

## OER, ZTC, and LTC Faculty Resources

### Make college more affordable with OER, ZTC, and LTC!

- [What are OER, ZTC, and LTC?](#)
- [Why OER? By the Numbers](#)
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OER stands for **Open Educational Resources**. These resources can

encompass teaching, learning, and/or research, and can exist in any medium- digital or otherwise-- that reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license that permits no-cost access, use, adaptation and redistribution by others. OER often includes full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, videos. Really anything used to support student learning.



ZTC, on the other hand, stands for **Zero Textbook Cost**. This term refers to the cost of a course. Indicated by the icon to the right, ZTC courses do not require students to buy a textbook in order to take the course. While OER and ZTC share many qualities, they are not exactly the same. All OER courses fit under the ZTC moniker; however, ZTC also includes copyrighted materials such as textbooks and novels that have been purchased by the college and then provided free of charge to the students.

LTC stands for **Low Textbook Cost**. LTC, while not free, seeks to keep student costs down by limiting the amount of money students will pay for books to \$30.

Whatever designation you choose to follow, **you will save students thousands of dollars**, thus removing a major barrier to educational access.

### Where to find OER?

- [Textbooks](#)
  - [Non-Textbook Materials](#)
  - [Made for California](#)
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- [ASCCC Resources by Discipline](#) A project of the ASCCC Open Educational Resource Initiative, this page lists OER available by discipline and by C-ID.
  - [OpenStax College Textbooks \(Rice University\)](#) Freely accessible textbooks in a variety of subjects including science, math, and humanities. Access and read online, download a PDF, or order a print copy for a low cost.

- [LibreTexts](#) Peer-reviewed and well-formatted OER in a wide range of subjects.
- [COOL4Ed: California Open Online Library for Education](#) COOL4Ed's mission is to support the success of CCC and CSU campuses implementing their textbook affordability programs and reducing the cost of course materials for students. Materials are listed by C-ID designation.
- [OER Commons](#) OER Commons is a public digital library of open educational resources. Explore, create, and collaborate with educators around the world to improve curriculum.
- [MERLOT](#) The MERLOT system provides access to curated online learning and support materials and content creation tools, led by an international community of educators, learners and researchers.
- [Mason OER Metafinder](#) Real-time federated search for OER content. Searches multiple repositories at once-- including but not limited to BC Campus, MERLOT, Openstax, OER Commons.
- [OASIS](#) A search tool that aims to make the discovery of open content easier. OASIS currently searches open content from 64 different sources and contains 160,546 records. Includes modules, course content, books, audiobooks, and more