OER Student Satisfaction Survey Results
Reported April 28, 2016

Results are based on the following:
- 5 faculty members administered survey in 9 sections of 6 courses
- 66 students responded

Due to rounding, percentages may not equal 100.

1. **Prior to taking this course had you heard of Open Education Resources (OER)?**
   - Yes: 14%
   - No: 78%
   - UnK: 08%

2. **Did you register for this course because you knew it did not require you to purchase a textbook?**
   - Yes: 14%
   - No: 78%
   - UnK: 08%

3. **How helpful would you describe the materials used for this course compared to a similar course you have taken that required a textbook?**
   - Materials much more helpful: 52%
   - Materials somewhat more helpful: 21%
   - Neither more nor less helpful: 17%
   - Textbook somewhat more helpful: 06%
   - Textbook much more helpful: 05%

4. **How well did the OER materials match the learning objectives for this course?**
   - Very well matched: 83%
   - Somewhat well matched: 12%
   - Somewhat unmatched: 02%
   - Not at all matched: 03%

5. **Do you expect to successfully complete this course?**
   - Yes: 92%
   - No: 02%
   - UnK: 08%

6. **Has the use of OER materials had an effect on your ability to pass the course?**
   - Yes: 67%
   - No: 26%
   - UnK: 08%
7. How has the use of OER materials in this course benefited you?

I found it much easier to locate information thru the online resources. Using OER material has benefited me by saving me money. I had alternative methods of obtaining information other than just reading a textbook. Benefited me a lot. Learned a lot from this class. Very practical and real class with a great teacher. Easier to read anywhere without having to carry around a textbook. It's much better on my wallet and my back to not have to carry around a textbook. It help me understand the course a lot better. It benefits me because I would t have to spend my financial aid or extra money to purchase a book. It's saved me a lot of money, as well as giving me access to materials at all times. I didn't have to buy a textbook. I think that it is much easier with the more condensed information so things are more clear. I can not say what the benefits are, as I feel that I would have been more connected with a textbook. I was not forced to work to make up for what I spent on my textbook because it was free, therefore I was able to study more. Also, it is much easier because all I needed to bring was my computer, which I always carry with me anyways. It's simpler to just have everything given to you that you need to know, rather then having a huge textbook. It helped me find the information I need easily. I liked the OER because it was not an overwhelming number of chapters and pages, I felt at ease picking the chapters and then sections and going at my own pace rather then seeing how many pages left. There were also the little quizzes and summaries that helped as well. multiple reference items increased understanding of required material. It has benefited me because I was able to save money by not having to purchase a textbook. I was also able to access my textbook from any computer, tablet, or phone which made it much more convenient than having to carry around a book constantly. It has allowed me to understand the material more clearly and quickly. very easy to access, read along with, have to tote a book around. The information needed to be successful in my class. It contained a wealth of data, which allowed me to cut down on my research. I was able to access the materials on all my devices that I use. It was easier to study and when open book was an option for testing could just pull up the material I needed. By giving me accessibility on the go yes it definitely benefited me. A plethora of different reading materials are provided with varying points of view and understandings. The videos from Khan Academy and TED Talks really helped enforce and understand the idea in different ways.
It gave a better prospective on the subject and the hour that the class was given was very convenient for a working student. It was really nice to, first of all, be able to return the textbook I bought in anticipation of this course (the bookstore was confused about section specifics), and second, to not have to cart around an entire textbook any time I went to class or wanted to study. I work better with print materials, so I was able to print off chapters one at a time pursuant to my needs. We did not use all of the chapters in the online materials, so it was also great to not have to carry materials I wasn't using. It has saved me a lot of money! I also find it very hard to read the small text that some English text are in. I also find it to be way more organized! I wish more online class offered this! The OER materials have made my assignments a breeze because I can focus on a the most important section of the text without having to read for hours and forget about half of what I read. The OER materials have allowed more efficient use of both my time and money, both of which are scarce when in school.

It’s very similar to the textbook, all the information that we need is in the readings easy to use and printable when needed. I loved the OpenStax College & Introduction to Sociology & textbook and the fact that it was available on-line AND could be downloaded to my PC. Previously, I have taken courses in which on-line class material was used in lieu of a purchased textbook, but portions of the class material could not be downloaded due to copyrights. I am a book reader, and I like to be able to take my reading material wherever I am. Downloading the material and printing it chapter by chapter as the class progressed was very beneficial, plus I had the option of reading it on the computer if I wanted to. The text itself was very well-written and got to the point of explaining objectives, which made me more interested in learning, and helped me achieve successful completion of the course. The authors and editors of this book did such an excellent job of writing, that my interest was captured and I wanted to know more about the subjects presented. As a financial aid student, I also appreciated the cost savings, which, considering the ridiculous price of textbooks, was substantial. I loved that the textbook was free. As a student paying for textbooks is very stressful and expensive. Also the material seemed up to date.

OER materials made this course easy to understand. Since I did not have to purchase a book I was able to use that money for my other classes. I also like being able to access the materials on my computer. Save money for me. It is easy to understand. Not so much words. Having access to an online textbook not only saves me money, but it also keeps me from carrying around extra books that I won’t have any use for once the course is over. Quality over quantity. No unnecessary 20 page reads, direct clear material. It is easier to find specific topics and having it online makes it always accessible. It helped me out of a burden of expensive textbook costs. It was easier to access the material on any electronic device.

I am a kind of parsons who learn from watching and listening more better than reading, so the videos and statistic graphs included with the material helped me understand the topics easy and clearly.
I am able to look up notes where ever I am compared to carrying a textbook. And it is a lot cheaper
One less stressful thing to worry about at the beginning of the semester was the access to the book online and for free.
All of the units were all organized in designated folders
As a college student I enjoyed not having to spend even more money on a class by buying a textbook. It was also convenient not having to carry around my book and laptop, I was simply able to pull up the course material whenever I needed it from my laptop.
I am a student that pays off tuition from my own pocket. Each semester, after paying the tuition and affording the textbook, I reach the stage where I have to skip one or two weeks of groceries. It has been really hard financially to afford all of this together.
Thus, having a free textbook has been beyond work of helpfulness, whoever introduced this, thanks to you. A big thank you. It is because of you I don't have to starve and cut down on my food bill. Thank you for offering this help. I saved some money and that helped me in a huge way. Thanks
I enjoyed the portability of the online textbook. It made it easier to study when it is convenient for me without having to carry around a large textbook. I also appreciated the variety of resources made available to me for this course. Different resources explained topics differently, so if I struggled with one I had other resources to turn to to help me understand.
They didn't cost me anything.
I can always access to the material from any devices.
Accessible regardless of where I am.
Its benefited me because I don't have to pay as much money as I do with a textbook.
Because I am on the computer for everything, OER materials are very convenient.
They have not at all. I personally would have preferred the textbook to get a better understanding of this class. If I would have had the text book I think I would have had a better grade helped me understand the material being this is an online class and I had to self teach everything
They have been of minimal benefit. The materials reflected liberal dogma and offered no conservative counterpoints. The constant reference to Marx as an independent theorist instead of a political operative was disingenuous and misleading.
They really haven't. I rather have the textbook
I really enjoyed having readings from real authors for this literature class. I think this method was much easier and much more helpful than reading from a textbook. Our professor gave us the ability to read the text and come up with our own conclusions and I really liked that method of teaching.
Straightforward and precise I didn't feel like there was a lot of fluff information.
The OER materials in this course allowed students to easily access course materials that were required to this course. The sites used were very helpful in creating annotations and blogs, and it was a good break away from using Blackboard.
It benefited me because I was able to interact with others and read their posts as well as they read mine and gained some new ideas from various opinions.
The use of OER allowed me to be more efficient with my tasks. As I used the materials, I made my annotations seamlessly. No need to juggle a separate book and then head back to the computer for the follow up work. It was all in one place.

8. **What problems have you faced with this course as a result of using OER materials (compared to using a textbook)?**

I did not face any.
I did not experience any problems
If my internet connection failed, I didn't have another source of accessing the information.
I did not have any problems using OER materials in this course.
Couldn't take notes in the readings, only outside.
I prefer the tactile use of a textbook, where I can easily reference it.
The negative is that the book is on the computer so it's a lot more distracting because you would be tempted to surf the web rather than do the reading
none
It's hard getting used to reading online
I can not easily go back and compare everything
I did not like the idea that I had to print the reading material, I found it difficult to stay focus reading the online text.
The only problem I can think of is wifi. If I don't have wifi, I am unable to access my textbook. I could have saved the PDF though, so I guess that is just me being irresponsible.
no problems!
harder to keep track of printed materials
Nothing.
I did not notice any problems.
I have yet to face a problem.
none
I haven't faced any sort of problems.
No problems
none
None.
Whenever I didn't have access, I was not able to access it unless I saved the information.
None
none
No problems.
All my courses I’ve had my books online and home work online so I have spent a large some of my time on my computer or phone getting assignments done and starring at a screen all day really drains you.
I have not really faced any real problems when dealing with this textbook and have only noticed positive improvements academically.
No problems.
I have not experienced any issues.
None at all.
I haven’t faced any problems
none
None
None!
I have not faced any problems.
Nothing if I found something hard to focus on and read I could just print out the reading to make it easier.
i don't think I had to face any problems.
I have trouble integrating online text, so I needed to print off what information I was using. It was a little annoying, using all of that printer paper and ink, and having to print chapters every other week, but I would say it was well worth the annoyance when it meant I didn’t need to shell out the cost of a textbook.
No problems at all
Not have a physical textbook is hard, mostly because it is different. With time, I'm sure using an online text will be easy.
None
I didn’t really faced any problems, it just took a little bit of time to get used to a new format.
I had no problem
I like to use a book to highlight. The computer bothers my
None
If Blackboard was down or I was in an area where there was no wifi, I had no choice but to complete my work at a later time, which was an inconvenience.
I haven't had any problems.
I don't really face any problems after using OER
I find online textbooks a little more difficult to navigate and study from. I prefer to have a book that I can flip through quicker and have the ability to carry with me even if I don't have Internet access, I found it cumbersome to reference tables in the appendix of the online textbook. The professor made some tables available as a Word document or PDF which helped, but I got tired of flipping back and forth between different screens on my computer.
I couldn't underline or make comment directly referring to the text, which is my favorite way of studying.
Some of the chapters do not align with the printed versions of the textbook
no problems
Actually, I haven't faced a problem. I just had to make the necessary adjustments. remembering when quizzes are due just one announcement a week doesn't hep and the way things are graded in this class are not fair in my personal opinion.
I had some trouble reading numbers and therefore would answer problems incorrectly but after our professor uploaded a different version of the same book it became much easier to read.
Blatant bias and one sided presentation of facts.
Sometimes not being able to print the material needed
Although, having materials online and readily accessible, I like to have materials on hand as I am used to it, but Prof. McCrimmon had added these required materials in document and pdf form for those who wanted a hard copy.
I have not experienced any problem.
I do not have a laptop so my desktop forced me to stay in one location to complete my work.
I enjoy using the computer more than textbooks. For my other classes I am usually the student who takes notes on the computer rather than wasting paper and printing the powerpoints. I prefer computer based learning overall.
No obvious ones, besides the usual I forget to do things online.

9. **Do you hope to continue taking courses that don't require the purchase of a textbook?**
   - Yes: 74%
   - No: 05%
   - I haven’t decided: 21%

10. The purpose of OER is to reduce your cost to take a course at Reynolds. If you feel comfortable providing this information, please share below how you were able to use the money you saved on textbook.

I could spend the money on supplies for school or gas to commute to and from school
n/a
i was able to go to the strip club more often.
hundreds!
I used it to buy and not rent other courses books.
pay for my own classes and the reduction in cost was a help
To purchase supplies I would have otherwise not been able to.
I was able to take care of some personal business.
Able to help pay rent and put money toward my saving
Not comfortable providing this information.
To buy goods that prop up an evil capitalist economy,
I had to put it on other books
I was able to enroll in summer classes
The money I saved allowed me to buy textbooks and other materials that I needed for other classes. My biology class this semester required the purchase of a textbook and lab kit, the money I saved on a textbook for my sociology class allowed me to purchase both of those materials for my biology class
I was able to purchase other materials such as a Nursing School Entrance Test practice book.
I'm comfortable answering, but I'm not sure that I can. I'm responsible enough with my money that I don't keep a budget, so I don't necessarily take a given amount of money from "here", and put it "there". However, I can assure you that whatever money that was saved was spent on responsible and productive causes, not cigarettes, alcohol, parties, movies, or anything else that has nothing to do with the betterment of my future.
Save for transfer
I was able to save that money to put forward for classes.
I was able to use the money to pay my car payment. I did not have to take on extra hours at work to compensate for the extra money I would have spent on my textbook.
I didn't know I wasn't going to need a textbook until the first day of class, so for me it was just a nice surprise and I got to save some money.

I used the money to save it for my next classes.

Well I was able to save it for my next classes.

I was able to add that money to my savings which will help me prosper in the long run.

Additional resources needed for school

It allowed me the money to pay for future classes at JSRCC.

I was able to purchase another textbook that I needed.

For living expenses

No

I ran out of Financial Aid this semester so I had to pay for books out of pocket this semester, I wasn't expecting that.

I was able to pay off a bill for college.

My mom has been paying out of pocket for my schooling because I have gotten rejected multiple times for financial aid, so free textbooks relieve some of the burden on her.

I used the money for my other classes.

I never looked to see how much this text book was so honestly do not know. I would probably guess it would be over $100 though.

The money I have saved from this class I can apply to eating a decent lunch, my next semesters worth of classes, and life.

I didn't really save money.

I used the savings made possible by OER to purchase other textbooks that were not OER.

I was able to spend less time at work and more time focusing on my classes.

Purchase other things to aid in my success like a personal laptop. A book cost 2 and 3 hundred dollars, I can buy a laptop, book-bag, and calendar for that price.

I was able to use the money saved on a textbook for my music hobby. It is utterly senseless for students to have to pay so much money for textbooks. Textbooks are a total waste of money because 99% of the students won't read the books again, and a good majority will barely get any money back on those textbooks.

In buying foods and other things.

I used the money I might have spent on a textbook (or rather, the money I got back when I returned the textbook I had bought by mistake) to feed my growing toddler. Most of the money I have or get goes to raising my daughter, and I think that money wound up buying a high chair or maybe a zillion puree pouches, I forget.

I save the money I use on this text went towards the supplemental reading for this class and my other honors course.

Due to OER, I could save hundreds of dollars. That helped me focus on my study without financial worries.

I was able to buy textbooks for other classes.

There is always place for a leftover money.

I was able to use the money I saved by buying textbooks I needed for my other classes.

I was able to pay bills instead of floating checks.

The money I saved not buying a textbook went to further paying for my education here at Reynolds for the following semesters.
I purchased other school supplies like a calculator. Although I didn't have to purchase textbook, I needed to buy supplementary reading for the class. I used that money to purchase that supplementary book. I'm not sure what I spent my textbook money on, but I know half of it went toward the class. Although, having materials online and readily accessible, I like to have materials on hand as I am used to it, but Prof. McCrimmon had added these required materials in document and pdf form for those who wanted a hard copy.

I have not experienced any problem. I do not have a laptop so my desktop forced me to stay in one location to complete my work. I enjoy using the computer more than textbooks. For my other classes I am usually the student who takes notes on the computer rather than wasting paper and printing the powerpoints. I prefer computer based learning overall.

11. Do you have any additional comments?

This has truly been a learning experience for me in a good way. Content was a series of liberal claptrap and not a serious presentation of facts. One sided, biased, and not any different from the general content at Slate or Mother Jones. It was a great idea for the school to use OER, because it cuts down on the costs for students, and it saves students valuable research time. It would be nice if other courses would have this option.

No, love the time that the class was scheduled and the way that the class was taught helped me learn art better. I enjoyed this class and had an amazing teacher. I've taken an OER history course before as well. I think these classes have a lot of potential and having a teacher who loves the topic and teaches and explains things in multiple ways until you grasp an understanding is key. My first OER was The instructor for this course is what truly made the OER work. Professor Horelick is the best math teacher I have ever had. He not only streamlined the material (the online textbook, though easy to understand, was incredibly verbose), but gave us the tools we needed to teach ourselves from the text. I also found him extremely motivating without ever venturing into pandering. Excellent, excellent teacher, who made the online resources work very well with the objectives of the course. Need great teachers like my teacher. Also need more classes like these which talk about real life current issues.

I was unaware of OER before this course, but I'll be sure to look for courses to register for in the future that use OER. Thank you for making educational more affordable.

I strongly encourage that J. Sargeant Reynolds strives to make quality OERs, as well-written as Introduction to Sociology 2e, available for as many course curriculums as practical. Also, professors/instructors at J. Sargeant Reynolds need to be held accountable to Technology Requirements just as students are. When a course is described as hybrid it needs to include more online interaction than simply requirement students to submit assignment via email. Too many instructors are permitted to refuse the use of Blackboard, I have encountered this in math, science, psychology, and mental health classes. In addition, all professors should be required to go through instruction on the use of in-classroom teaching aids, such as computer screen projectors. In my
opinion, it is an class embarrassment to the college and a disservice to the students when professors can't or won't use OER (where available), other on-line material, the Blackboard system, and do not know or wont use in-classroom computer equipment that could only enhance the student learning experience, and probably cost the college a lot of money that is transmitted to students via the extra fees tacked on to tuition, or higher tuition rates.
Free textbooks are awesome!
All courses should be this way. Why make a already struggling student pay hundreds of dollars for a textbook that is barely used and can only receive about 20% refund to return it. We pay 3 and 4 hundred dollars a class, I'm all honesty the book sh I like using the online materials and think I benefited from them.
all classes should start doing this. It will be a great support for students
No. I was rather pleased to find out that I did not have to pay for a textbook. I did not even know we had classes like this before this semester.
I really liked the OER materials.
Thank you for the free text. I was able to use a proper text source instead of G throughout the semester.
I wish all classes will adopt this method. very interactive and money saving.
More classes, courses, and schools (all levels of schooling) should take advantage of the age we are in. Although having classes, and course materials online could be a problem to the younger students, I feel that it would also help them with getting better at time management, and self-control for getting ahead in the class and not procrastinating as much.
Although having classes, and course materials online could be a problem to the younger students, I feel that it would also help them with getting better at time management, and self-control for getting ahead in the class and not procrastinating as much.
I appreciate the focus on affordability and believe the costs of text books is outrageous.