

# Making our Institutions and their Classrooms More Open and Equitable

Tonja Conerly, Ursula Pike, and Una Daly Mar 12, 2021, 11am CT













It can be hard to talk about racism in education but data shows that students of color drop out and fail to complete at higher rates than white students even from the same family income. Are you wondering how we can make classrooms, courses, and resources more anti-racist and equitable with OER and open educational practices aka "open pedagogy"? In this workshop, we'll explore strategies for opening up your syllabus, finding diverse openly licensed images, and using open pedagogy to engage and empower students in their own learning. Please bring your syllabus.

The syllabus is one of the first impressions that a student receives from their instructor. Institutionally, it is a contract documenting policies and responsibilities. The language may be confusing and even intimidating to students who are new to college or returning after a gap in their education. Strategies for creating an inviting syllabus or even co-creating one with your students will be shared.

Open pedagogy describes teaching and learning practices that are enabled with the use of OER. While OER expands access to learning, open pedagogy empowers students to create openly licensed learning resources from their lived experiences and cultures. We'll explore open pedagogy projects from multiple disciplines where students have produced and shared their unique learning experiences.

#### Learning Outcomes:

- Evaluate your syllabus for how inclusive it is for non-traditional students.
- Explore the use of diverse images to enhance student engagement
- Understand how OER and Open Pedagogy support student voices and deeper learning.

#### Welcome



Ursula Pike, Associate Director





Tonja Conerly, Professor of Sociology





Una Daly
CCCOER Director



### Agenda

- The Why?
- Some Definitions
- Overview of breakout rooms
  - Syllabus
  - Diverse Images
  - Open Pedagogy Examples
- Breakout rooms
- Sharing our learning

### The Why?

Higher education has had a long history of excluding and underserving students who are not white, male, or affluent ... It isn't enough to just believe that racial inequality is a problem; what policymakers, advocates, and citizens do about it matters most



Hard Truths: Why only race-conscious policies can fix racism in higher education. Education Trust-West https://edtrust.org/resource/hard-truths/

### **Equity-mindedness**

"The term "Equity-Mindedness" refers to the perspective or mode of thinking exhibited by practitioners who call attention to patterns of inequity in student outcomes. These practitioners are willing to take personal and institutional responsibility for the success of their student and critically reassess their own practices."

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Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California

#### What does it mean to be anti-racist?

"The term 'antiracist' refers to people who are actively seeking not only to raise their consciousness about race and racism, but also to take action when they see racial power inequities in everyday life."

Anneliese A. Singh



### What can open education make possible?

"Open education goes beyond a focus on resources and includes practices, policies, and research to create meaningful and inclusive educational experiences for learners.

... Access alone is not a guarantor of racial equity for learners. Instead, learners should be supported and encouraged as sensemakers and creators of their identities and their communities."



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# Open Syllabus PERT

- P- Policy & Procedures (required, created by class)
- E- Encouragement (rubric for guidelines), auxiliary services, such as library and student resources veterans, etc.
- R- Responsibility Faculty and Student/ Personal and Social (multiculturalism)
- T- Tone (positive) & Visual (inclusive graphics, videos -cc, font size)

### Diverse Images

#### What do we mean by diverse images?

- Race and ethnicity
- Gender
- LGBTQ+
- Body Types
- Abilities
- Age
- Non-traditional

### Diverse Images

Why is it important to diversify the images in educational resources?

- Representational Justice (Sarah Lambert)
- Knowledge
- Engagement
- Accurate reflection of our world
- Alt Text and correct attribution

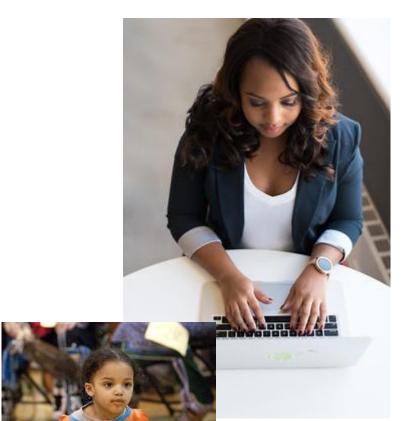
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Only 4.5% of textbook images in a American Academy of Dermatology study had dark skin.









#### **ATTRIBUTION**



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"An Indigenous Two-Spirit person ties their shoelaces while sitting in a chair. They are dressed in all black and have braided hair, tattoos, and a prosthetic leg." by Disabled and Here/Chona Kasinger is licensed under CC BY 4.0.



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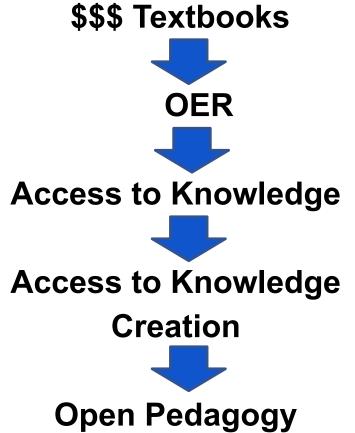
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**LICENSE** 

#### Where Can you Find Openly Licensed Diverse Images?

- CCCOER Equity & Openness: Looking for Images that Reflect Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - <a href="CCCOER.org">CCCOER.org</a>
  - <u>Images of Empowerment</u>: Free images of women's lives and work, created by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the David and <u>Lucile Packard Foundation</u>, and Getty Images; License: <u>CC-BY-NC-4.0</u>
  - ➤ The Gender Spectrum Collection: Stock Photos Beyond the Binary
- Open Oregon: <a href="mailto:open-images">open-oregon.org/open-images</a>
  - American Education: Images of Teachers and Students in Action

### OER & Open Pedagogy



"Open education comes down to one word: accountability... YOU choose what YOU want to learn, and how YOU want to do it, and when YOU want to do it. Noticing a theme? This is your education, and for the first time, in a very long time, maybe ever, we have a say in what we want to learn."

Jaime Marsh, Student, Keene State College

Open Texas #

Adapted from Slide: Robin DeRosa CC-BY 4.0, Mar 5 2021, Imagining an Open Future for Open Oregon Educational Resources.

#### 5 Permissions of OER

Remix

• Mix it with other material to make it better

Reuse

• Use it over and over, with no limitation

Redistribute

• Share it with students & colleagues (no limit)

Retain

• Keep a copy, forever

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"5 R Permissions" by David Wiley

### Open Pedagogy

#### Renewable Assignments

- Accessible
- Learner-centered
- Connected to community
- The 5 Rs of Open



<u>What is Open Pedagogy</u> by David Wiley,y

Image: City of Seattle Tech- CC-BY-NC,

https://www.flickr.com/photos/seattlecommunitytech/39337606864

## California History (Whose History?)

OPEN WANTI- RACISM

Introduce the concept of traditional vs. non-traditional archives by having students engage directly with their family stories in the form of oral history and/or family historical documents, letters, photos.

Students help curate historical documents from their region (San Joaquin Valley) and create documentation of their own family stories through video, podcasts, PPT and share in an open repository.



Image: pixabay.com, Follow nad\_dyagileva on Instagram

#### Syllabus Breakout Room

# Open Syllabus

#### **Objectives: (using PERT and Pedagogies)**

- As a faculty member of a PWI, create a syllabus and incorporate multiculturalism
- 2. As a faculty member of HSI, create a syllabus reflecting the student body

#### Diverse Images Breakout Room

#### **Objectives:**

- Inclusive & Diverse Images
- 1. Who would like to change their textbook?
- 2. What is your discipline and what images are you looking for?

#### Open Pedagogy Breakout Room

#### **Objectives:**



- 1. Share examples of non-disposable assignments
- 2. What does this make possible for traditionally underrepresented students?

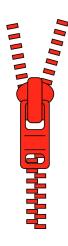




Image by <u>Clker-Free-Vector-Images</u> from <u>Pixabay</u>

#### Choose your Breakout Room



#### Join the CCCOER Community

- Spring 2021 webinars
   https://www.cccoer.org/2021/01/25/2021-spring-webinar-series/
- Join our Community Email
  - https://www.cccoer.org/community-email/
- Read our EDI blog posts & Student OER Impact Stories
  - https://www.cccoer.org





#### Additional Opportunities to Go Deeper

- CCCOER's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Blog Series
- Equity by Design: Delivering on the Power and Promise of UDL
- Anti-racism and UDL Converge for Student Success
- Racial Equity Tools
- Center for Urban Education Equity Tools
- Open Pedagogy Notebook
- Peralta Online Equity Rubric
- OEGlobal Podcast on Montgomery College Open Anthropology

### Thank you for joining us!

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