

Exploring the Effects of Open Textbooks at TRU

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Student Survey

Completing this survey will take approximately 20 minutes.

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to explore the effects of Open Textbook adoption in relation to student costs; learning outcomes; resource use; and faculty, administrator, and student perceptions of open and traditional resources.

Voluntary Participation

Your participation in this research project is completely voluntary. All questions in the online survey are optional and you may withdraw from the research study at any time by closing your browser. Clicking “Yes” below indicates that you have read and understood this form and consent to participate in this research. You should ask the principal investigator listed below any questions you may have about this research study. You may ask him questions in the future if you do not understand something that is being done. Consenting to participate in this research project does not waive your rights to legal recourse in the event of research related harm.

Principal Investigator

Colin Madland (M.Ed.), Thompson Rivers University

Risks

There are no known risks associated with participating in this research project.

Benefits

The study will help us build a picture of how instructors at TRU use open educational resources for learning and teaching. The research data will help educators around the world make more informed decisions about the adoption of open textbooks and other open educational resources and support increased adoption and adaptation of open resources to reduce student costs and improve learning outcomes.

Compensation

There is no compensation offered in exchange for your participation in this study.

Confidentiality

By answering the survey questions, you are granting the researcher use of your data for research and dissemination purposes. Although you are not asked to provide your name, in some cases your answers to a few demographic questions about your academic background and your role at TRU could indirectly identify you.

Please note, however, that you may choose not to answer these questions and that all of the questions in this survey are optional.

The results of this study may be presented at conferences and published in academic journals; however only group averages and trends will be reported. The raw data collected during this study will be stored securely (using password protected and encrypted data files) and accessible only to the researcher. Anonymized data will be made available under an open license to enable further analysis by other researchers.

At this time there is no plan to destroy the data as it may be used for future analyses, including investigations of changes over time in attitudes towards open textbooks and other open educational resources.

Our data protection policy complies with British Columbia's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Contact Information

If you want to talk to anyone about this research study because you think you have not been treated fairly or think you have been hurt by joining the study, or if you have any other questions about the study, you should the principal investigator, Mr. Colin Madland, at 250-852-6810 or cmadland@tru.ca or the Chair of the Research Ethics Board at 250-828-5000 or tru-reb@tru.ca.

Informed Consent

Do you consent to having your responses included in this research project?

Yes

No

Demographics

Which course are you currently taking?

Please choose one.

- ☐ Sociology 1111 (Open Learning)
- ☐ Sociology 1110 (Campus)
- ☐ History 1111 (Open Learning)
- ☐ History 1110 (Campus)
- ☐ Psychology 2111 (Open Learning)
- ☐ Psychology 2110 (Campus)
- ☐ Other, please specify...

What is your highest educational qualification?

- ☐ High School Diploma
- ☐ Attended College
- ☐ Associates Degree (Two Year)
- ☐ Bachelors Degree
- ☐ Masters Degree

☐ PhD or Professional Doctorate

☐ No Formal Qualification

☐ Other, please
specify...

Type here

Which category describes you best as a student?

Please check all that apply.

☐ Full-time on-campus

☐ Part-time on-campus

☐ Full-time open learning

☐ Part-time open learning

☐ Full-time blended (on-campus and open learning)

☐ Part-time blended (on-campus and open learning)

☐ Other, please
specify...

Type here

How many courses have you completed at TRU, including Open Learning courses.

☐ 0-5

☐ 6-10

☐ 11-15

☐ 16-20

☐ 21-25

☐ 26-30

☐ 31-35

☐ 36-40

Have you received any student loans to fund your education?

Yes

No

What types of loans have you received?

Please choose all that apply.

- ☐ Federal or provincial student loans.
- ☐ Bank or credit union loans or lines of credit.
- ☐ Loans from family.
- ☐ Other, please specify...

Type here

Have you received any non-repayable grants or scholarships to fund your education?

Yes

No

What types of non-repayable funding have you received?

Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Federal or provincial grants.
- ☐ BC Passport to Education, or similar.
- ☐ TRU scholarship.
- ☐ Other, please specify...

Type here

What is your cumulative college Grade Point Average (GPA) at TRU, including Open Learning?

- ☐ 0.0 - 1.66
- ☐ 1.67 - 1.99
- ☐ 2.0 - 2.66
- ☐ 2.67 - 3.66
- ☐ 3.67 - 4.33
- ☐ This is my first term

In general, how often do you purchase the required textbooks for the courses you take?

- ☐ Never
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ About Half the Time
- ☐ Often
- ☐ Always

How much do you typically spend on textbooks each semester?

- ☐ Less than \$100

- ☐ \$101 - \$200
- ☐ \$201 - \$300
- ☐ \$301 - \$400
- ☐ \$401 - \$500
- ☐ \$501 - \$600
- ☐ \$601 - \$700
- ☐ More than \$700

On average, how many courses do you take each semester, including required labs or seminars?

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6
- ☐ 7
- ☐ 8
- ☐ More than 8

For a typical course, how often do you use the required texts?

- ☐ Never
- ☐ 2-3 Times a Semester
- ☐ 2-3 Times a Month
- ☐ 2-3 Times a Week
- ☐ Daily

Some of the questions that follow refer to "this course." In these questions, I am referring to the course taught by the instructor who sent you the link to this survey.

Did you spend any money on textbooks for this course?

Yes

No

How much did you spend on textbooks for this course?

- ☐ Less than \$20
- ☐ \$21 - \$40
- ☐ \$41 - \$60
- ☐ \$61 - \$80
- ☐ \$81 - \$100
- ☐ \$101 - \$120
- ☐ \$121 - \$140
- ☐ \$141 - \$160
- ☐ \$161 - \$180
- ☐ \$181 - \$200
- ☐ More than \$200
- ☐ This is an Open Learning course and the textbook was included in the cost of registration.

Why did you NOT spend any money on textbooks for this course?

- ☐ The texts were online and free.
- ☐ I borrowed someone else's texts.
- ☐ I used library copies.
- ☐ I couldn't afford to purchase the texts.
- ☐ The texts were sold out.
- ☐ I rented the texts.
- ☐ Other, please specify...

Type here

How often did you use the textbook for this course during the semester?

- ☐ Never
- ☐ 2-3 Times a Semester
- ☐ 2-3 Times a Month
- ☐ 2-3 Times a Week
- ☐ Daily

In relation to textbooks used in other courses, how would you rate the quality of the textbook used for this course?

- ☐ Much Better
- ☐ Somewhat Better
- ☐ About the Same
- ☐ Somewhat Worse
- ☐ Much Worse

Please provide evidence, or tell us more about any experience, which supports your response regarding the quality of the textbook used for this course..

Type here

Your use of Open Educational Resources (OER).

Open Educational Resources are teaching, learning or research materials that are in the public domain or released with an intellectual property license that allows for free use, adaptation, and distribution.

Open educational resources can be in many formats, including open textbooks, complete courses and small assets such as videos. Many free online resources are open educational resources.

In which of these ways, if any, have you used or created Open Educational Resources?

Please select all that apply.

- ☐ I have used open educational resources.
- ☐ I have adapted open educational resources to fit my needs.
- ☐ I have created open educational resources for study or teaching.
- ☐ I have created resources myself and published them on an open licence.
- ☐ I have added a resource to a repository.
- ☐ I have added comments to a repository regarding the quality of a resource.
- ☐ I have added comments to a repository suggesting ways of using a resource.
- ☐ I have not used or created open educational resources.
- ☐ Other, please specify...

Type here

Which, if any, of the following types of open educational resources have you used for learning?

Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Open textbooks
- ☐ Whole course
- ☐ Elements of a course (e.g. a module/unit)
- ☐ Videos
- ☐ Audio podcasts
- ☐ Images
- ☐ Infographics
- ☐ Interactive games
- ☐ Lectures
- ☐ Lesson plans
- ☐ Tutorials
- ☐ Quizzes
- ☐ Ebooks
- ☐ Data sets
- ☐ Learning tools, instruments and plugins
- ☐ Other, please specify...

Type here

Have you used, or are you using, BCcampus Open Textbooks for a course at TRU or Open Learning?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you are aware of BCcampus Open Textbooks, how did you learn about them?

Type here

Your Experience with Open Education Resources

For which of the following purposes have you used open educational resources in the context of studying at TRU or Open Learning?

- ☐ To prepare for my classes.
- ☐ To get new ideas and inspiration.
- ☐ To supplement the required resources in my class..
- ☐ As "assets" (e.g. images or text extracts) within a project or assignment.
- ☐ They were assigned as compulsory self-study materials.
- ☐ They were recommended as optional self-study materials.
- ☐ To learn about a new topic.
- ☐ To engage more fully in a topic area.
- ☐ To connect with instructors or learners who have similar interests (e.g. by reading comments they have posted about resources).
- ☐ Other, please specify...

In the context of your role as a student, what has been your experience of using OER at TRU or Open Learning?

Type here

Factors that influence using Open Educational Resources

Which challenges, if any, do you most often face in using open educational resources?

Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Overcoming technology problems when downloading resources.
- ☐ Knowing where to find resources.
- ☐ Finding suitable resources in my subject area.
- ☐ Finding resources of sufficiently high quality.
- ☐ Finding resources that are up-to-date.
- ☐ Finding resources that are relevant to my local context.
- ☐ Getting instructors to accept the use of open educational resources.
- ☐ Not knowing whether I have permission to use, change or modify resources.
- ☐ Not having enough time to look for suitable resources.
- ☐ Not having connections with open educational resource-using peers who could be a source of support.
- ☐ Missing/needing the support of a tutor or instructor to help me work through open course materials.
- ☐ Other, please specify...

Type here

Teaching with Open Educational Resources

Based on your experiences as a student, to what extent do you agree with the following statements? "Use of Open Educational Resources in the classroom..."

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable (I've never used OER for a course)
Increases my participation in class discussions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increases my interest in the subjects taught	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increases my satisfaction with the learning experience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Leads to improved grades	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Builds my confidence as a learner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Leads to increased independence and self- reliance as a learner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allows me to better accommodate my own learning needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increases my engagement with lesson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

content

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable (I've never used OER for a course)
Increases my experimentation with new ways of learning	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Increases collaboration and/or peer-support among learners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Increases my enthusiasm for future study	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Leads to me becoming interested in a wider range of subjects than before I used OER	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Please provide evidence, or tell us more about any experience, which supports your responses to the previous question's statements.

Type here

Based on your experiences as a student, how would you rate the quality of OER when compared with traditional, proprietary materials?

"The quality of OER when compared with traditional, proprietary materials is

usually..."

- ☐ Much Better
- ☐ Somewhat Better
- ☐ About the Same
- ☐ Somewhat Worse
- ☐ Much Worse

Please provide evidence, or tell us more about any experience, which supports your responses to the previous question's statements.

Type here

Open Licensing

"A license is a document that specifies what can and cannot be done with a work (whether sound, text, image or multimedia). It grants permissions and states restrictions. Broadly speaking, an open license is one which grants permission to access, reuse and redistribute a work with few or no restrictions."

Open Definition (<http://opendefinition.org/guide/>)



Do you recognise the logo above?

- ☐ I've never seen it
- ☐ I've seen it but I don't know what it means
- ☐ I've seen it and I know what it means

How important is open licensing to you as a student?

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Moderately important

☐ Of little importance

☐ Unimportant

About Your Use of Computers and the Internet

In which of these ways, if any, have you accessed the Internet during the past three months?

☐ Via an Internet-enabled mobile phone (smartphone)

☐ Via a tablet computer or iPad

☐ At home using a broadband connection

☐ At home using a dial-up connection

☐ Via a video game console

☐ At work

☐ At an educational institution

☐ At a community facility (e.g. a library)

☐ Via a commercial facility (e.g. cyber cafe)

☐ Other, please
specify...

Type here

Which of these things have you done in the last year?

☐ Sent an email

☐ Written a document using word processing software (e.g. Word)

- ☐ Used presentation software (e.g. Powerpoint)
- ☐ Performed calculations with spreadsheet software (e.g. Excel)
- ☐ Contributed to a Wiki (e.g. Wikipedia)
- ☐ Published a blog post (e.g. Wordpress, Blogger)
- ☐ Shared an image online (e.g. Flickr, Instagram, Pinterest)
- ☐ Posted on a microblogging platform (e.g. Twitter, Tumblr)
- ☐ Took part in a videochat (e.g. Skype)
- ☐ Contributed to an Internet forum
- ☐ Contributed to a social network (e.g. Facebook, Google+, MySpace, Beebo)
- ☐ Used cloud-based storage (e.g. Dropbox, Google Drive)
- ☐ Shopped Online (e.g. eBay, Amazon)
- ☐ Downloaded a Podcast (e.g. iTunes)
- ☐ Downloaded a file using a torrent client (e.g. Bittorrent, UTorrent)
- ☐ Filmed and uploaded video content
- ☐ Used a learning management system to study or teach (e.g. Moodle, Blackboard)
- ☐ Recorded and uploaded a podcast

