Open Education Week @ Gettysburg College 2018

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Abstract
Textbook costs have skyrocketed, leaving many students unable to afford the latest edition. Open Educational Resources (OER) are available at no cost, so all students can have the materials they need. In addition, OER allow faculty to transform traditional assignments into student-driven digital projects. This poster aims to apprise students of the benefits of Open Education and Open Educational Resources. One section of the poster highlights some of the ways OER are being used at Gettysburg College.

Keywords
Open Education, Open Educational Resources, Renewable Assignments

Disciplines
Library and Information Science | Scholarly Communication

Comments
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Open Education Week
@ Gettysburg College

What is Open Education?
The Open Education (OE) movement works to **remove the barrier of cost in the pursuit of knowledge** so that everyone in the world has access to high-quality educational experiences and resources.

What are Open Educational Resources?
Open educational resources (OER) are **free, digital, easily shared learning materials** that can be modified and enhanced because their creators have given others permission to do so, usually via a Creative Commons license.

What are Open Educational Practices?
Faculty can use OER to **transform traditional assignments** into student-driven digital projects from which future classes can benefit. Courses become platforms for engagement with the world outside the classroom.

“Access to knowledge is the superb, the supreme act of truly great civilizations.” --Toni Morrison

Access
Textbook costs have risen **1.041% since 1970**.[1]

65% of students report not purchasing a textbook because of its high price.[2]

94% of students who did not buy the textbook were concerned it would hurt their grade.[3]

Free books and materials mean all students have the book from Day 1.[4]

OER at GBC
“Using an open textbook has improved my course because it’s a better book that is more accessible and inexpensive, and is thus (I think!) used more by students.”

--Josef Brandauer
Health Sciences

“The anthology that I had been using, which was fairly expensive, came out with a new version, and I didn’t like the choices so much. I saw Janelle Wertzberger and she said ‘have you ever thought about open access?’”

--Ian R. Clarke
English

“By offering an open source text, I am showing that I respect the students, all of the students, and that I am looking out for their concerns.”

--Michael Caldwell
Biology

Renewable Assignments
Instead of **disposable** assignments that will be tossed away at the end of the semester, OER allow for **renewable** assignments that faculty can incorporate into course materials. You might:

- Create a video
- Compile an anthology
- Write an introduction
- Develop discussion questions
- Edit and improve a chapter

To see how others around the world advance OE, see #OEWeek