

How do OER help students?



Afford College

"I must ration myself in taking the courses I need for my degree. I've often dropped courses simply because I couldn't afford the books."



65% of African American, 63% Latinx, and 60% Pacific Islander students at De Anza experienced housing insecurity in 2019-20.



92% of Latinx students enrolled in CSUs experienced increased stress due to textbook costs



13% failure rate in BIPOC students compared to 4% for Caucasian students in CSU



30% of students in a typical course at De Anza avoided a class due to textbook costs.

Data taken from the [Basic Needs survey](#) at De Anza, and CSU Channel Islands' [open CI initiative](#).

"I always have an anxiety attack the first week of class because I know the process I must go through to buy my books. I borrow money, work late to pick up extra hours to afford my books, try to buy used throughout the internet (most don't carry the version required by class), or obtain a short-term high-interest loan to afford the books."

Succeed in their classes.

"The content of this course meets the required assignments needs. There isn't any "fluff" or filler text. All of the information presented to the students is useful about the assignments and enough to understand the course fully."



Students can access the book on the first day of class without waiting for financial aid, delivery, back-orders, etc.



Students can keep the book forever – no access codes that expire



Your bookstore can provide low-cost print copies for students who prefer paper.

[Surveys](#) show that students are more likely to read OER texts. Students also rate these books highly, with 90% stating the book was helpful, easy to understand, engaging, etc. The overwhelming majority of students would recommend these books to their peers.

Engage with their learning!

“I spent more time utilizing this content because I was able to read and study anywhere without having to carry a large textbook. It was also a much faster process to some degree because I didn’t have to sit and flip through pages hoping to find the relevant content.”



Students can choose to use either digital or print based on their preferences.



Instructors can customize the book to align the content to the course.



Instructors can customize the book to reflect their student needs and experiences.



Open Teaching Practices increase student engagement and learning.



“Need more classes to be like this. Simple, easy, and the start of 21st-century learning that does not involve hundreds of dollars in physical textbooks.”

How can you help?

Find OER for your classes.

Contact Cathy Patel or Shagun Kaur. They can help guide you in looking for resources. Many resources are available; getting help will make the search more efficient.

Learn about OER

The ASCCC OER Initiative hosts webinars about OER and discipline specific OER discussions. Cathy Patel, your OER Liaison, can guide you to these webinars.

Contact

Cathy Patel – patelcathy@fhda.edu

Shagun Kaur – kaurshagun@fhda.edu

