

The background of the slide is a blurred image of a library with tall bookshelves filled with books. Overlaid on this background are numerous white, hand-drawn style icons representing various educational fields: mathematics (plus, minus, multiplication, division, percent, infinity, pi, sigma, lambda, x, y, z, a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9), science (flask, microscope, magnifying glass, test tube, beaker, atom, DNA helix, lightbulb, gear, compass, ruler, pencil, eraser, paper airplane, rocket, car, boat, plane, train, bus, truck, ship, submarine, helicopter, airplane, car, boat, plane, train, bus, truck, ship, submarine, helicopter), and general education (book, graduation cap, diploma, certificate, award, trophy, medal, star, heart, brain, eye, ear, nose, mouth, tongue, throat, stomach, intestines, liver, lungs, heart, kidneys, bladder, prostate, uterus, vagina, penis, testis, ovary, fallopian tube, uterus, vagina, penis, testis, ovary, fallopian tube).

Using Open Educational Resources in the Classroom: What They Are, How to Find Them, How to Use Them

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Callen Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning

Session Overview

- Defining OER vs Affordable Learning
- Context – Equity, access, academic freedom
- Why OER now?
- Larger umbrella of Open Educational Practices (OEP)
- Logistics – Finding and using OER
- Strategizing – Brainstorming your current needs



Open Educational Resources

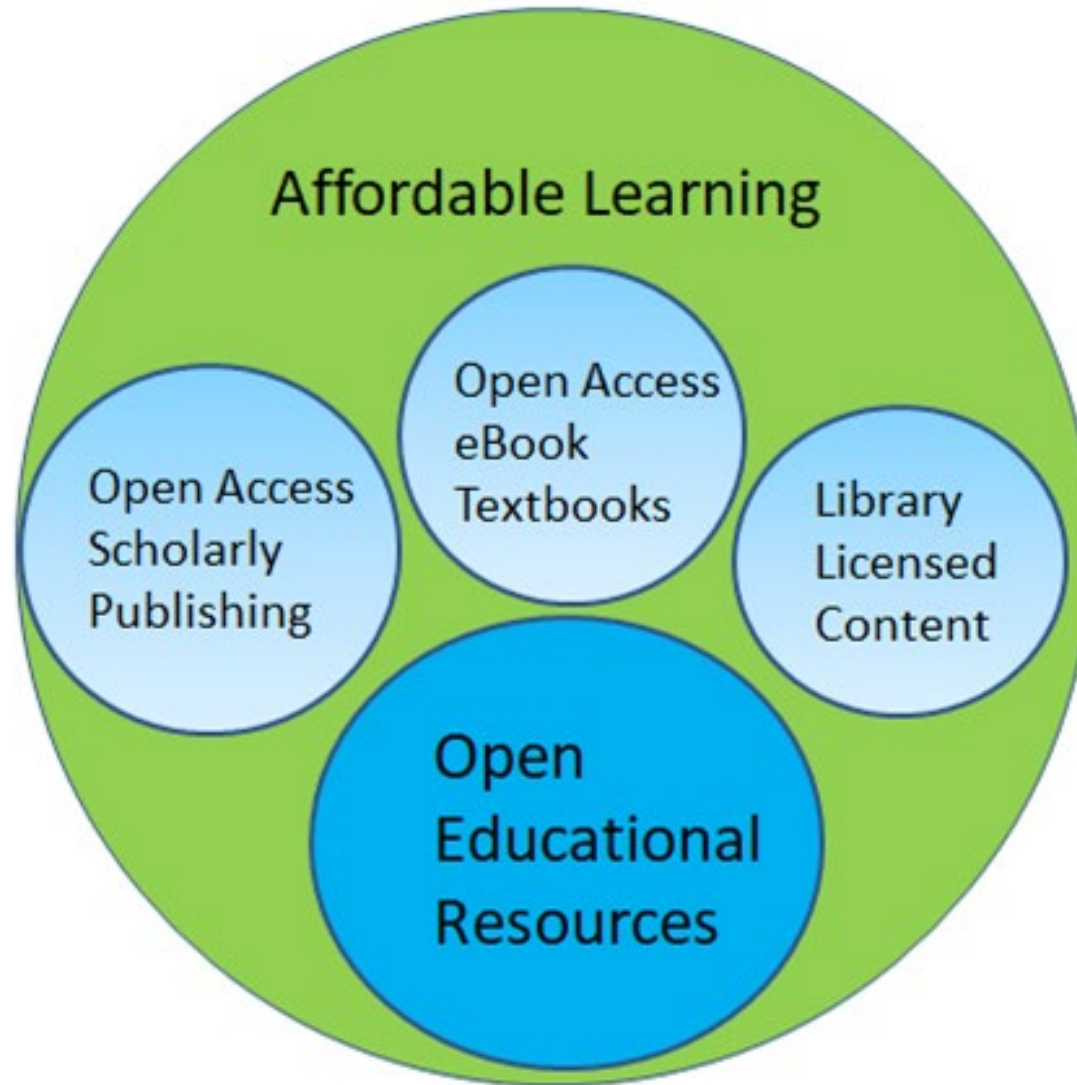


“Open Educational Resources (OER) are learning, teaching and research materials in any format and medium that reside in the public domain or are under copyright that have been released under an open license, that permit no-cost access, re-use, re-purpose, adaptation and redistribution by others.”

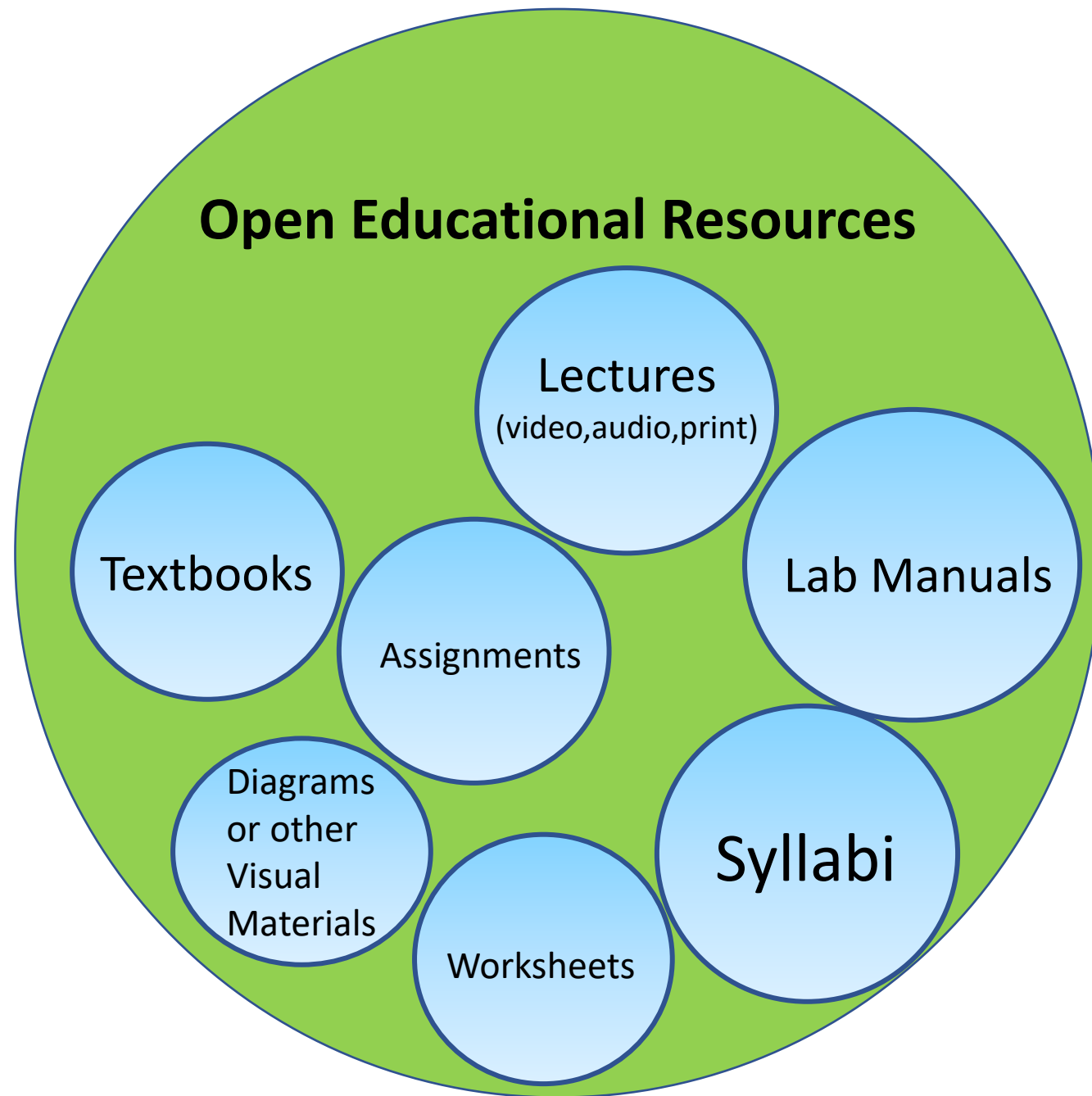
(United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), 2019)

Affordable Learning (Larger Umbrella)

- Affordable course content describes any free, low-cost, or openly licensed educational resources.
- Typically, no more than \$50 in total for course materials.
- Affordable course content includes textbooks, digital courseware, course modules, videos, journal articles, and any other learning materials.
- **Most** affordable course content still retains traditional copyright licensing, including restrictions on how a resource can be used/shared.
- **The exception is OER**, which are free of cost and most copyright restrictions, allowing them to be freely used, revised, saved, and distributed.



Affordable Learning \geq Open Access, Library Licensed Materials, and OER



Defining Feature = Open License

What an “Open License” Means:

Use For Free and Without Requesting Permission



RETAIN

keep forever



REUSE

**use for your own
purposes**



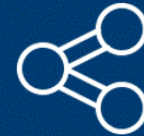
REVISE

adapt or modify



REMIX

**combine with
other resources**



REDISTRIBUTE

share with others

Image Source: "[The 5 Rs of OER](#)" is a derivative of the [5 R Permissions of OER](#) by [Lumen Learning](#), licensed under [CC BY 4.0](#).



Context:

Why OER?
Why now?

- **Textbook cost :**
 - College textbook prices have more than doubled in the last two decades (Consumer Price Index, 2021)
 - New realities w/inflation and student financial challenges
- **Accessibility:**
 - Online vs print
 - One time access vs. perpetual access
- **Inclusion:**
 - Awareness of need for diverse voices/perspectives
 - Because OER are adaptable – can be made to be more inclusive of experiences relevant to our students.
- **Academic Freedom:**
 - Frustration with traditional textbook publishing
 - Wanting flexibility that OER offers
- **Student engagement:**
 - Changes in student learning
 - COVID impact
 - Strong evidence the use of OER can significantly increase course completion rates while maintaining learning performance. (Clinton & Khan, 2019)

How are SC college students coping with textbook costs?

82%

Did not purchase some or all required materials

31%

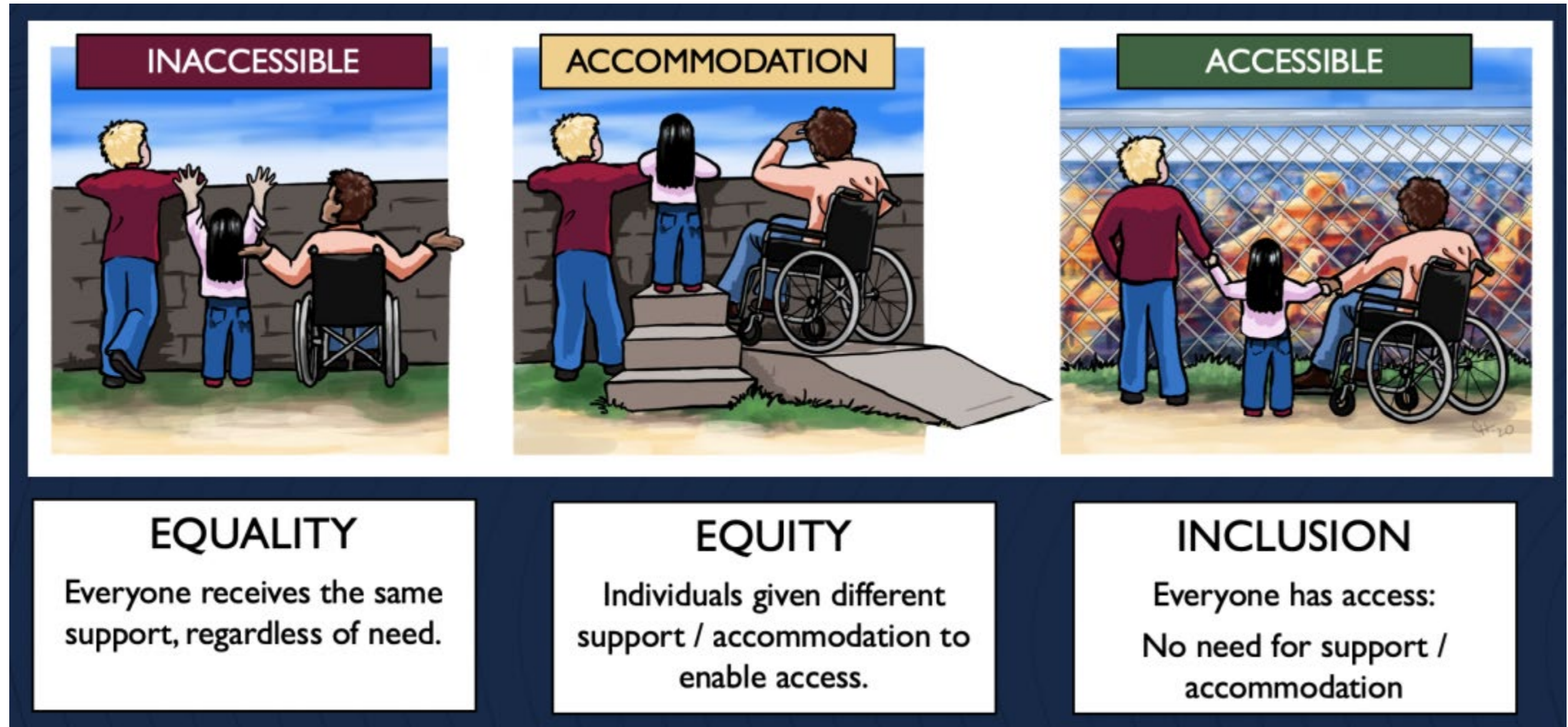
Chose a different course with lower textbook costs

39%

Took fewer courses to cut down on textbook costs



Why OER? Accessibility and Inclusion



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Larger Context: Open Educational Practices/ Pedagogy

OE Pedagogy:

- Access-oriented commitment
- Learner-driven
- Tools to help students shaping the public knowledge commons
- Social justice orientation
- The potential of openness to improve learning

(DeRosa and Jhnagiani, 2017; Bali, 2017)

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Larger Context: Open Educational Practices/ Pedagogy

OE Practices:

- Engaging students as creators of information
- Experiential learning
- Co-creation of knowledge
- Movement away from “single-use” assignments
- Movements towards situated & contextual, “renewable” assignments

(Riehman-Murphy & McGeary, 2022)

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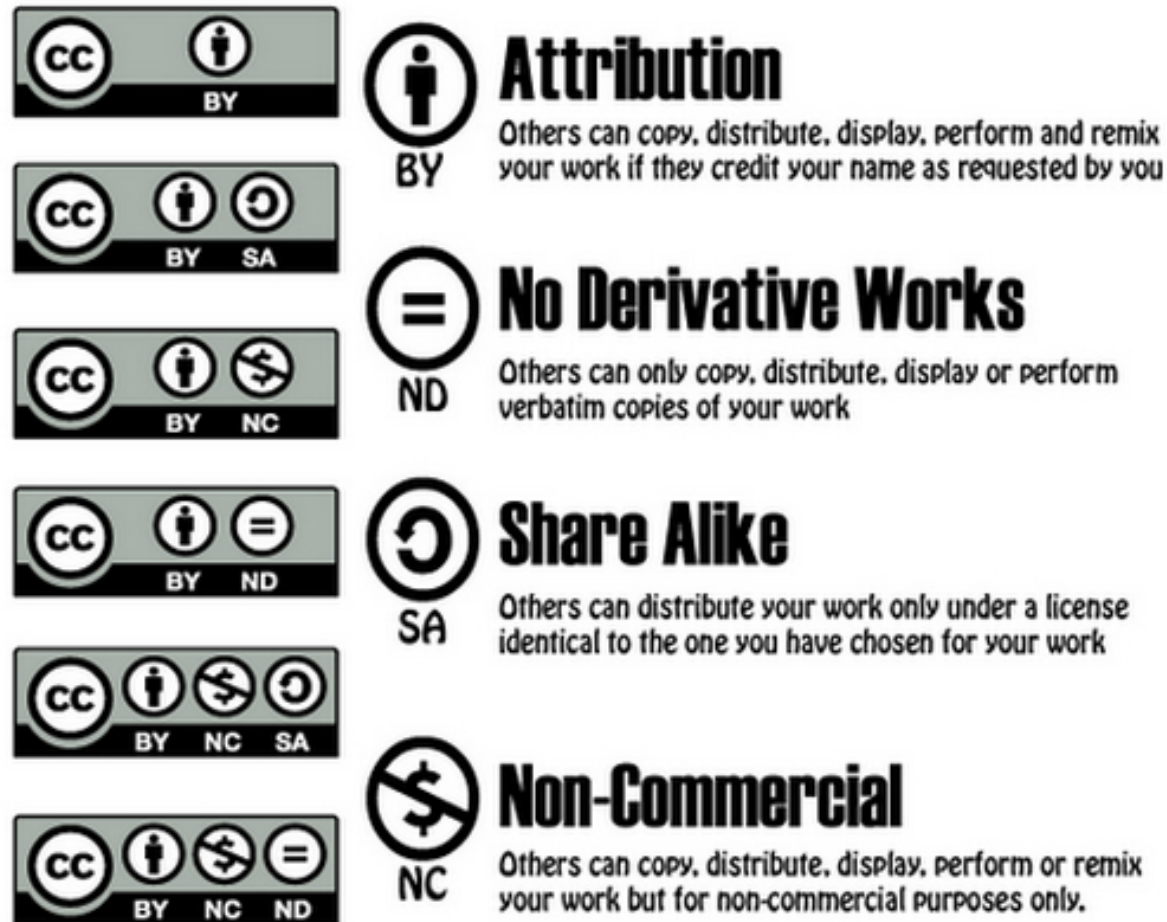


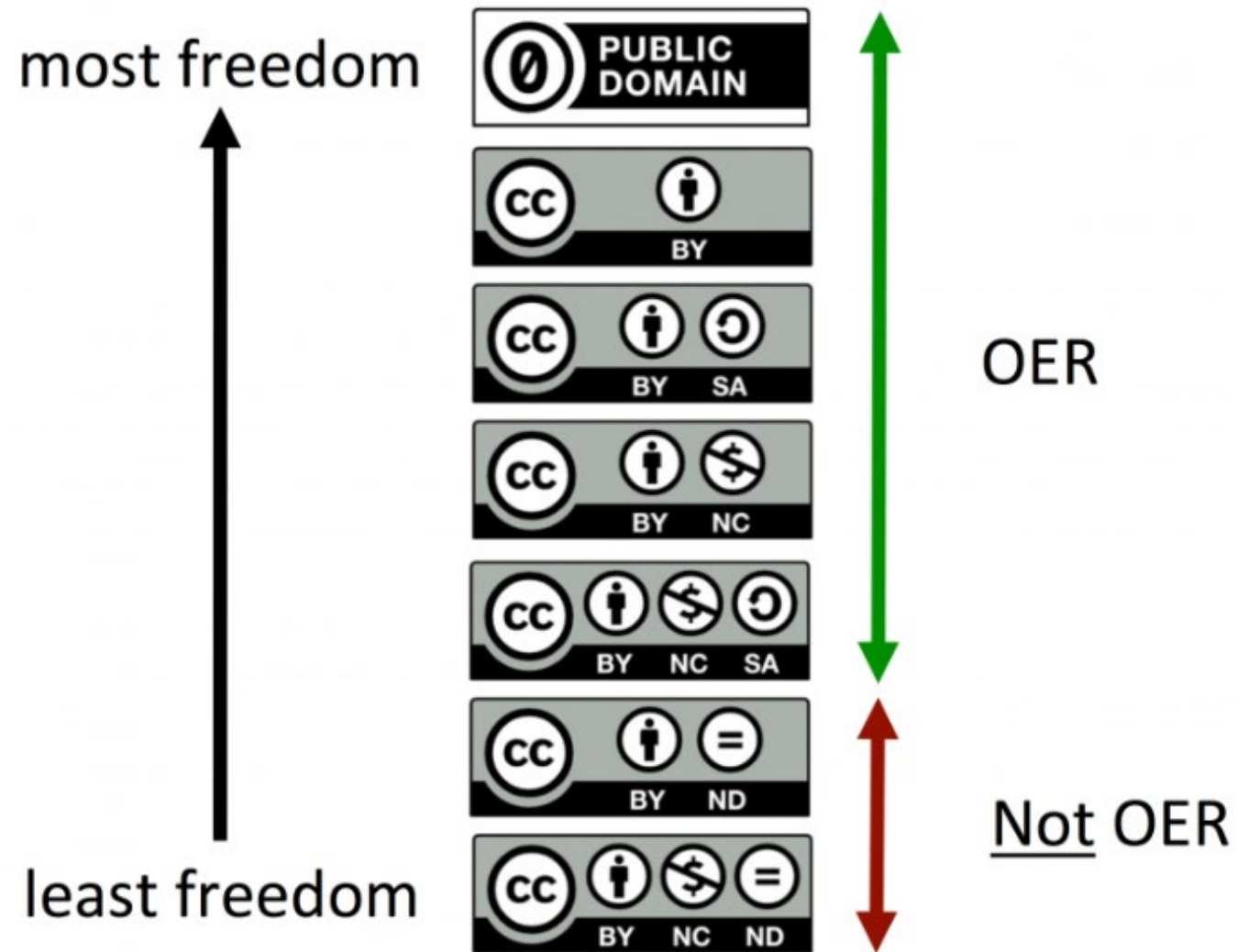
Logistics: Finding and Using OER

- How do you know it's an OER?
- Where do you find them?
- How do you know what you can do with them?

Reach out to the library team!

Components of an Creative Commons & OER License

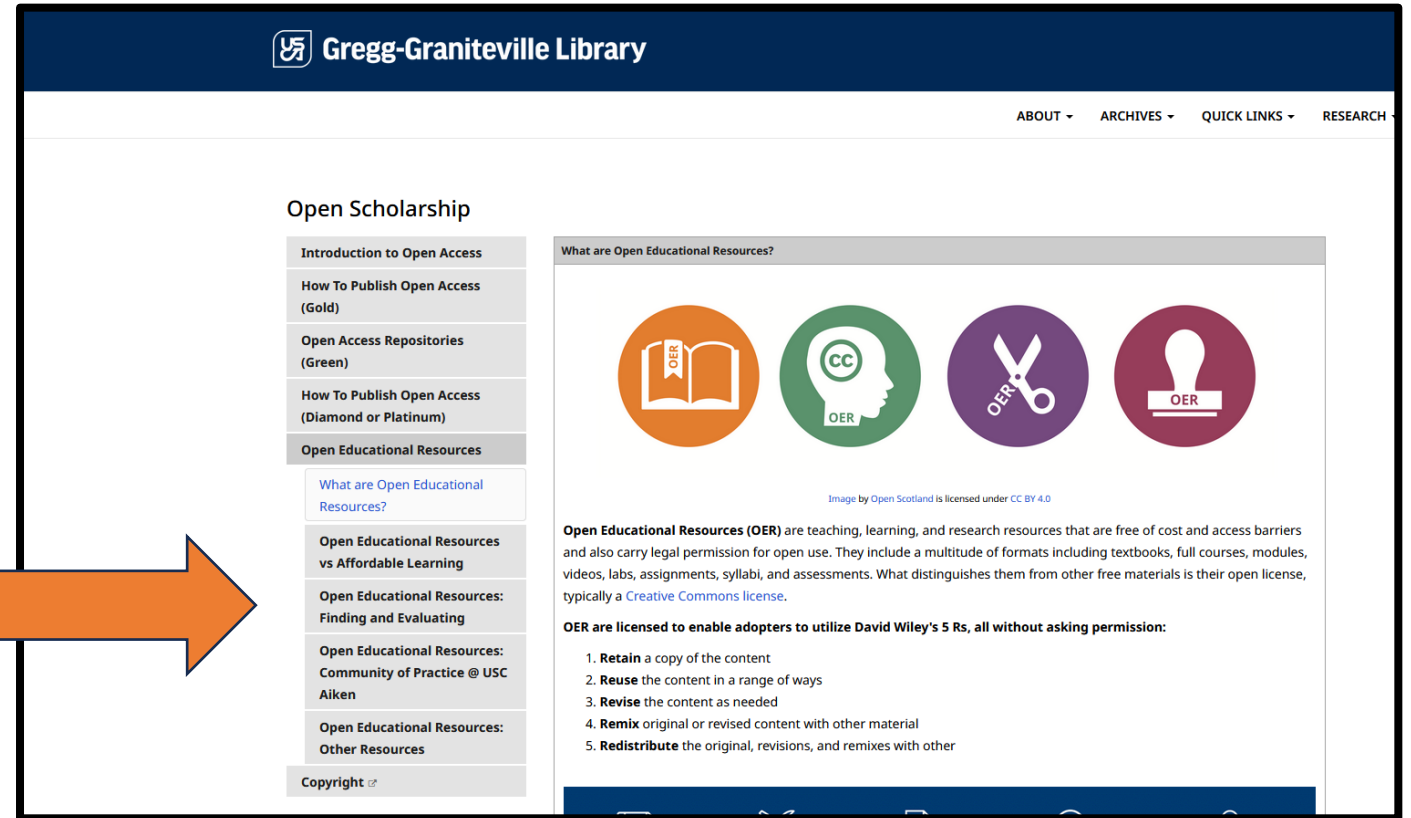




Finding OER

USCA Library “OER” Guide (in “Open Scholarship Library Guide”)

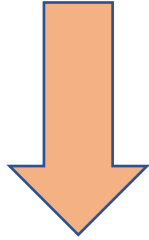
- Links to collections of OER
- Tips and guides for evaluating OER



<https://library.usca.edu/openscholarship/oer>

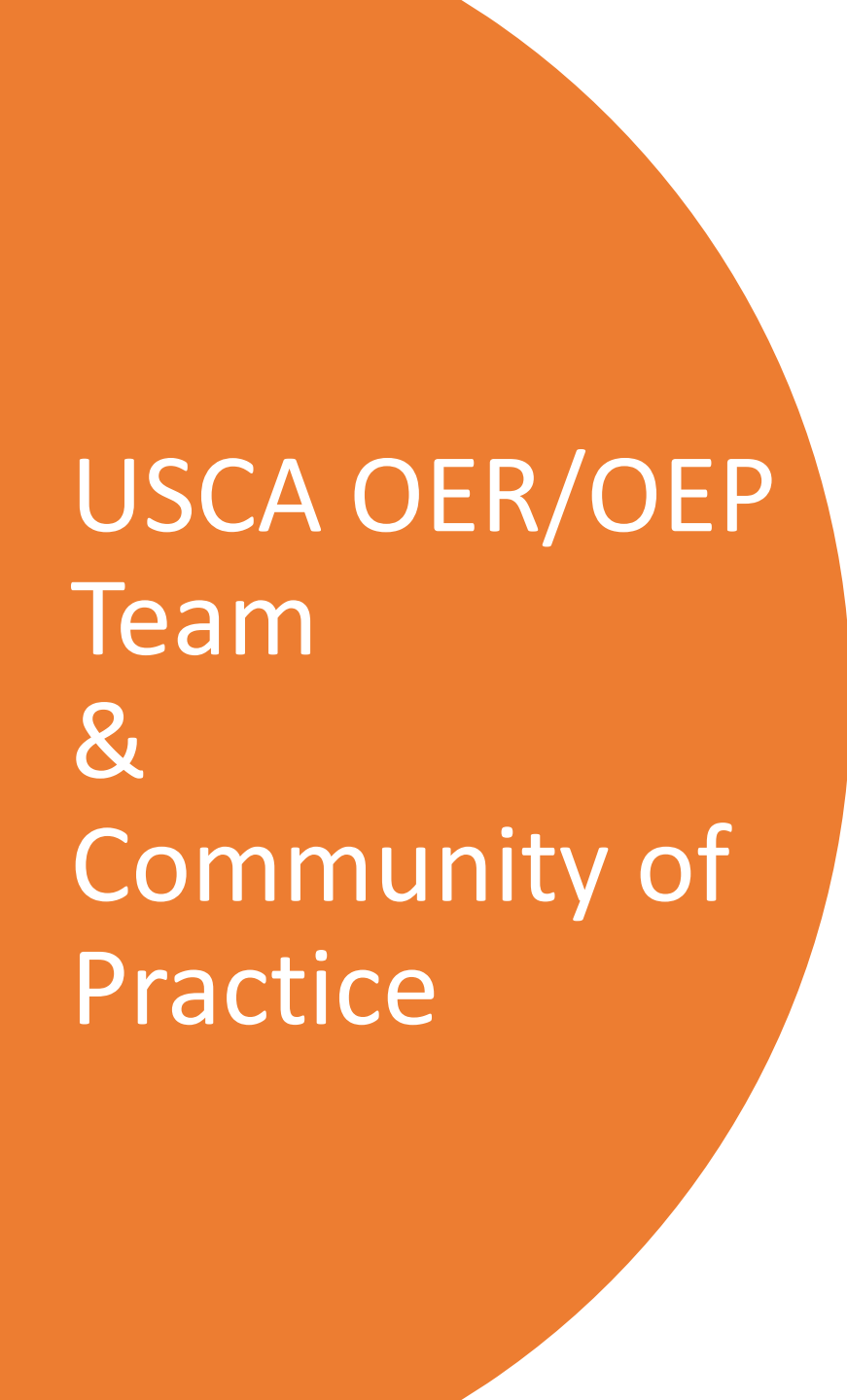


Brainstorming & Reflection: Where to Start




Think of one course in particular that could be improved in terms of accessibility, equity, or engagement:

- What needs improving: Textbook? Module? Supplemental resources? Overhaul of syllabus?
- How does it need improving: Cost? Inclusivity? Perspectives? Student engagement? Made more up-to-date?
- What would the ideal resource do? How would it be different?
- What is an obstacle to making change?

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USCA OER/OEP Team & Community of Practice

- Community of Practice meets in the Callen Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning
 - Informal place to support each other with tips, ideas, experiences
 - Join our "Organization" within Blackboard with both resources and listserves -- share your questions/experiences/resources
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Professor of Affordable Learning (PAL) Award

- If materials for your course are under \$50 – apply for this award!
- Awarded on a course by course basis. Doesn't have to be all your courses.
- Awardees will be honored by the Chancellor at the end of the academic year.
- Rolling application with no deadline.
- Application form and information here:

<https://pascalsc.libguides.com/scale/faculty/pal>

Questions?
Reach out!

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