Open Textbook Initiative

NTCC OTI - A Pilot Program

Margaret Keller and Kim Roberts
Our Goals

• FIND open resources
• DEVELOP an OER course
• SHARE your course system-wide
Step 1: Identify Faculty

• Spoke at convocation
• Presented goals
• Transferability to face-to-face, online, and hybrid settings
• Communicated timeline
  • Fall - Develop
  • Spring – Implement & Evaluate
Step 2: Locate OERs

- Preliminary research for disciplines
- Faculty found additional resources
- Utilized OpenStax and other resource providers
- Created OER webpage
You will spend much time gathering information from various sites. You will be faced with difficult choices and will have to create your own content to suit the course goals. Make your efforts available for others to share.

When you are building your course by linking open content web pages, consider the basic source reliability, the website's font, organization, and other user friendly criteria.

~Chris, English Instructor
Step 3: Fall Semester - Course Development

- Created structured course outline in LMS (Canvas)
- Faculty added content
- Challenge: Accessibility and attributions for images and videos
- Courses were reviewed between November and January
Sample Course Elements

Template Design

Course Outline

- Sample Essay Assignment & Rubric
  0 pts
- Sample Discussion & Rubric
  0 pts
- Sample Quiz Instructions
  0 pts
- Sample Mock Interview Video Assignment & Rubric
  0 pts

Week 1

- Week 1 Overview
  Assignments

Week 2

- Week 2 Overview
  Assignments

Week 3

- Week 3 Overview
  Assignments
You will not use every bullet point every week. Fill in what students will be doing this week and delete the ones that won’t be used.

Learning Outcomes:

This week, students will:

- complete a quiz
- develop 5 goals for the semester
- outline the 4 major marketing strategies
- synthesize a piece of literature
- discuss their opinion on implementing a flat tax
- some other verbs you could use: compose, construct, conclude, decide, support, explain, examine
- You don’t have to have 12 bullet points. If students will (1) complete a quiz and (2) share their opinion in a discussion board, you only have to list 2 bullet points.

Read/Review:

- Read:
- Review:

Assignments:

- Quiz:
- Assignment:
- Discussion:
- Exam:
Week 2 Overview

Learning Outcomes:

This week, students will:

- Maximize learning by understanding key research on how the brain learns.
- Identify and implement strategies for note taking, test taking, memorizing and studying.
- Improve critical thinking skills through learning how to enhance thinking skills essential for analyzing and solving problems in academic, professional and personal lives.

Read/Review:

- Read: College_Success.pdf
  - Textbook pages 68-94
- Review:
  - Discovering Self-Motivation.pptx
  - Time Management.pptx

Assignments:

- Assignment:
  - Planning Assignment
  - *Creating a Self-Management Quadrant
  - Journal: Time Management Techniques
- Discussion:
  - Introducing Yourself due January 28
Week 3 Overview

Learning Outcomes:

2.1. Approaches to Sociological Research
- Define and describe the scientific method
- Explain how the scientific method is used in sociological research
- Understand the function and importance of an interpretive framework
- Define what reliability and validity mean in a research study

2.2. Research Methods
- Differentiate between four kinds of research methods: surveys, field research, experiments, and secondary data analysis
- Understand why different topics are better suited to different research approaches

2.3. Ethical Concerns
- Understand why ethical standards exist
- Demonstrate awareness of the American Sociological Association’s Code of Ethics
- Define value neutrality

Read/Review:
- Read: Chapter 2 page 29-45
- PP Chapter 2 Research.pptx

Assignments:
- Chapter 2 Review Quiz
- The False God of Numbers
The opportunity to build an Open Access course has been challenging but has helped me to grow as an instructor. Building an OER, as well as studying the materials already available, has reinforced my attention to clarity and detail in my lessons, as well as the availability of resources to students.

~Natasha, College Success Instructor
Step 4: Spring Semester – Course Implementation

- Faculty are implementing courses and making adjustments throughout the semester
- Survey research with students in OER courses
Future Plans

• Share OER courses in LMS in June
• Get additional faculty on board
  • Some faculty have created courses on their own using our template
I appreciate knowing that my students will not have to worry about how they will access the textbook and information for the class. The collaboration among my peers while building the course has been amazing! As a professional, I have gained so much from this project beyond the use of an OER. I have never felt like I was alone. Help was always an arm's reach away.

~Katie, Sociology Instructor
Questions? Comments?

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