Open Education Resources

This resource provides a framework to help you evaluate the efficacy, quality, and usefulness of OER content from a variety of sources. Follow the established pathway to consider the various criteria, allowing you to arrive at a decision about the OER content in question.

To evaluate OER content consider the variables of content, learning activity, engagement, feedback, usability, and functionality in a step by step way to arrive at a decision about including or rejecting the OER in your teaching.

Content: Does the OER material relate to the topic, course, or module? Does it have a clear, articulated focus?

Yes — **No**

DISCARD

Learning activity: Does the OER support student learning through information, interactivity, critical thinking, problem solving, or reflection?

Yes — **No**

Engagement: Will it be accessible for your students, or is it too technical? Or is it robust and challenging enough for your students?

Yes — **No**

RECONSIDER
If this component is vital to your instructional needs, discard.
If not, then continue to next component.

Feedback: Does the OER offer integrated opportunity for students to check their learning or does it cover abstract concepts and must be supplemented by other class activities?

Yes — **No**

Reuse: Does the license allow changes/derivative works? Is that required in this instance?

Yes — **No**

CONGRATULATIONS

After reviewing the OER under consideration, you have made a decision that it meets your educational objectives and learner needs.

After this selection, you are ready for integration with your other teaching materials.

Functionality: Does the OER act/behave as a learner would expect? Does the functionality promote or inhibit learning?

Yes — **No**

ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES OER RESOURCES

Broad-Scope Resource

OER Commons:
With a browseable collection, this is an excellent search tool for those newer to OERs. Results may be filtered by object type, subject, education level, and Copyright license.
Website URL: oercommons.org

Oasis:
An OER search tool that covers open content from 98 sources and holds over 350,000 records. Results may be filtered by object type, subject, source, and Copyright license.
Website URL: oasis.geneseo.edu

MIT Open CourseWare: Massachutsetts Institute of Technology:
Web-based publication of virtually all MIT course content, including lecture notes, online textbooks, assignment problems, and video lectures.
Available subtopics for the Social Sciences include Anthropology, Archaeology, Game Theory, Legal Studies, Psychology, Sociology and Urban Studies.
Website URL: https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/

Speciality OER Databases: Arts, Social Sciences

Community Tool Box: University of Kansas
A free. online resource for those working to build healthier communities and bring about social change. Users have access to training modules in which they can learn core competencies of community work. This includes community assessment, communication, strategic planning, leadership, and cultural competence in community building. Additional resources include various toolkits and a database of best practices.
Website URL: https://ctb.ku.edu/en

University of Oxford: Podcasts
Oxford's Open Content allows for reuse, remixing and redistribution for education. Hundreds of courses are presented in the format of podcasts and include the instructor's name, episode title, description of content, and date of recording. Content is browsable by series title, speaker, or departments and colleges.
Website URL: http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/units/social-sciences-division