



Open Educational Resources

Keeping Dreams Alive

Joe Wachter, Chemistry Faculty
Open Educational Resources Coordinator

Dr. Stephanie Whalen, English Faculty
Chair, Academy for Teaching Excellence



What are Open Educational Resources (OER)?

- OERs are teaching, learning, and research resources that are **free of cost and access barriers**, and which also carry legal permission for open use.
- “5R’s”: Users are free to **Retain, Reuse, Revise, Remix, and Redistribute** openly-licensed materials
- Granted by an **open license** (such as Creative Commons)

OER Successes: Keeping Dreams Alive

- Harper OER course transformations have saved students over **\$1.55 million** since 2016.
- OER courses at Harper showed comparable success rates (73% OER vs. 70% non-OER).
- Students in OER courses take **~0.5 extra credit hour** on average.
- In Fall 2023, **47%** of all course sections had **no cost** for course materials.
- 46% of all courses had at least one no-cost section.

OER Successes: Keeping Dreams Alive

State, national, and nonprofit grants support OER development.

- CARLi/U of I was awarded \$1.08m through Open Textbook Pilot (Dept. of Ed.) co-sponsored by IL Senator Dick Durbin.
- Harper was awarded a subgrant (\$100k) with DePaul U & Roosevelt U to develop ancillary materials for Chemistry for the Health Sciences course (complete by Fall 2024).

When You Switch to OER...

ACADEMY
for TEACHING
EXCELLENCE



When You Switch to OER...

In 2020, 63% of students surveyed reported skipping buying a textbook because of cost.

[\(U.S. PIRG Education Fund, *Fixing the Broken Textbook Market*, 3rd ed. Feb. 24, 2021.\)](#)

When you switch to OER



When You Switch to OER...

In 2020, 63% of students surveyed reported skipping buying a textbook because of cost.

[\(U.S. PIRG Education Fund, *Fixing the Broken Textbook Market*, 3rd ed. Feb. 24, 2021.\)](#)

Makes no difference who they are.



When You Switch to OER...

For food insecure students:

82% skipped buying a textbook

38% skipped buying an access code

(US PIRG Ed Fund, 2021)

Any student who desires



When You Switch to OER..

For food insecure students:

82% skipped buying a textbook

38% skipped buying an access code

(US PIRG Ed Fund, 2021)

Can learn from you.



When You Switch to OER..

Books can be written, edited, remixed, and published on Harper's Pressbooks server:

- <https://harpercollege.pressbooks.pub>



BOOKS BY HARPER COLLEGE AUTHORS

 <p>Building Academic Writing Skills</p> <p>Lin Cui</p>	 <p>Environmental Biology</p>	 <p>Equity Literacy Project</p> <p>A Lexicon about Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice in Education</p>	 <p>Harper College</p> <p>HARPER FIRST YEAR SEMINAR: A GUIDE TO COLLEGE SUCCESS</p> <p>Harper First Year Seminar: A Guide to...</p>
---	---	--	---

[VIEW COMPLETE CATALOG](#)

Use the textbook of your dreams,



When You Switch to OER..

Books can be written, edited, remixed, and published on Harper's Pressbooks server:

- <https://harpercollege.pressbooks.pub>



BOOKS BY HARPER COLLEGE AUTHORS

 <p>Building Academic Writing Skills</p> <p>Lin Cui</p>	 <p>Environmental Biology</p>	 <p>Equity Literacy Project</p> <p>A Lexicon about Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice in Education</p>	 <p>Harper College</p> <p>HARPER FIRST YEAR SEMINAR: A GUIDE TO COLLEGE SUCCESS</p> <p>Harper First Year Seminar: A Guide to...</p>
---	---	--	---

[VIEW COMPLETE CATALOG](#)

Customized to your own themes,



When You Switch to OER..



When you switch to OER

When You Switch to OER..



As dreamers do.

When You Switch to OER..

A large meta-analysis (N = 100,012) found **no differences in learning efficacy** between open textbooks and commercial textbooks

[\(Clinton & Khan, 2019\)](#)

Students learn.



When You Switch to OER..

A large meta-analysis (N = 100,012) found **no differences in learning efficacy** between open textbooks and commercial textbooks
(Clinton & Khan, 2019)

If they can save some cash,



When You Switch to OER..

The same study found 29% lower withdrawal rates in courses with open textbooks.
(Clinton & Khan, 2019)

It just might be the key



When You Switch to OER..

The same study found 29% lower withdrawal rates in courses with open textbooks.
(Clinton & Khan, 2019)

To their persistence.



When You Switch to OER..

Harper supports OER adoption through a grant program.

Faculty teams or individuals, full-time or adjunct.

Get a grant to help you through;



When You Switch to OER..

Harper supports OER adoption through a grant program.

\$75,000 available in grants to compensate faculty for their work making the switch to OER.

You can get rewarded too.



When You Switch to OER..



When you switch to OER

When You Switch to OER..



All dreams come true!