

OER Best Practices and Library Q&A

A presentation by Jackson Harper



Caveat Emptor



- My experiences with OER are in a university context
 - OER still applies to other educational contexts!



Image courtesy of [Timothy Vollmer](#) (CC-BY)

Where Are the OER?

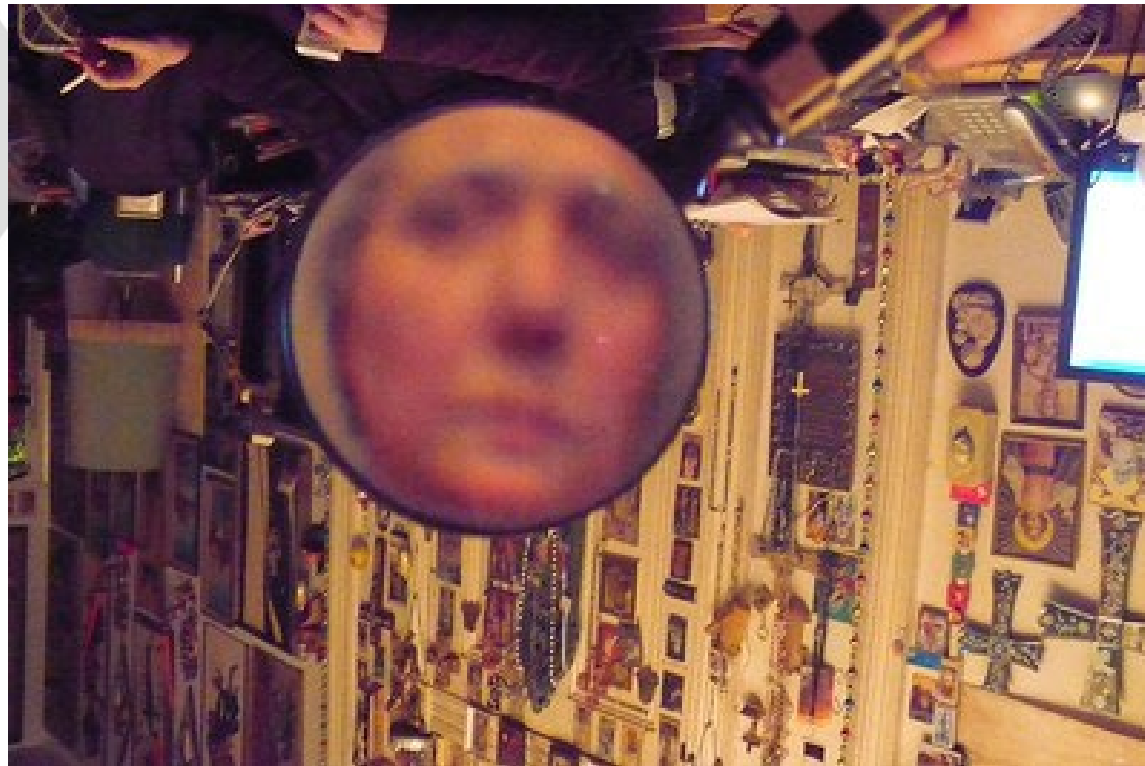
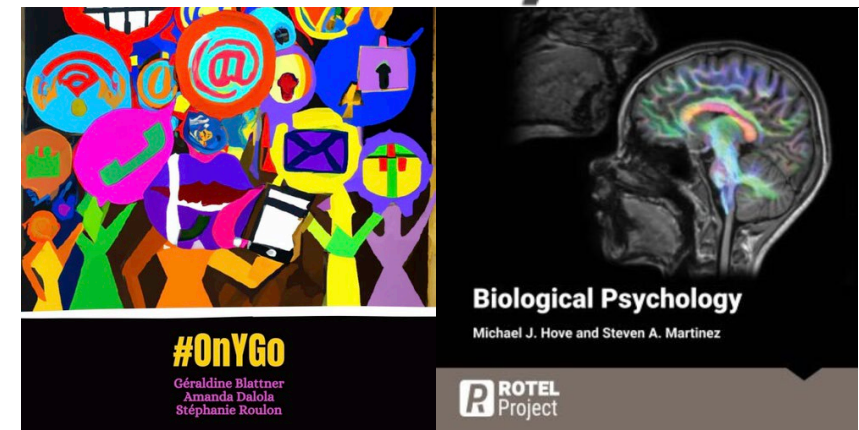


Image courtesy of [A. Currell](#) (CC BY-NC)

Repositories



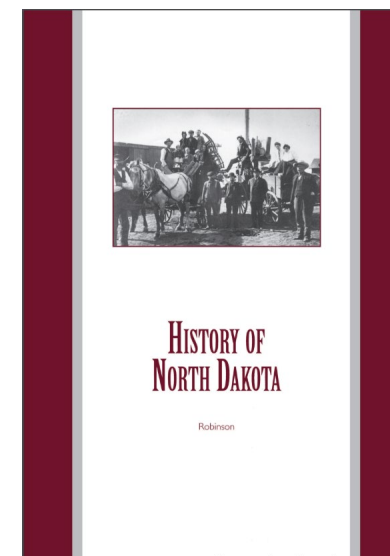
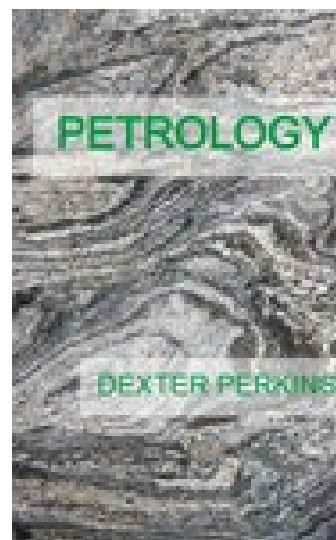
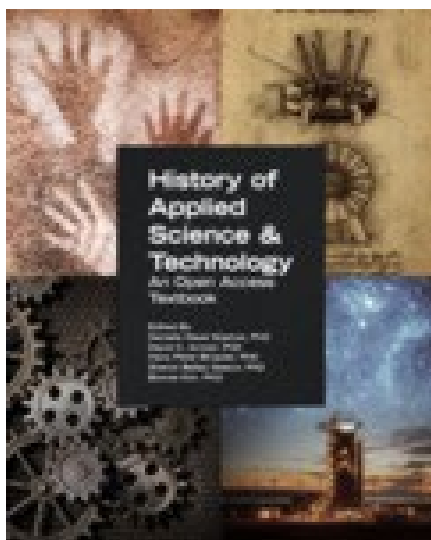
There are websites dedicated to gathering OER course materials



University Collections

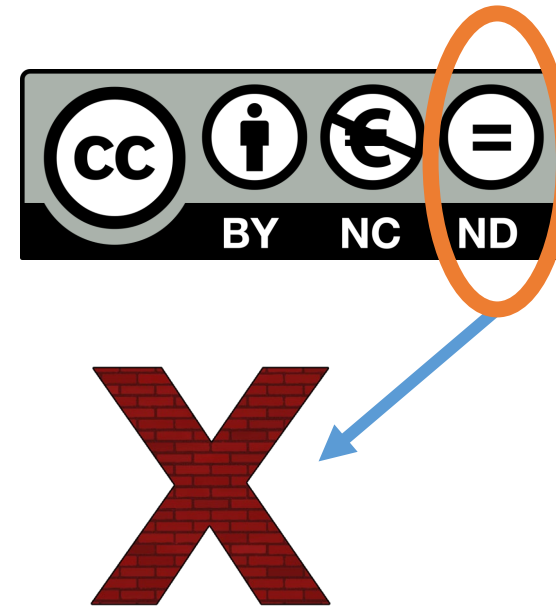
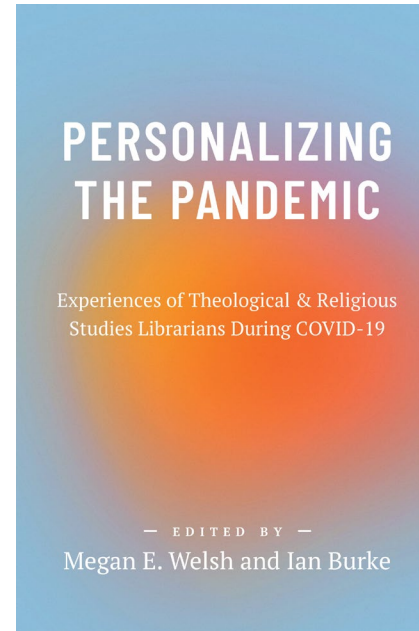


UND UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH DAKOTA.
Scholarly Commons



Open Access and Quasi-OER

- CC-licensed materials outside of OER repositories can still count as OER!
- Free to access \neq OER



- Search multiple repositories at once!

The Mason OER Metafinder (MOM)

Real-time federated search for OER content across 21 resources

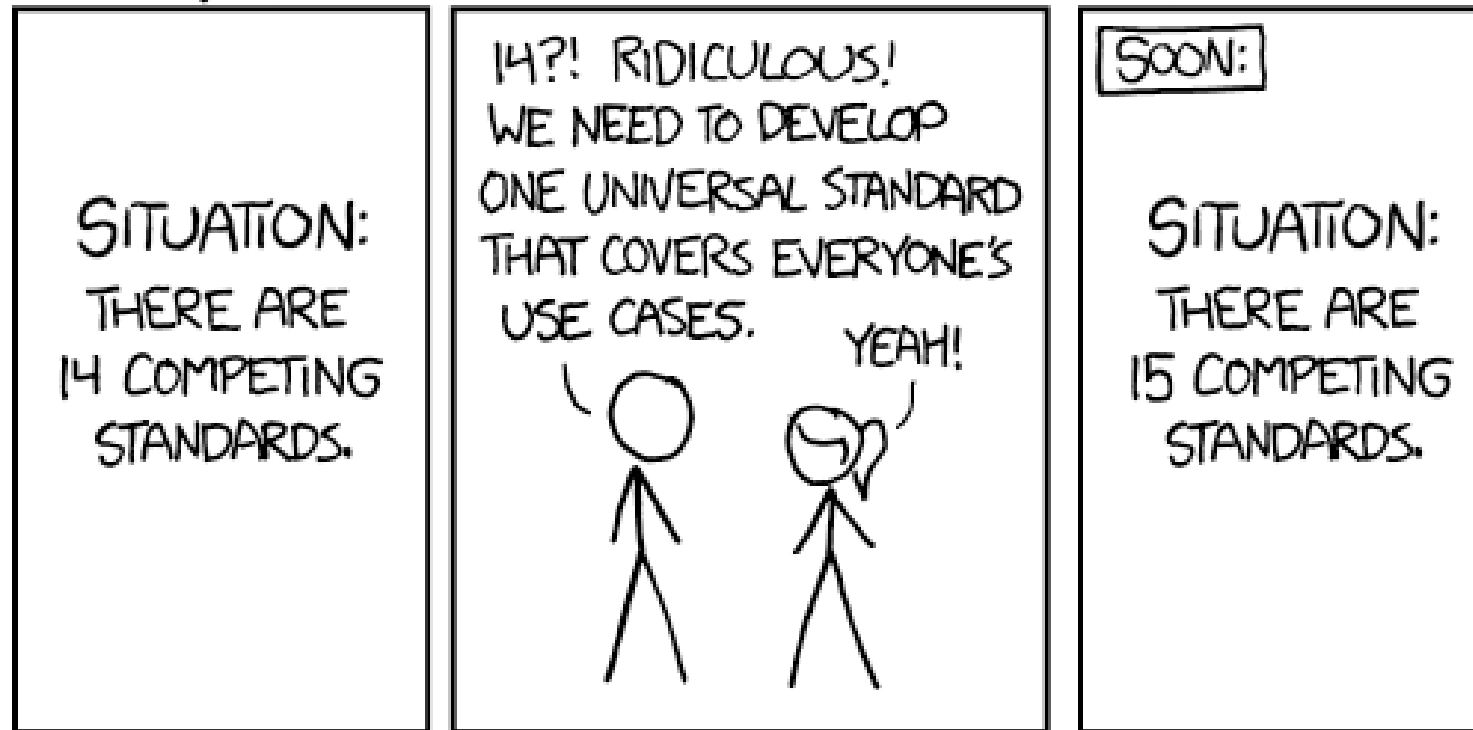
What's an OER? | About the OER Metafinder



Why Isn't There a Main Repository?



HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE:
(SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC.)



Comic courtesy of [Randall Munroe](#) (CC BY-NC)

I Can Help!

(and so can others)



- I have created a [LibGuide](https://libguides.und.edu/oer) at UND with links to many OER
 - <https://libguides.und.edu/oer>
- Other universities have done the same
 - [University of Pittsburgh](#)
 - [Illinois University](#)
 - [Massachusetts Institute of Technology](#)

But That's Not What I Want!, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Remixing



Image courtesy of [Jason](#)
(CC BY-NC)

OER ≠ Free Online Textbooks



- Don't expect to find an OER doppelgänger for your favorite commercial textbook
 - Introductory level OER easier to find than advanced level
 - OER may not have the specific features or organization you like



Image courtesy of [Kelly Verdeck](#) (CC BY-ND)

Affordances of OER



- Retain: You have the right to access, keep, and copy the resource
- Reuse: You yourself can make use of a resource again and again
 - Some CC license terms may restrict the specific contexts in which you can use a resource

I will never let you go.

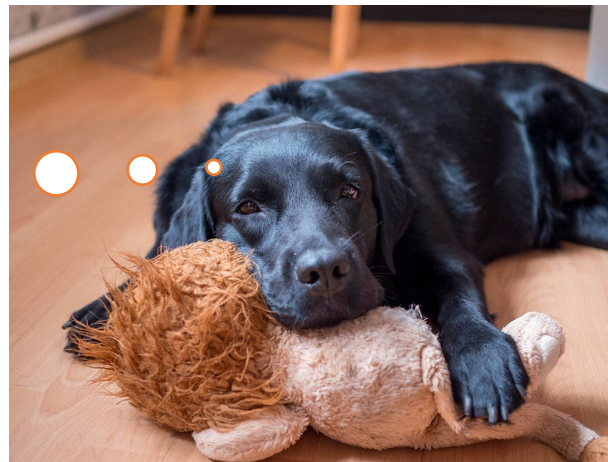


Image courtesy of [Twisted Realm](#) (CC BY)

Affordances of OER



- Revise: You have the right to change the contents of a resource
 - Write new passages, add new images, reorganize chapters!
 - Localize the resource to suit your special circumstances
 - Items with a “no derivatives” CC license are not considered true OER for this reason

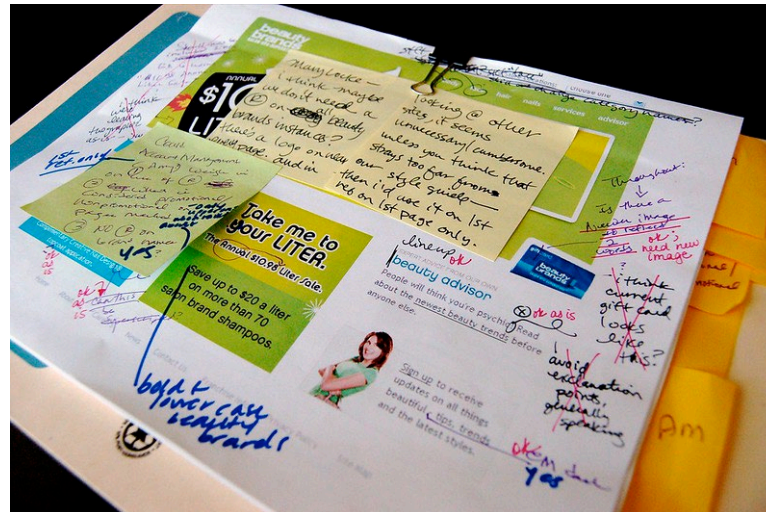


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Affordances of OER



- Remix: You have the right to combine resources into something new and original
 - Create a new(-ish) OER by mixing and matching your favorite bits of existing OER
 - Platforms like LibreTexts have tools that help with remixing



Image courtesy of [Norma](#) (CC BY-NC)

OER Affordances



- Redistribute: You have the right to share copies of a resource in its original, revised, or remixed form
 - Add OER to other repositories
 - It may feel funny to share and reproduce someone else's work, but it's OK with OER

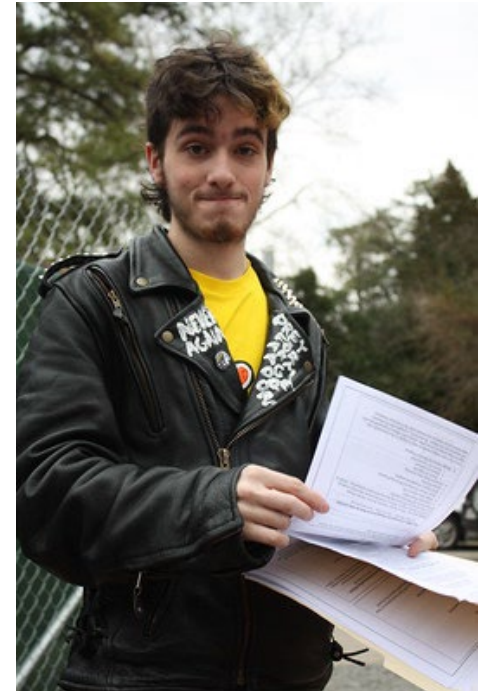


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Inclusive Access:

A Brief Digression



Image courtesy of [Chris Dlugosz](#)
(CC BY)

What's an "Inclusive Access"?



- Automatic textbook billing
 - Students who register for a course are charged directly to their bursar bill for the required materials
 - Students may opt-out of the program before the bill is sent
 - Students have access to the material on the first day of school or earlier
- Provided course material is essentially "rented" and access is lost once the course is over

The Airing of Grievances



- Technical difficulties
- Viability of opt-out windows
- Reduction of consumer options
- Quibbles over actual student savings
- General complaints regarding digital content



Image courtesy of [Xena*best friend* \(Vera\)](#)
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Librarian Q&A Time!!



Image courtesy of [MIKI Yoshihito](#) (CC-BY)