

Where to find open textbooks

College Open Textbooks – collegeopentextbooks.org
Listing site of open textbooks by subject, many of which have been peer reviewed.

Connexions – cnx.org
Repository of open-licensed learning materials in fields such as music, electrical engineering, psychology, and others.

MERLOT - www.merlot.org/
A free and online community of resources primarily for use at higher education institutions.

Orange Grove Text Plus - orangegrovetexts.com
Florida's repository of open source educational materials operated with University of Florida

OER Commons – oercommons.org
A worldwide collection of shared teaching and learning materials for all levels.

OpenStax College – opestatcollege.org
Open textbook publisher emphasizing high quality and mobile platform support.

Wikibooks - www.wikibooks.org
Wikimedia community for creating and sharing educational textbooks.

The Assayer - theassayer.org
Largest online catalog of free textbooks featuring math, science, and computers.

The Saylor Foundation – saylor.org/books
A repository of openly licensed books available for download in word or pdf format.

BCcampus Pressbooks –bccampus.pressbooks.com
A repository of open textbooks created by British Columbia educators for post-secondary students

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Open Textbooks

@ Columbia Gorge Community College
The Affordable Flexible Alternative

A way to significantly reduce student textbook costs while enabling you the flexibility to reformat and customize your course material.



Community College Consortium
for Open Educational Resources

OPEN COURSEWARE
CONSORTIUM

www.oerconsortium.org
cccoer@ocwconsortium.org

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What is an open textbook?

What makes a textbook open? A textbook becomes "open" when its copyright-holder grants usage rights to the public through an "open license," which typically includes the right to access, reformat, and customize it at no additional cost.

What do open textbooks look like?

Hard copies of open textbooks look much like traditional texts. The primary differences are that open textbooks are also accessible online at no cost and the hard copies are optional and affordably priced.

How many open textbooks are there?

Thousands of open textbooks already exist and more are on the way.

Who pays open textbook authors?

Open publishing models are still evolving, so author payment varies. Some are paid royalties on print sales, some receive grant support, and others choose to write on their own time.

Are open textbooks high quality?

Many open textbooks are developed through traditional peer review, others are vetted by experts. As with any textbook, you are the final judge of whether an open textbook meets the needs of your course.

What do open textbooks look like?

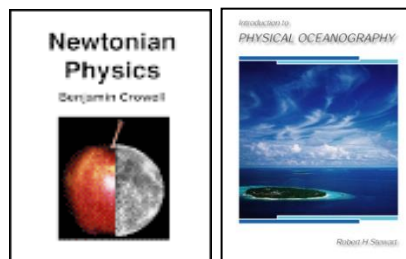
Open textbooks are similar to traditional texts, but much more flexible. If desired, you can create a custom version by editing it yourself to match your classroom instruction.

Open textbooks are available in both print and digital formats:

- Online, at no cost.
- Downloaded PDF, ePub at no cost.
- Print-on-Demand, typically for \$20---50.

Many open textbooks contain a variety of supplemental materials (e.g., test banks, quizzes, PowerPoints, etc.).

Examples of open textbooks:



Open Textbook Advocates

Open Access Textbooks Project –
openaccesstextbooks.org

Student PIRGs Open Textbooks –
studentpirgs.org/open-textbooks

How to adopt an open textbook

1. **Find the right textbook.** Search the repositories listed in this pamphlet or at <http://cgcc.us/online/faculty-resources#open-education>
2. **Review and evaluate it** to see if it matches your criteria and based on content, presentation, online accessibility, production options, platform compatibility, delivery options, interactivity, consistency between online and printed versions, and available ancillary material (test banks, PowerPoints, etc.)
3. **Decide if you want to use it as is, or edit it.** One of the benefits of open textbooks is flexibility to modify and customize them for specific course designs as much or as little as you desire. If you want to make edits or append content, make sure the licensing allows that. Different repositories will have different options for editing and publishing revised copies.
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