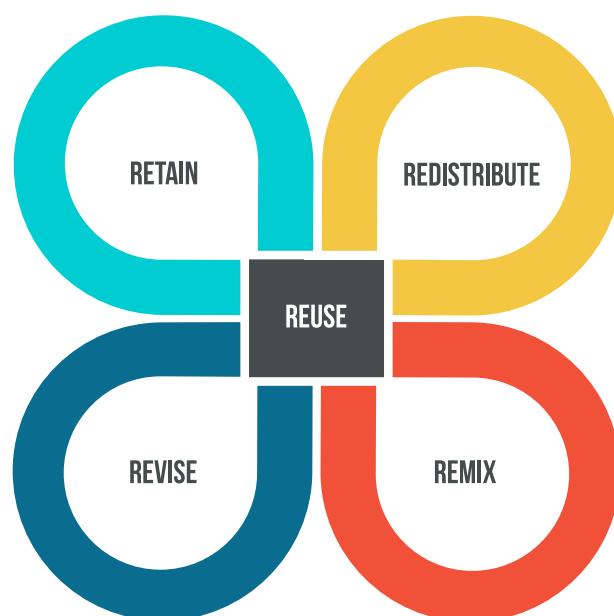


Open Educational Resources (OER) are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others. Open educational resources include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.

A useful way to appreciate the value of OER is to understand what you, the user of openly licensed content, are allowed to do with it.

1. **RETAIN** – the right to make, own, and control copies of the content (e.g., download, duplicate, store, and manage)
2. **REUSE** – the right to use the content in a wide range of ways (e.g., in a class, in a study group, on a website, in a video)
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5. **REDISTRIBUTE** – the right to share copies of the original content, your revisions, or your remixes with others (e.g., give a copy of the content to a friend)



Benefits of OER

FOR FACULTY

- Customized course materials
- Greater control over teaching resources
- Increased opportunities for collaboration with colleagues and students

FOR STUDENTS

- Access to materials on the first day of class -- no waiting for financial aid
- Course materials are free or very inexpensive
- Increased portability – digital materials can be accessed anytime, anywhere

Learn More and Get Started

This **OER Starter Kit** has been created to provide instructors with an introduction to the use and creation of open educational resources (OER). The text is broken into five sections: Getting Started, Copyright, Finding OER, Teaching with OER, and Creating OER. Although some chapters contain more advanced content, the starter kit is primarily intended for users who are entirely new to Open Education.

Open Educational Resources are more than free textbooks. OER empower faculty with the freedom to design and employ the most effective materials for their instructional enterprise. OER enable new ways of teaching, engaging, and connecting with students. The **Tennessee Open Education Hub** brings together the intellectual and creative power of faculty throughout the state, providing a place to build and share resources with the common goal of improving student learning outcomes.

