OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION
Open educational resources (OERs) are learning resources that are made available to the public at little to no cost. Typically, OERs are electronic, not copyrighted, and made available on the Web.

A CLOSER LOOK
Examples of OERs include full courses, syllabi, lectures, assignments, exams, lab and classroom activities, games, simulations, and videos that are created and offered by individuals or by colleges and universities as a collaborative effort between departments at various institutions.

A major benefit of using OERs is flexibility. In a relatively short time, faculty members can construct a course for no expense other than their time.

It is important to carefully evaluate each resource you plan to use for quality. Posted resources are not necessarily always accurate or of high quality.

You should also check the “fine print” for each resource. Some are available for you to use without any stipulations, whereas others come with special requirements or fees.

EXAMPLE
With most OER repositories, it's very easy to search and find what you're looking for. OER Commons offers a search box on their home page as well as an opportunity to browse all of the items in the repository.
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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Copyright Resources by University of Wisconsin–Madison
- Open Educational Resources by University of Wisconsin–Madison
- Open Educational Resources by University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Open Educational Resources by OER Commons
- MIT OpenCourseWare by Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Open Textbook Library by University of Minnesota
- SmartSearch by Merlot
- Khan Academy

Tip sheets website: https://ce.uwex.edu/resources