

# Open Education Resources (OER) and Opportunities



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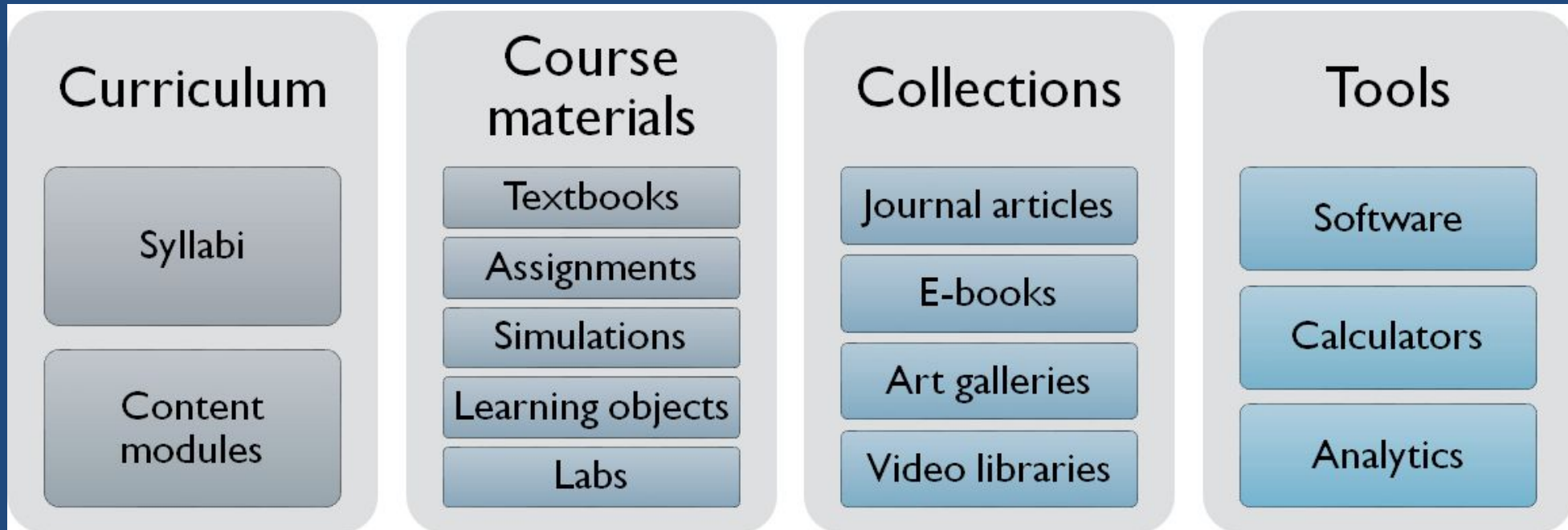
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## We will cover:

- What are OERs (Open Education Resources)?
- Why are OERs important?
- Finding OER: Tools and Repositories
- Using OER in the classroom
- Opportunities in OER

# What exactly is an OER?

An Open Educational Resource is ANY type of material or resource (i.e. image, text, e-book, learning module, lecture slides, etc.) used for teaching, available in the public domain that is free to use and/or alter.



# OER Main Framework

## The 5Rs of Openness:

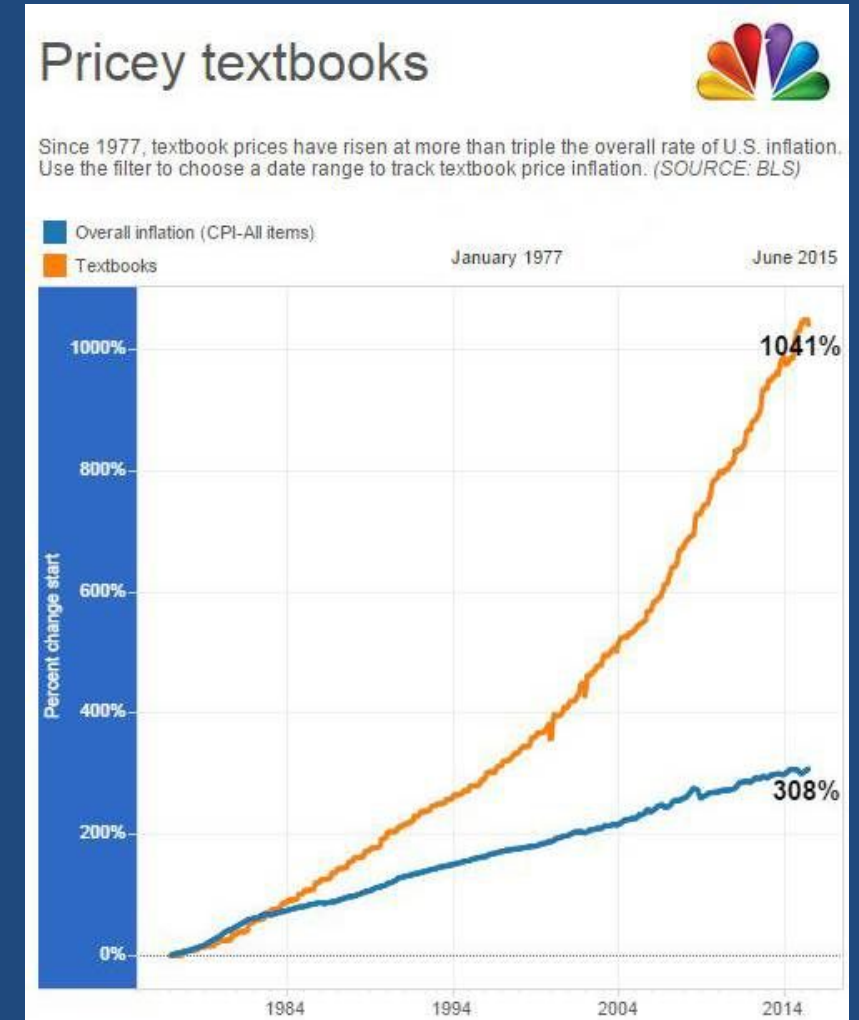
- **RETAIN:** The right to make, own, and control copies of the content
- **REUSE:** The right to use the content in a wide range of ways
- **REVISE:** The right to adapt, adjust, modify, or alter the content itself
- **REMIX:** The right to combine the original or revised content with other open content to create something new
- **REDISTRIBUTE:** the right to share copies of the original content, your revisions, or remixes with others

# Why OER?

Provides NO COST alternative to required text.

Student PIRG 2016 survey of 5,000 students:

- One-third (29.7%) used financial aid
- \$300 average cost per semester on textbooks
- Financial aid = higher price
  - Paid \$34 more for a \$150 textbook
- Withdrawal or class dropping



# Why OER?

- Impact on student learning
  - *Open Praxis* 2015 study (7,500 responses)
    - 62.1% of educators and 60.7% of students agreed that OER increased learning experience
    - Evidence shows that OER benefits student engagement and increases interest in subject
    - Use of multiple/diverse materials benefits student learning & comprehension

# Finding OER: Tools and Repositories

Library Research Guide: <http://uncg.libguides.com/OER>

Textbooks and E-books:

- Open SUNY textbooks: <https://textbooks.opensuny.org/>
- OpenStax: <https://openstax.org/higher-ed>
- Open Textbook Library: <http://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/>

# Finding OER: Tools and Repositories

## Journals & Articles:

- UNCG Hosted Online Journals: List of Open journals: <http://libjournal.uncg.edu/>
- DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals): <https://doaj.org/>
- Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/>

## Mixed Media (Lectures, slides, tutorials)

- OER Commons: <https://www.oercommons.org/>
- Merlot: <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm>
- OpenLearn: <http://www.open.edu/openlearn/>



# Finding OER: Tools and Repositories

Online courses:

- MIT OpenCourseWare: <https://ocw.mit.edu/index.htm>
- Open Yale Courses: <http://oyc.yale.edu/>
- OpenLearn: Free Courses: <http://www.open.edu/openlearn/>
- Open Learning at Harvard: <https://www.extension.harvard.edu/open-learning-initiative>

# Additional Resources

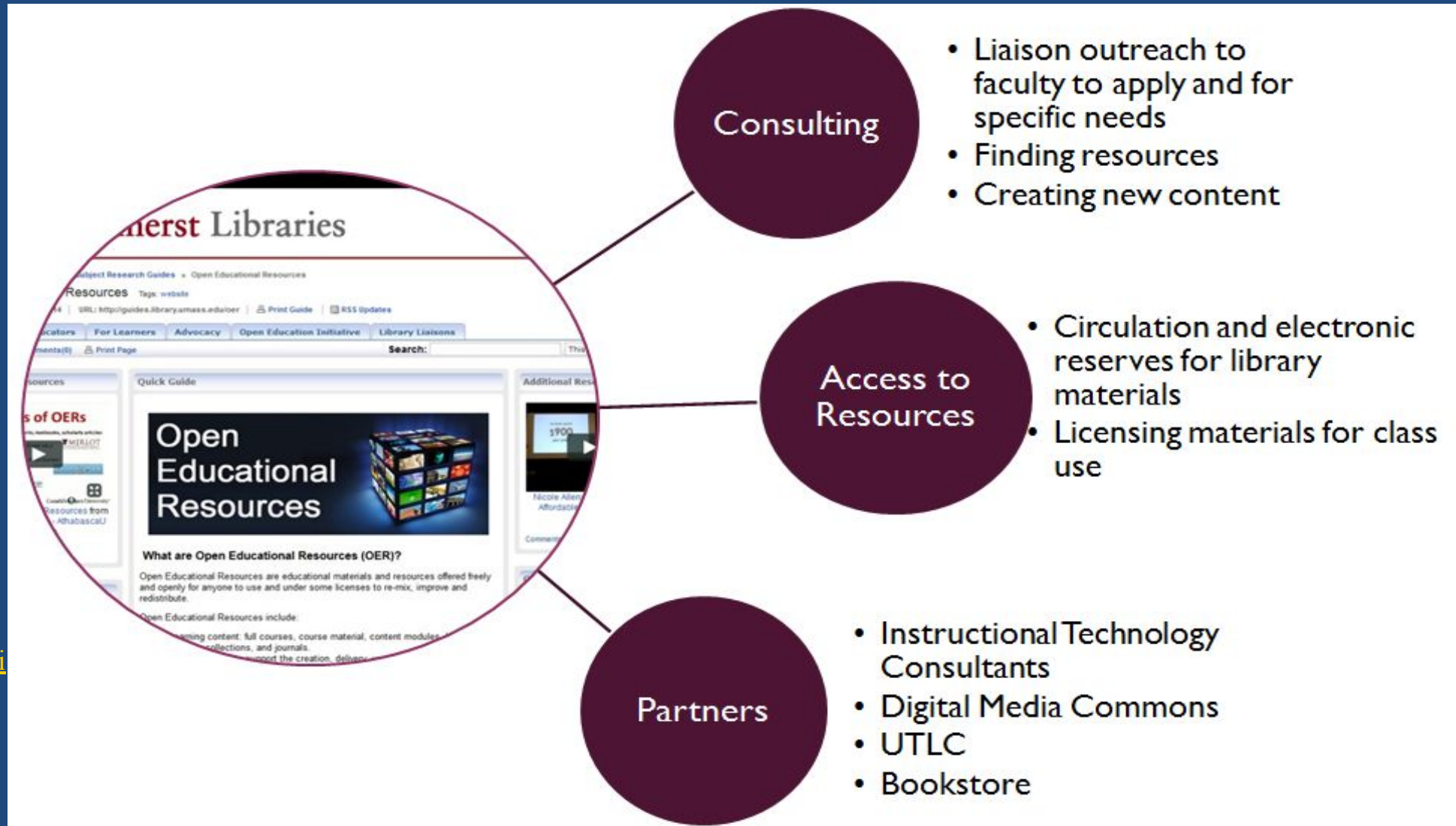
Online Open Digital Content:

- DPLA (Digital Public Library of America): <https://dp.la/>
- The Metropolitan Museum: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection>
- Library of Congress: <https://www.loc.gov/>

# UNCG Library Support: Contact your Subject Librarian or Beth Bernhardt

## Resources for Creating & Designing:

- Merlot Content Builder:  
<https://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm>
- OER Commons:  
<https://www.oercommons.org/>



## Instructional technology consultants can support:

<https://casitc.uncg.edu/>

- Canvas Training
- Designing and Planning for an Effective Online Course
- Accessibility Requirements for Online Courses
- Flipping Your Classroom

See what they can offer: <https://sway.com/wveTTMRIxrxQfjuJ>

## OER Success Stories:

### Art History class:

- Professor combined images from ArtStor with Khan Academy materials
- Professor used an openly available website - Art & Life in Africa

### Counseling Education and Development class:

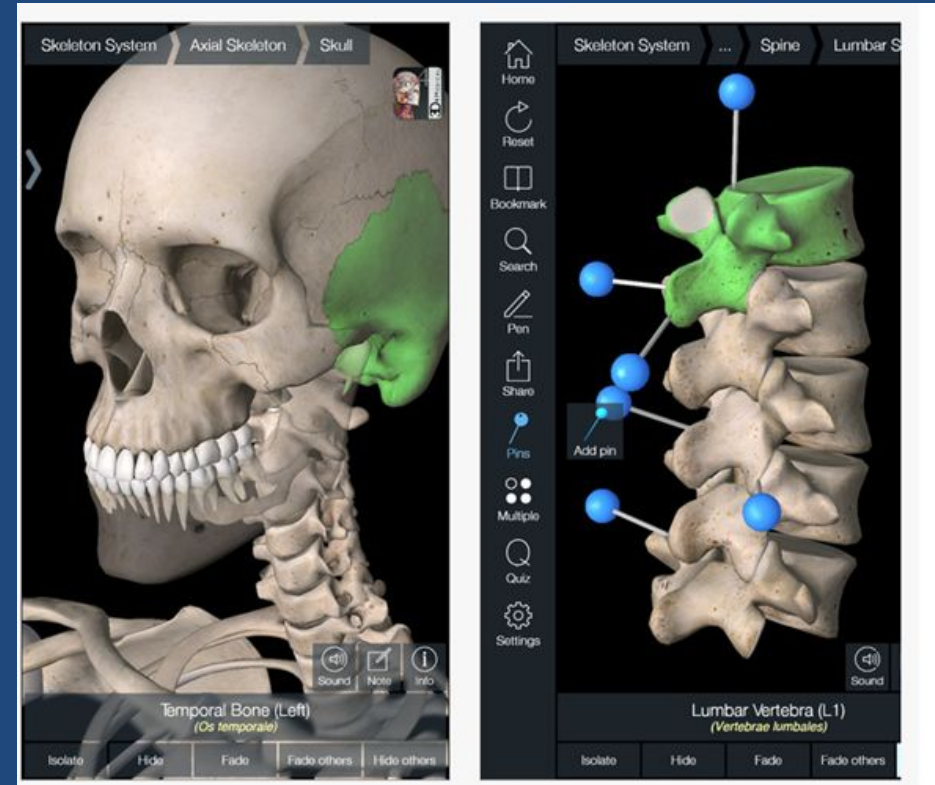
- Collaborated with Library Digital Media Commons to create videos.
- Uploaded videos to Canvas for students

# OER Success Stories

Anthropology class:

-Example from Dr. Bob Anemone

Used a free application, Essential Skeleton 4



# Words from Faculty and Students:

“The resources I found are better than the textbook” –Jennifer Reich, Associate Director / Lecturer

“When I told my class there would be no required textbook they all clapped and cheered!” - Heather Helms – Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

“I truly appreciated the resources over a traditional textbook. I connected more with the resources and it was less expensive.” (student)

“I believe that this method of teaching is great, and I have learned just as much as I would using a textbook.” (student)

“I think that the financial burden of textbooks is one that is sometimes unavoidable ...I am very thankful for the instructor working so hard to ease the students of this burden.” (student)

“I thoroughly enjoyed this course and even more so because there was no ridiculously expensive textbook to buy!” (student)

# Upcoming OER Opportunities:

➤ Textbook Affordability Mini Grants (Funded by the Provost's Office and University Libraries)

-Deadline: March 9th, 2018 - Application <https://tinyurl.com/UNCGminigrant>

- Encourages creation of new teaching materials
- Uses library subscription materials
- Uses existing Open information resources to support student learning

➤ OER faculty workshops Jackson Library room 177A

-Dates: Feb 13th and 14th, 2018



# Open Textbook Network Publishing Cooperative



**Open Textbook  
Network**

- UNCG has joined this cooperative to provide 2 stipends for faculty to create an open textbook.
- Keep an eye out for an announcement in the Spring of 2018.

# Questions?

## Contact

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OR

Jenay Solomon ([jmsolom2@uncg.edu](mailto:jmsolom2@uncg.edu))



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