, accessible and culturally open educational resources.
Reviewer	CTH

Intech Open Science   http://www.intechopen.com/books

Purpose	Produced by a science, technology & medicine open access book publisher to publish, read & share documents and books online free to all who want to access them
Audience	College & professional
Subjects	Physical sciences, engineering & technology (1409); life sciences (402); health sciences (903); social sciences & humanities (63)
Mission	Provides published scientific papers in a digital format, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions. Provides publishing and review process coordination, English language proof-reading and corrections, typesetting, author and editor support, indexing and archiving, promotional activities, online publishing technology, digital presentation and preservation, promotion and dissemination of your work. Editorial and production costs are defrayed by collecting article processing charges (APC) from authors' institutions or research funding bodies.
Reviewer	CTH Link checked January 2019

Floss Manuals (computer science)   https://www.flossmanuals.net/

Purpose	Offers free manuals and educational materials about free software
Audience	College & independent learners
Subjects	Computer science; open source software
Mission	**To make it easy to maintain and contribute to manuals, text books, teaching materials** by providing an easy to use interface for collaborating on the creation of texts about Free Software. Contributors include designers, readers, writers, illustrators, free software fans, editors, artists, software developers, activists, and many others.
Reviewer	CTH Link checked January 2019

FreeTechBooks (computer science)   http://www.freetechbooks.com/

Purpose	To provide free online computer science and programming books, textbooks, and lecture notes (1013 books and growing).
Audience	College & adults
Subjects	Computer science, programming/scripting in various languages, hackers and computer philosophy, mathematics, and engineering books, textbooks, documents, lecture notes, etc.
Mission	All the books listed in this site are **freely available**, as they are hosted on websites that belong to the authors or the publishers.
Reviewer	CTH Link checked January 2019

Teach Astronomy   http://www.teachastronomy.com/

Purpose	Professors from the University of Arizona present material about astronomy, including a textbook, images, videos, podcasts, a course, and astrobites (summaries of research papers written by astronomy graduate students around the world).
Audience	College students, independent learners, professionals
Subjects	Astronomy
Mission	Teach Astronomy is an astronomy learning tool, intended either as a supplement for classroom instruction or for informal learners wanting to know more about the subject. The major types of content can be explored with a keyword search and/or by using the visual display (called a Wikimap) to surf related items.
Reviewer	CTH Link checked January 2019

OpenTextBookStore

http://www.opentextbookstore.com/catalog.php

Purpose	Provides links to open source textbooks in math that OpenTextBookStore believes "are really adoptable and ready to use in a college classroom." This is not a publisher: it is a listing site that provides information on and links to open source texts. http://www.opentextbookstore.com/index.php
Audience	College
Subjects	Math
Mission	"OpenTextBookStore was created by educators frustrated with the time involved in finding adoptable open textbooks, with the hope to make open textbook adoption easier for other faculty." http://www.opentextbookstore.com/index.php
Reviewer	LM Link checked January 2019

MIT Open CourseWare

http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/online-textbooks/

Purpose	Helping educators improve courses and curricula, making their schools more effective; students find additional resources to help them succeed; and independent learners enrich their lives and use the content to tackle some of our world's most difficult challenges, including sustainable development, climate change, and cancer eradication.
Audience	College, university & professional independent learners of technology
Subjects	Aeronautics & astronautics; civil & environmental engineering; earth, atmospheric &planetary sciences; electrical engineering & computer science; engineering systems division; global studies & languages; health sciences & technology; materials science & engineering; mathematics; mechanical engineering; media arts & sciences; nuclear science & engineering; physics; Sloan School of Management; supplemental resources.
Mission	To publish all of our course materials online and make them widely available to everyone.
Reviewer	CTH Link checked January 2019

Openstax Higher Ed

https://openstax.org/higher-ed

Purpose	Provides openly licensed textbooks which use "learning technology, designed to improve learning outcomes through personalized educational paths." https://openstax.org/about
Audience	College and AP.
Subjects	Math, science (anatomy & physiology, astronomy, biology, chemistry, physics), social sciences (economics, sociology, psychology, American government), humanities (history), AP (economics & physics)
Mission	"It's our mission to improve student access to education." https://openstax.org/about
Reviewer	LM Link checked January 2019

Open Learning Initiative http://oli.cmu.edu/get-to-know-oli/learn-about-our-courses/

Fee-based textbooks (less than $50) and courses.

Purpose	"OLI is a collection of evidence-based tools and approaches to learning that are proven to boost student success, and enable instructors to be more effective."
Audience	College
Subjects	Languages (English, Arabic, French, Spanish), anatomy & physiology, biology, chemistry, engineering, health sciences, psychology, logic, computer science, STEM foundations & readiness
Mission	Key goals: "Support better learning and instruction with high-quality, scientifically-based, classroom-tested online courses and materials"; "share our courses and materials openly and freely so that anyone can learn"; "Develop a community of use, research, and development." http://oli.cmu.edu/get-to-know-oli/learn-more-about-oli/
Reviewer	LM Link checked January 2019.

OER Commons   https://www.oercommons.org/

Purpose	ISKME's OER initiatives aim to grow a sustainable culture of sharing and continuous improvement among educators at all levels. In 2007, ISKME launched OER Commons, its digital public library and collaboration platform, informed by the organization's pioneering efforts in knowledge management and educational innovation. OER Commons offers a comprehensive infrastructure for curriculum experts and instructors at all levels to identify high-quality OER and collaborate around their adaptation, evaluation, and use to address the needs of teachers and learners.
Audience	Primary, secondary; college lover division and upper division; graduate, professional
Subjects	Applied science (8,502); arts & humanities (10924); business & communication (1670); career & technical education (1306); education (7,552); English language arts (1,641); history (6,756); law (217); life science (9,389); mathematics (12,472); physical science (11,574); social science (3,128).
Mission	Produced by the Institute for the Study of Knowledge Management in Education, an independent non-profit whose mission is to improve the practice of continuous learning, collaboration, and change in the education sector, and supports innovative teaching and learning practices throughout the globe, and is known for its pioneering open education initiatives.
Reviewer	CTH Link checked January 2019.

Merlot II

Purpose	**MERLOT** is a California State University curated collection of free and open online teaching, learning, and faculty development services contributed and used by an international education community. It has one of the largest known collections of open textbooks in the world, with thousands catalogued by topic, audience, level, license, peer review, etc., many with comments, in bookmark collections, and user ratings. MERLOT community members can take advantage of this resource in a variety of ways. They can: 1) Find an appropriate open textbook and blend it with other MERLOT materials within a MERLOT Personal Collection; 2) Add open textbooks that you have found on the Web, to the MERLOT collection; 3) If you are an open textbook author, use MERLOT to market it by "contributing" it to the MERLOT Open Textbook Collection; 4) Review open textbooks and add "Member Comments" at your convenience; 5) Blend open textbooks with other online learning materials from MERLOT to create a customized course; 6) MERLOT's Bookmark Collections tool lets you organize and annotate a collection of MERLOT resources in a personal way.
Audience	Universities of all kinds & professional. Partners in the MERLOT community include institutions of higher education, corporations, and non-profit groups.
Subjects	Academic support services (6,325), arts (2,867), business (6,806), education (9,005), humanities (8,999), mathematics & statistics (6,774), science & technology (40,316), social sciences (7,490), workforce development (2,269).
Mission	MERLOT was created in 1997 as a repository of shareable online teaching and learning materials for individual members of the education community who wished to incorporate the learning materials in technology-based instruction.
Reviewer	CTH Link checked January 2019

The Global Text Project

Purpose	"We publish open content electronic textbooks that are freely available from this website. We focus on content development and Web distribution, and we will work with relevant authorities to facilitate dissemination by other means when bandwidth is unavailable or inadequate. **The goal is to make textbooks available to the many who cannot afford them."** http://globaltext.terry.uga.edu/home The site and many of the texts are available in English, Spanish, Arabic, or Chinese. Some of the books were developed by graduate students at the University of Georgia.
Audience	education for the developing world
Subjects	Business, Computing, Education, Health, Science, Social Science. Contains some links to other sites plus .pdfs to download.
Mission	[Funded by the Jacobs Foundation.] "Mass education has created tremendous opportunities and wealth for people in developed countries. It has enabled many to escape poverty, albeit a level of poverty that is not comparable to that of many in the developing nations. Mass education for the developing world is dependent among other things on finding low costs means of delivering free quality content to many. We believe we have the means for developing the necessary content and seek support to start an endeavor that can engage many for the benefit of many more." http://globaltext.terry.uga.edu/vision "joint project of the Terry College of Business of the University of Georgia and The Daniels College of Business of the University of Denver." http://globaltext.terry.uga.edu/news_faqs
Reviewer	JC & LM Link not working as of January 2019 Try this instead, https://alison.com/

Lumen Pressbooks   https://courses.candelalearning.com/catalog/lumen

Purpose	Contains full e-textbooks for college level courses, primarily for "high-enrollment college courses," made up of "curated open content**." There are three products; each has a cost per student (approx. $25)**
Audience	College
Subjects	Accounting, art, biology, business, chemistry, communications, earth science, economics, English, geography, history, mathematics, music, physical education, physics, psychology, sociology, technology, transitional (developmental) studies
Mission	Not stated, but may include a mission to market Lumen OER courses, which are contracted for at the university level.
Reviewer	LM Link checked Jan. 2019

Springer Open Books

http://www.doabooks.org/doab?func=publisher&pId=1161&uiLanguage=en

Directory of Open Access Books. Link updated Feb 2017.

Purpose	Peer-reviewed. "In August 2012, due to the growing demand for open access and the success of our SpringerOpen journals, we expanded our offering to open access books." http://www.springeropen.com/about
Audience	College & professional
Subjects	science, technology and medicine (STM) and within humanities and social science
Mission	"Our business is publishing. Throughout the world, we provide scientific and professional communities with superior specialist information – produced by authors and colleagues across cultures in a nurtured collegial atmosphere of which we are justifiably proud. We foster communication among our customers – researchers, students and professionals – enabling them to work more efficiently, thereby advancing knowledge and learning. Our dynamic growth allows us to invest continually all over the world." http://www.springer.com/us/about-springer
Reviewer	JC Link checked Jan. 2019

Everyone

TheOrangeGrove

https://florida.theorangegrove.org/og/hierarchy.do?topic=8dff349b-9c2f-07d0-f24b-5d854bbc4812 Browse Higher Education resources. Link updated Feb. 2017.

Strengths: Thoughtful organization, categories depending on audience, variety of content, including 3D printing models.

Purpose	"Florida's Open Educational Resource Repository"
Audience	Higher ed, K-12, general public
Subjects	[Higher Ed. resources] Business & Consumer Science, Communication & Information, Education, Engineering & technology, Health Science, Humanities, Mathematics, Professional, Career & technical, Science, Social Science, Visual & Performing Arts
Mission	"The Orange Grove repository is Florida's digital repository for instructional resources. The repository provides an environment for educators to search for, use, remix, share, and contribute educational resources. The repository can also be integrated with your Learning Management Systems (e.g. Canvas, Blackboard, Desire 2 Learn). Discover, contribute, and import repository resources directly from your LMS." https://www.floridashines.org/orange-grove
Reviewer	JC Link checked Jan. 2019

Openstax CNX   http://cnx.org

Why I like it: Clearly organized, robust search function (though it's a bit slow). The use of both books and pages makes it easier to find supplemental material withouth going through a pre-written course.

Purpose	Provides "provide authors and learners with an open space where they can share and freely adapt educational materials such as courses, books, and reports." Includes learning objects ("pages"), reports, and e-texts. Users can share, create, or adapt content.
Audience	Everyone
Subjects	Arts, business, humanities, mathematics & statistics, science & technology, social sciences.
Mission	"OpenStax believes that everyone has something to learn, and everyone has something to teach." http://cnx.org/about
Reviewer	LM Link checked Jan. 2019

Open Culture

http://www.openculture.com/free_textbooks

Purpose	"The best free cultural & educational media on the web"
Subjects	**200 free textbooks**. Alphabetical listing of subjects, followed by links to an eTextbook. Author, author's institution, and grade-level may be noted. Art History, Biology, Business & Management, Chemistry, Classics, Computer Science & Information Systems, Earth Science, Economics & Finance, Education, Electrical Engineering, Engineering, History, Languages, Law, Linguistics, Mathematics, Music, Philosophy, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, System Theory. Plus: **free ebooks, audio books**, movies, language lessons, MOOCs, and more
Mission	"Open Culture brings together high-quality cultural & educational media for the worldwide lifelong learning community. Web 2.0 has given us great amounts of intelligent audio and video. It's all free. It's all enriching. But it's also scattered across the web, and not easy to find. Our whole mission is to centralize this content, curate it, and give you access to this high quality content whenever and wherever you want it." http://www.openculture.com/faq
Reviewer	JC Link checked Jan. 2019

Saylor Academy

http://www.saylor.org   Explore Courses.

Purpose	Offers full-length, self-paced courses created from OER resources. Some of them can be taken for college credit. http://www.saylor.org/about/
Audience	Everyone. The courses are "at the college and professional levels." http://www.saylor.org/about/
Subjects	Art history, biology, business administration, chemistry, communication, computer science, economics, English, history, mathematics, philosophy, physics, political science, professional development, psychology, sociology, study skills
Mission	"Saylor Academy's mission is to open education to all." http://www.saylor.org/about/
Reviewer	LM Link checked Jan. 2019.

Khan Academy https://www.khanacademy.org/about

Purpose	"No ads, no subscriptions. We are a not-for-profit because we believe in a free, world-class education for anyone, anywhere. We rely on our community of thousands of volunteers and donors. Learn more about getting involved today."
Audience	"Everyone"
Subjects	Math, Math K-8th grade, Science & Engineering, Computing, Arts & Humanities, Economics & Finance, Test Prep Contains videos plus Q&A from users.
Mission	"Khan Academy offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom. We tackle math, science, computer programming, history, art history, economics, and more. Our math missions guide learners from kindergarten to calculus using state-of-the-art, adaptive technology that identifies strengths and learning gaps. We've also partnered with institutions like NASA, The Museum of Modern Art, The California Academy of Sciences, and MIT to offer specialized content." https://www.khanacademy.org/about
Reviewer	JC Link checked Jan. 2019.

Project Gutenberg http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Category:Bookshelf

Purpose	"Project Gutenberg offers over 55,000 free ebooks: choose among free epub books, free kindle books, download them or read them online. We carry high quality ebooks: Most Project Gutenberg ebooks were previously published by bona fide publishers. We digitized and diligently proofread them with the help of thousands of volunteers. No fee or registration is required….. Our ebooks may be freely used in the United States because most are not protected by U.S. copyright law, usually because their copyrights have expired. …. We also have a number of copyrighted titles, for which the copyright holder has given permission for unlimited non-commercial worldwide use."
Subjects	**Bookshelves (categories):** Animal, Children's, Classics, Countries, Crime, Education, Fiction, Fine arts, General works, Geography, History, Language & Literature, Law, Music, Periodicals, Psychology, Philosophy, Religion, Science, Social Sciences, Technology, Wars.
Mission	"Project Gutenberg was the first provider of free electronic books, or eBooks. Michael Hart, founder of Project Gutenberg, invented eBooks in 1971 and his memory continues to inspire the creation of eBooks and related technologies today." http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Gutenberg:About
Reviewer	JC Link checked Jan. 2019.

Wikibooks   https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Main_Page

Purpose	"the open-content textbooks collection that anyone can edit." "Textbooks, manuals, and other instructional texts… **historical works** that are no longer under copyright should **not** be posted to Wikibooks" https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Using_Wikibooks/What_Is_Wikibooks
Audience	"Wikibooks is for textbooks, annotated texts, instructional guides, and manuals. These materials can be used in a traditional classroom, an accredited or respected institution, a home-school environment, as part of a Wikiversity course, or for self-learning." https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Wikibooks:What_is_Wikibooks
Subjects	[2,866 books with 55,308 pages] Computing, Engineering, Humanities, Languages, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, Standard Curricula, Misc. Other wiki projects: Cookbook, Wikijunior (birth-12-years, non-fiction)
Mission	"Wikibooks is a collaborative book authoring website, where users from all over the world work together to write textbooks and other types of instructional books on many topics. It is a Wikimedia project, operated by the same group of people who run Wikipedia, the Wikimedia Foundation. You can edit this page, and almost all pages like it, at any time. That is the basic principle of Wikibooks: anyone can edit it." https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Using_Wikibooks/What_Is_Wikibooks
Reviewer	JC Link checked Jan. 2019.

Curriki

https://www.curriki.org/browse-resource-library

Purpose	"Curriki recommends these curated collections of OERs that have been carefully curated..."
Audience	K-12 (teachers & home schooling parents)
Subjects	Social studies, mathematics, Science, Science & Culture, Computer Science, English Language Arts, Study Skills, Languages (Spanish-only)
Mission	"Curriki's mission is to eliminate the Education Divide – the gap between those who have access to high-quality education and those who do not – in the U.S. and worldwide. It's online community of educators, learners and committed education experts works together to build and share quality materials that benefit teachers, parents and students globally." http://www.curriki.org/about-curriki/
Reviewer	JC Link updated Jan. 2019.